

# Indian Opinion

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## NOTES AND NEWS

**F**OR keeping premises in Victoria Street in a filthy condition, an Indian was found guilty by Mr. Morris in the Borough Court and was fined £5 or 30 days. Inspector Broom, of the Sanitary Department, said he visited the premises which were licensed as a refreshment room and general dealer. The kitchen and storeroom were in a filthy state. The wooden flour bins in the storeroom were dirty and infested with cockroaches and their eggs. The lavatories were also very offensive. Several warnings had been given the accused, but on a further visit the conditions had not been remedied.

It grieves us to take note of the above. One may have virtues. But to be conscious of one's virtues and to ignore the vices that he may be full of does not tend to elevate him but will surely bring about his downfall. To be elevated one must always have one's faults before his eyes and ever try to remedy them. The Indian community must do that if it wishes to live in this country with any peace and happiness. We have always opposed the policy of segregating any section of the community and have argued that there are laws and regulations for the observance of sanitary rules and that they may be tightened up if need be and strictly enforced. In the above case we are not at all in sympathy with the person convicted. The sentence should serve him as well as other Indians as a lesson. Those of our brethren who ought to know better should not only observe strictly the rules of health and sanitation but should guide their poorer and ignorant brethren to do so and thus be not a menace to public health but a help to the authorities in their onerous task of safeguarding the health of the town.

THE question of the admission of native students from Fort Hare to membership of the National Union of South African Students according to the motion of the students of the Witwatersrand University reported in our last week's issue, was hotly debated at the conference of the union held in Maritzburg. The motion to admit native members was moved by Mr. L. Pincus, Witwatersrand, who contended that as Fort Hare students had lectures and got their degrees through the University of South Africa, they fell within the terms of the N.U.S.A.S. rules and had the right to join the union. There was no moral right to prevent that, he said. There was no statutory university colour bar, and hence students could not form one. After much discussion in which views were expressed for and against the motion, the feeling against the motion was so strong that it was decided to appoint a sub-committee to investigate the matter. On behalf of the Africans Universities withdrawal from the N.U.S.A.S. was threatened should the motion be accepted.

By the death of Mrs. Ernest of Johannesburg last Sunday night Indian women in Johannesburg have lost a well-known figure. The late Mrs. Ernest, was one of the first Indians to enter the Transvaal.

In 1886 she migrated by ox-waggon from Natal, where she was born, to the Barberton goldfields. Later she was among the first Indians to go to the Rand. She had been a member of the St. Mary's Cathedral congregation for more than forty years. The late Mrs. Ernest was one of the founders of the Indian Women's Association, and was trustee of the Valiamma Hall Trust. She leaves behind her husband, Mr. David Ernest, who was the founder of the Transvaal and the South African Indian Football Associations and a well-known public worker, and five sons and two daughters to mourn their loss. We extend to them our heartfelt sympathy in their very sad bereavement.

THAT the European in South Africa had become physically and morally sterile as a result of his vaunted civilisation was a charge made at the Joint Coloured and European Conference recently held in Capetown. This statement was made by Mr. E. F. Doman, of the Teachers' League of South Africa, in the course of a debate on Church or State control of coloured education. Mr. Doman complained bitterly of the "injustice" of differentiation between the subsidies for European and coloured children, the former being £14 7s. 6d. and the latter only £5 5s. and asked whether there was no other way in which the European could retain his superior position than by starving the coloured people educationally and economically. The European was responsible for the existence of the coloured people, and should make himself responsible for their welfare.

THE chairman of the Benoni and District Chamber of Commerce in his half-yearly report states:—

Trading by Indians in Prince's Avenue has been strongly taken up by your chamber and representations made to the Town Council with a view to ejection. This has been successful, and the ejection of these tenants is understood to be only a matter of time.

"I believe that the granting of democratic institutions saved South Africa for the British Empire," declared Mr. Stanley Baldwin when defending the Government's policy in India in a speech at Manchester. He said that the distinguished Conservatives who had voted against it had since acknowledged that they had made a mistake. Similarly the granting of democratic institutions to Canada had undoubtedly saved Canada for the Empire. The Conservative Party was wrong in opposing it, and had they had their way they would have "missed the bus." There was no more cogent reason for supporting the Government's proposals in regard to India, and he believed that by supporting those proposals they would save India for the Empire.

The 78th annual meeting of the Bible Society was held in the Pavilion, Durban, on Tuesday evening, July 4th. Hymns and Anthems were sung by the Durban Male Voice Party, conducted by Mr. Harry Evans. Sir

Herbert Stanley, the High Commissioner for South Africa, presided over the deliberations. Among other speakers, all of whom eulogised the Bible as the most inspiring, purifying, and enlightening book in existence, were the Kunwarani Lady Maharaj Singh, Rev. John L. Dube and the Rev. Owen Watkins. Sir Herbert Stanley also spoke at length on the praiseworthy work done by the Society, which, he said, knew no sect or race. There were members of all nationalities present at the meeting; but the evident segregation of the races in the hall was a testimony of the fact that the work of the society was still much more theoretical than practical. It is to be hoped that at the next annual meeting these unseen barriers between the races will have been broken down completely. The meeting terminated at 10 p.m. with a benediction by the Rev. H. W. Goodwin.

### THE EUROPEAN YOUTH AND INDIANS

WE have been pleased to notice during the last few days the way in which the University students have expressed themselves on the South African colour problem.

First the Witwatersrand University students gave a very pleasant surprise by introducing a motion to admit Native students of the Fort Hare College in the South African University Students' Union. This was a bold step in view of the fact that the colour prejudice was so deep-rooted in this country. But no reform has taken place without a bold step on the part of a very few, if not a single individual, who has had often to end his life in the endeavour without achieving his ideal. We are a little sorry that the Witwatersrand University students have had a temporary setback. At the Conference of the Students' Union held at Maritzburg the rest of the students were found wanting in sufficient enlightenment to throw off the prejudice against the black man. Some seemed to abhor the idea of admitting Native students to such an extent that they even threatened to withdraw themselves from the Union. Nevertheless, however, we are not dismayed at what has happened. The discussion on the question has been very healthy. It has set people who refused to give even a thought to the question to give their mind seriously to it. Those who fought against the motion, we have no doubt, believed in their hearts that they were wrong in doing so. Persistence on the part of those who are out for reform is bound sooner or later to succeed in converting their opponents. The next pleasant surprise was given by the members of the Students' Parliament at an entertainment given in their honour by Indian merchants at their club. The Prime Minister of the Parliament, Mr. J. Lewsen, of the Witwatersrand University said, "it was a fact that the Indian community was subject to very severe disabilities and in the hearts of a majority of South African University students there was a burning desire that the Indian population should be oppressed." This consciousness of the wrong done to a section of the people of the Union among the enlightened people is encouraging. We are glad to see this breadth of vision in the European youth of the country. We sincerely hope that it will continue to grow and result in justice being done to the oppressed.

But once again let us turn the searchlight inward. These good students have been im-

pressed by Mr. Sastry's addresses. "He had opened the students' eyes to the immensity of India; to the greatness of its culture, wherein lay India's real immensity," they say. We claim to be representatives of that ancient Indian culture in this country and as such we claim for a status equal to that of the European. But are we truly representatives of that culture? Where is it to be seen? It is certainly not in feasting at the Orient Club and giving luncheons to distinguished personages and indulging in armchair talks while so very little is done for the uplift of our poorer brethren and for the relief of their distress in these days of great depression, added to the additional distress caused by the Government's white labour policy that they readily take advantage of the bonus and a free passage offered them by the Government and consent to being repatriated. It is certainly not in co-operating with the Government in forming a scheme, the object of which is openly declared to be one of reducing the Indian population to its irreducible minimum, notwithstanding the fact that that population represents less than three per cent. of the total population of the Union and that there are vast tracts of unpopulated land, and notwithstanding the fact that we are told in plain words that there is no room in this land for us and that we should look for other countries that might be willing to accept us and accord us better treatment. If the leaders of the South African Indian Congress cannot see the barefaced insult hurled at the community as a race and if they are not able to see a question of principle involved in it that they are prepared to stoop to co-operate in such a scheme, we truly believe we have lost all sense of our ancient culture and civilisation.

Then again that ancient culture is not to be seen in Indians stooping in the Transvaal to submit to the Asiatic Land Tenure Act which no self-respecting community would do. Our struggle in this country has always been one of principle and if we are so materialistic that we are prepared to sacrifice all our principles then truly we are not a community by whose contact others would benefit and we are certainly not the true representatives of the ancient culture of which we boast so much. We have had occasion to criticise the Government of India Agency in this country but we are not unconscious of the fact that the Agent's weakness is partly due to our own helplessness. If we were a community with a back bone in us and would prove by our action that we hold our honour and self-respect above everything else, both the Government of India and the Agent would be able to do much more for us than having to count a few paltry gains which, as we have pointed out before, are too expensive for their worth.

If we would stop dancing to the tune of the Agent and show a little bit of grit in us we are sure that not only the Agent himself would be stronger to help us by the European youth and the European people who are lovers of bravery and heroism would look upon us with respect and would require no eloquence to be impressed by our ancient culture. Our talk of our ancient culture without the slightest demonstration of it by our action is pure hypocrisy.

## Things In General

(BY OBSERVER)

ONE is led to wonder, at times, whether all the struggle and turmoil of life is of any avail; and whether it would not be better to drift along, as indeed many do, without aim or object, just letting things happen as they will. Sometimes we look back upon a long period of trial and disappointment and we are led to exclaim: How futile it all is!

THIS feeling comes to us as individuals. Our own private lives are filled with much that is of little worth, and we have to confess to a feeling of failure. In public affairs it is much the same. We get disgusted at the results to all our well-laid schemes. We declare that it is all useless. In public as well as in private life, we make sacrifices which seem to have been all in vain.

It is difficult to shake off this feeling of failure and disappointment and futility. There must be something wrong which badly needs righting. How are we to go about it? Let us first ascertain why we are rebellious and disappointed. Is it not that we have been labouring under a sense of grievance? All our effort has been directed against the wrongs that have been done to us as individuals or as a people or race. We recall a thousand instances of injury done or insult offered. Our lives have been spent in claiming rights and privileges and fighting for the abolition of grievances.

In public life we prepare a list of grievances—genuine ones, no doubt—and we concentrate our forces upon the removal of them. We proceed to fix upon the culprit—usually the Government—and we never allow ourselves for one moment to look in any other direction. We have made up our minds and we fight for a great cause.

WITH the best intentions in the world it is possible to miss the mark. If, instead of looking outside, we turn our gaze inwardly, our grievance may turn out to be a duty and a privilege. For instance: So long as the lack of facilities for higher education for Indians was a matter of grievance, nothing was done. But as soon as the community realised its responsibility and subscribed £20,000 for Sastri College, the Government immediately offered to staff the College and bear the expense of management.

The same can be said regarding the classes inaugurated by the Indian Technical Institute. Both the Durban Town Council and the Government have generously recognised the practical effort made, and have not been slow to assist financially. The recent instance of the Solomon Trust in Bulawayo in contributing £1,000, to which has been added a further £500 from European subscribers, towards the cost of building an Indian school, is a further reminder that "God helps those who help themselves."

I AM quite sure that we should all gain immensely, both in our private and public affairs, if we could only strive to dismiss the thought of grievances from our minds as much as possible. A little consideration would often transform a mountain into a mole hill.

Problems can be solved and grievances removed if we will but fix our minds on co-operation and

self-help. And if we go farther and offer help to those in need, of whatever race, we shall find our burden grow lighter.

## Original Correspondence

TO THE EDITOR "INDIAN OPINION"

AN OPEN LETTER No. 1

TO THE INDIAN AGENT

Kaewar Sahab,—Not because thou art a Prince of India but thou art so lovable and so great a sportsman I am emboldened to appeal to thee to forget that thou art an Agent and to proclaim what thou wouldst do wert thou the Congress and the fellow countryman that thou art on the question of Congress relationship to the Agent and his office.

Let me state the matter thus: Congress as the representative body of Indians in South Africa co-operated with the Agency in spite of opinions held by it on the Agency of a powerless Government. Such co-operation was to give the Agency a fair trial. The Congress has stood by the Agency to what purpose? To subject Indians to more laws. The Indian Delegation came and by it the Congress also stood. But with the reservation that if the Capetown Agreement or the Transvaal Asiatic Land Tenure Act was not acceptable, Congress would not co-operate in any India-Union Exploration scheme. The idea of sending away Indians born in this country is not at any time a cheerful idea.

The Transvaal Asiatic Land Tenure Bill became law and the Transvaal Licensing Ordinance became law. Congress decided against both and would not give evidence before the Land Tenure Act Commission. Noble Sire, did this thou knowest. Yet the Agent and his office hob-nob with the Transvaal Indian Commercial Association formed for the occasion, to protect—blessed word—their selfish rights—another blessed word—but neither a correct word to use in connection with the Asiatic Land Tenure Act for there is neither protection nor rights in it. The Agent who is also an Indian surely does not in his heart or hearts approve this law knowing as he must that it is a whited sepulchre with dead men's bones rattling in it and that some men and women of honour in the Transvaal who dared prison in the days of yore when Mahatma walked its streets are not yet gathered to their fathers and protest against the Agent and his office and all who work that the Transvaal Asiatic Land Tenure Act may verily flourish like the yew tree.

The Agency has spurned the Transvaal Indian Congress in this matter and now expects the South African Indian Congress, of which the Transvaal is a part, to nominate a man on the Union Exploration Enquiry Committee which in itself is a departure from the Exploration Commission as explained by the Indian Delegation, a departure to which the Agency agreed without consulting the Congress.

The Congress itself has not gone to the country on this very important question and Noble Prince, believe it or not, Indians in the country will express themselves in no uncertain manner when the hour comes that they want no exploration but a human chance in the country in which almost all of them were born.

Transvaal Indians have lost everything and their Congress—no less the South African Congress—cannot be a party to the high politics of the Agency.

Fellow countrymen: In the circumstances what would you do with an Agency which hunts with the hounds and runs with the hares?—I ask.

Yours faithfully,  
AN ANT.

## European Youth On The Indian Question

At a luncheon given in honour of the members of the Students' Parliament and the Voortrekkers (Afrikander Boy Scouts Organisation) by the Orient Club, Isipingo, last Sunday, some interesting speeches were made on the Indian question.

Kunwar Sir Maharaj Singh, Agent of the Government of India, who was one of the honoured guests, said he spoke as the representative of a country having a population of nearly 338,000,000, and his main task was to further goodwill and co-operation between Europeans and Indians. It was essential in the interests of both great countries that this goodwill should be consolidated. Friction meant potential danger, just as cordial relations meant endless possibilities of economic prosperity. There were vast opportunities for trade expansion between the Union and India. More and more would the Union's markets in the future lie in the East, a fact of which he was the more convinced the longer he resided here.

And what, asked the Agent, was the Union's Indian problem? It was the problem of a population numbering less than three per cent. of the total population of all races. And this Indian community had behind it an ancient culture and civilisation. He was satisfied that the coming generation, and especially those students who had studied the culture and civilisation of different countries and had enjoyed the broadening benefits of travel would realise that a reasonable solution of the Union's Indian problem would bring infinite good to both races. As Agent for India he appealed to them to help on that solution. They would, of course, have to face difficulties, but neglect, indifference or delay might prove fatal. The right way was to tackle the problem now, and in the right spirit.

Addressing the Mayor, the Kunwar thanked the Town Council for setting a South African precedent in providing relief for unemployed Indians. As one who had travelled in 30 countries and come into contact with almost every world community, he was satisfied, said the Kunwar, that human nature fundamentally was identical everywhere. Most people were far too apt to exaggerate the differences and to under-stress the infinitely more numerous similarities. His concluding message, given in all humility, but with definite conviction was—when approaching race problems to lay stress on the likeness and do not exaggerate the differences.

Replying, the Mayor (Councillor Lea) paid a tribute to the valuable part played by the Orient Club in bringing the races together, and to the Kunwar's incessant efforts on his countrymen's behalf. One result had been that the municipality had found work for 260 Indians, and he could now state that it was hoped within a fortnight to take on additional 40. Altogether 1,850 Indians were now in the Corporation's employ. Mr. Lea proceeded to quote data showing that the status and conditions of service of the Indian employees had been gradually, but steadily improved.

### Students' View

Responding on behalf of the Nuss, Mr. J. Lewsen (Prime Minister of the Students' Parliament) spoke of the impressive addresses given by Mr. Srinivasa Sastri (former Agent for India) to Rand University students. No other speaker on a University platform had so convincingly pleaded the cause of the Indian community. He had opened the students' eyes to the immensity of India; to the greatness of its culture, wherein lay India's real immensity.

The speaker definitely held that the European should endeavour to accord to the Indian citizens of this country those rights to which they were entitled. It was fact that the Indian community was subject to very severe disabilities and in the hearts of a majority of South African university students there was a burning distaste that the Indian population should be oppressed. In their hearts they knew they had to face up to a pressing problem.

The Students' Parliament, unfortunately, had not yet introduced any legislation, the reason being that South Africa was faced with so many political problems that the universities had endeavoured first to grapple with those which they felt were even more pressing than this Indian question—the native and economic problems, for example. He hoped at the next Students' Parliament a measure ameliorating the conditions applying to the Indian community would be introduced and, if such a measure were wisely framed, he felt sure it would have the almost unanimous support of the students. (Applause.)

As university students they should at least press for adequate education facilities. These facilities, so far as the Indian community was concerned, were totally inadequate. He hoped, said Mr. Lewsen, that the Students' Parliament would include—perhaps in its Cabinet—fellow South Africans of Indian birth.

He agreed with the Agent, said Mr. Lewsen, that economically South Africa had much to gain through co-operation with the Indian community. Given justice to that community, there seemed no reason why South Africa should not build up a great market in India. One of the objects of the Nussas was to establish contacts and he felt that of all the gatherings the students might attend in Durban this one would prove most beneficial. It would have results in remedying injustices to all non-European races; and it was his hope that in the very near future the Students' Parliament would have introduced legislation that later on would be adopted by the Union Parliament.

### The Voortrekkers

Responding for the Voortrekkers, Mr. J. H. van der Merwe declared that the gravest problem confronting the students and Voortrekkers was the deep-rooted racial prejudice persisting among Europeans in this country. Personally, he would fight always for a better understanding between the races but they were facing a factor which could be righted only with the course of time. The older generation must pass before they reached the ideal aimed at.

The last speaker, Mr. J. M. Graham (Chief Magistrate), who recently took up his Durban appointment, said that he would do his utmost to get a thorough grasp of the difficulties facing the Indian community and thereafter he would endeavour to the best of his ability to assist in overcoming those difficulties.

## A Tale Of Woe

Under the above caption *Ilanga Lase Natal*, the representative organ of the Natives in Natal writes the following leading article in its issue of June 30 which speaks for itself:—

Last Monday's issue of the *Natal Mercury* contained a letter among the writers in the "Daily Forum" feature of that great daily over the *nom de plume* "Justice." It was to be supposed that the writer would not be brave enough to sign his true name in full for his letter showed such bitterness of mind that more people even among his compatriots could not but feel ashamed for such an ebullition. It was, however, strange that his choice of a *nom de plume* did not seek elsewhere than towards Justice for his letter is as void of justice as the white of an egg is of savour. The burden of Mr. Justice's letter is that he had occasion to go to the Native Affairs Department to get a pass for his Native servant. He was at once astounded to discover that the pass officer was a police boy. But our friend is candid enough to acknowledge the fact that the "boy was capable enough," but it seemed to him rather "incongruous to have white men working with pick and shovel on relief works and to see Natives sitting down in comfortable offices and issuing passes, etc." It would seem his quarrel is not with the fact that the Natives are incapable but that they are Natives and that it is an "injustice" to white people that such

a state of affairs should be tolerated and even encouraged by the Government. We would not have wondered to have heard this on the street from an irresponsible European who does not carefully weigh his words but to see it ventilated in a journal of such an influence as the *Mercury* is known to have and for it to think it worth while to publish it is, to say the least of it, as Justice would say, very far from reassuring us that the Government of this country is based on fairness and justice. What does "Justice" expect Natives to do after a hundred years in contact with civilization? Would he think we are human being if all this education which has flooded the country had no meaning for the Natives? Would he himself not think that we are less than human and perhaps only at a stage of one removed from the apes?

Do people who think like Mr. Justice imagine that the place of the Native is to await till every European ne'er do well has obtained a job before they assay to take any clerical jobs? Will there ever come a time when all the Europeans will be on one stage above all the Natives however intelligent? If so, the Natives will have to wait forever because there are many white people who can never be raised and kept at a higher stage but circumstances caused by their mentality and outside influences will again drive them to the lower rung of the ladder while some of the "boys" if they have grit enough must rise and hold on to the higher states in spite of the economic pressure and other factors which operate against them and their race. What is an injustice after all? How was the fact of that "police boy" writing passes an affront to Mr. Justice. Should not Natives be given positions by the Government in jobs which are made possible and sustained by money which comes from his people? Is it justice that the white men shall at all times and forever live upon the sweat of Africans? That must be a very degraded valuation of justice which does not apply equally and without bias upon all irrespective of race, creed and origin. There is a phrase which used to be flaunted in the early days and that was "British fairplay." We now-a-days hear very little of this noble quality which used to be applied to the British policy of fairness for all its citizens wherever they were and of whatever colour.

People like Justice are the people who are responsible for the plagues that afflict the country. The depression is the result of their policy and their ideas of desiring to live for themselves, men who consider that God created only them for happiness and that the other less enlightened races were created for their service and it is their bounden duty to tender that service forever with very little returns for that service and that for them to aspire to any higher position is a heinous crime and a potent menace to the superiority of the white race.

## Useful Hints

When washing artificial silk you must follow one or two simple rules if you want the best results. Here they are:

1. Use warm water, not hot, squeezing soapy lather through the material instead of rubbing.
2. Rinse the garments in water of the same temperature as you have for the washing.
3. For ironing, use a warm and not hot iron. The garments should previously have been wrapped in a dry towel for about an hour, and then have finished drying on the line. They should be almost dry before ironing.

## Tuberculosis In Natal

(By DR. F. G. CAWSTON, M.D.)

Investigations have shown that tuberculosis is causing much sickness amongst the natives in Natal and that many Indians are also affected. Unfortunately persons do not readily improve in their homes and there is no institution in Natal which welcomes this class of case.

As a temporary measure the establishment of a shelter for Indians would alleviate the present distress and indicate the action which sooner or later must be taken officially. Indians would favour a definitely philanthropic institution in preference to a government-controlled one. There has been too much of a tendency, where a scheme caters for all, irrespective of race or religion, to confine attention to one race and largely to exclude all religion.

The late Advocate Khan left some £40,000 for the establishment of free dispensaries for the Indian community and it is amongst the poorest who cannot afford the necessary medical attention that tuberculosis is most likely to spread. Amongst Europeans tuberculosis has been largely controlled, but it is very rife amongst the Coloured community.

Tuberculosis of the lungs often follows untreated malaria and other diseases which cause enfeeblement of the body and a lowered resistance to the microbes. Microbes are everywhere but they need suitable conditions to multiply. The Tubercle bacillus may remain in the human body for years without causing trouble until the constitution is lowered through illness, insufficient food, alcohol, overcrowding, exposure contact with a badly infected person.

Patients who can afford to leave home for a few weeks' holiday in a more healthy climate usually avoid further symptoms of the disease. The greatest menace to the health of this country are those persons who live in poor dwellings, sleeping with closed windows, living on a diet of mealies and corn without the necessary addition of fruit and vegetables, working long hours exposed to all weathers at a low wage and for whom no adequate provision is made when they are unfortunate enough to become infected with tuberculosis.

The consumptive patient coughs up billions of microbes daily and only a few succumb to exposure to the sun's rays.

The Influenza epidemic proved how important it was to put a person to bed before the infection had taken too strong a hold. The neglect of even the common cold may result in tuberculosis starting in susceptible persons.

An enquiry is being made as to the possible control of hours off-work because of the common cold in factories and other places. The out-door life which is led by most Indians in South Africa assists in the control of disease; but unfortunately some sections of the Indian community do not make as much use of the glorious sunshine as they require to prevent the outbreak of tuberculosis in the homes, and the help of all is required if the problem of tuberculosis in Natal is to be adequately handled in the interest of all and to relieve the sufferings of those who suffer most grievously for want of means to meet their own great need.

## Lost Faith In The British

Mr. H. S. L. Polak, who was recently in India on his law work, on his return to London gave the members of the India Conciliation Group his impressions of the political situation there.

Mr. Polak explained, says the *Manchester Guardian*, that owing to his close connection with India for so many years he had the advantage of staying all the time in Indian homes and enjoying the intimacy of family life. People spoke frankly to him. In contrast with his last visit five years ago he had found every where almost in all quarters a disbelief in British sincerity and fairplay and in the British word of honour. He had controverted wrong ideas about British opinion, and even of Conservative opinion formed from cabled press summaries, but he had found it difficult to make them see things as they really were. The same kind of thing happened on this side. The difficulty was geographical. The tendency 10,000 miles away was to generalise from isolated incidents.

Mr. Polak spoke of the mind of the younger generation. He found the children of his friends beginning to doubt whether Mr. Gandhi was right in being in favour of non-violence. They did not listen to their elders, and the older people themselves were not willing to check them, thinking that perhaps they were right. The elders, however, remembered the friendly relations of the past. The young had never known such things and did not believe in them. The White Paper had been disappointing. There was no reference to Dominion status, no reference to this Constitution as a transitional stage, and it was overloaded with safeguards and openings for intervention.

Mr. Polak found terrible economic depression and gave detailed examples of it. He remarked that we could not afford to have too many causes of discontent. He quoted Mr. Sastri (who had not been invited into consultation by the Select Committee) as saying that the choice before this country was between placating the Conservative party of trusting India. If we chose the former and pushed this present Constitution in the face of Indian opposition, there would be no peace in India. When he himself was in India there had been a disinclination to do anything with this scheme.

## What The Union Costs Us

The following are some interesting figures extracted from the report of the Minister of Finance as to what the Union costs us:—

Parliament itself—Senate and Assembly—costs the country £173,982, of which a sum of £122,500 is dispensed as allowances, not salaries, to members—39 Senators and 136 M.P.s at £700 per annum apiece. The salaries of Parliamentary officials are shown in a descending scale, from the £2,000 of Mr. Speaker and the £1,200 of the President of the Senate down to the 10 official clerks who keep the House of Parliament neat and tidy at 11s. to 12s. 6d. a day. These outgoings absorb an amount of close on £30,000 per annum; and there are expenses for Haggard, telegrams and a large range of sundries.

The Prime Minister's office, in conjunction with the Department of External Affairs, will spend during 1933-34 a matter of £93,000 odd; of which sums varying from £4,792 to £14,573 will be devoted to the upkeep of Union legations overseas. Also there is a matter of £29,010 representing the Union's contribution to the League of Nations.

The Department of Justice, to keep our law-breakers under lock and key and to provide reformatories etc., spends £634,933, while the bill presented by the Commissioner of the South African Police shows a total of £2,380,500.

The Union Treasury is run at an annual cost of £36,325 which goes towards paying salaries and incidentals.

Just over three millions of money is defrayed on pensions, of which war allowances account for £687,000 and old age pensions £965,000.

The largest item of overseas expenditure is the £66,945 to be spent this year on the upkeep of the High Commissioner's department at South Africa House.

It costs the country £152,064 to collect the income tax, £222,755 to administer customs and excise and £387,389 to look after the Department of Mines. The Department of Native Affairs, will cost during the current year £357,472. The Defence Department will cost the country some three-quarters of a million.

Agriculture will be responsible for outgoings amounting to £715,000, and this is exclusive of the special vote for farmers' assistance amounting to £4,850,000. The Department will spend £144,261 under the heading of Agricultural Education.

## Asiatic Land Tenure Act Commission

Mr. Mahomed Jajbhaj's Evidence

(Continued from last week)

Tell us something about the public buildings—the communal buildings, which the Asiatichayats, schools, mosques and so on. Have they all been paid for out of Indian funds?—Yes. We have one mosque in the centre of the town.

That is the one we saw near the building of of Lennons Limited?—Yes.

Are there any others?—There is another building, a church at the lower end, at the East of Delyers Street. There is a big building, from which is derived rentals in order to maintain the school.

There is a building owned by some Asiatic controlled company and the rents of that building go to maintain the school?—Yes.

CHAIRMAN: You mean the school we saw?—Yes; that is the lower end of Delyers Street.

MR. BRINK: There is another school there as well. Is that the only school there?—Yes. Then there is another school which is catered for by the Government.

The teachers are supplied by the Government?—Yes. The school is outside the scope of the Commission. It is in a private township, but just a few streets away from the other.

A few streets away from End Street?—Yes.

CHAIRMAN: There is an Indian school in Burghersdorp.

MR. BRINK: There is an Indian school I think a few streets away, which is in Doornfontein, purchased by Indian funds but built by the Government?—I cannot definitely say that. It is a recent school about two years back.

It caters expressly for Indian children?—Yes.

You cannot say whether purchased by Indian funds, but it caters expressly for Indian children, and the teachers are paid by the Government?—Yes. Then we have another school in Ferreira's town. Just recently an Indian gentleman had donated £6000 for school purposes.

In Ferreirastown?—Ferreirastown.

Then there is the one we saw in Burghersdorp?

—Yes.

CHAIRMAN: Is the school in Ferreirastown already in existence?—It is already in existence?

Is that a Government school?—No; that is a Mahomedan school, for religious purposes.

Similar to the one we saw near Delvers Street?—Yes.

The Burghersdorp school is a Government school?

—Yes, it is a Government school so far as the provision for teachers is concerned, provided for by the Mahomedan Educational Institute.

The building and the site?—The building and the site.

MR. BRINK: Provided by him?—The Mahomedan Educational Institute.

That is the one you referred to that is in Burghersdorp?—Yes.

There is no other one?—There is one in Newtown.

The one we saw in Burghersdorp township?

—There is one recently formed about three years back. It was catering for European children, and has now been converted into a coloured school. That is near the mosque.

CHAIRMAN: Is that an Indian school or South African Coloured?—I could not definitely say whether Indian children are admitted or not.

That is adjoining the railway premises, in the neighbourhood of Harrison Street?—Yes. It is at the corner, somewhere near Kerk and Diagonal Street.

MR. BRINK: Are there other buildings belonging to the community or in the use of the community?—I could not say. There is ground purchased in Ferreirastown for the erection of a hall at an expense of £2000 paid for the ground.

CHAIRMAN:—Is that new?—Yes. The ground was actually purchased about five years ago, but we intend erecting a hall there after the areas are considered.

You have the site for a school hall in Ferreirastown?—Yes.

MR. BRINK: I do not know what your requirements are with regard to your religious tenets.

There are certain population figures given in the memorandum. How far are you able to confirm the correctness of those figures in regard to Asiatics in the Transvaal?—The figures were taken from the reports during the time the evidence was given in that Select Committee Report.

You took the evidence as to Indians in 1921 from the Select Committee reports?—Yes, somewhere near that.

The estimates to-day vary from 15,000 to 18,000. Is that the present-day—1933?—Yes; say 1932.

And it would include Chinese in a total of 20,000?—Yes.

Of your own knowledge can you say whether that is more or less correct?—According to my own knowledge I would say that is more or less correct.

CHAIRMAN: If the figures are taken from the report, that is 1930.

MR. BRINK: The Select Committee's Report, is that dated 1930? They were taken from that?—Yes; they were taken from that.

In Johannesburg I see the figure is given as 6,929. Where did you get that figure from, including the Chinese?—Is that the census of 1921?—Yes.

And the proportion of general dealers and wholesale traders did you take those from any particular sources?—Also from that particular Report of 1930.

And the 50 per cent. born in South Africa—can you tell me where you got that from?—I could not

definitely say whether I got that from the books, but that is my personal knowledge.

That is your personal knowledge that about 50 per cent. of Indians in the Transvaal are South African born?—Yes.

Now, can you tell the Commission—you make a statement there that western standards and western ideas will spread. Can you tell us whether they are spreading to-day, and in what way?—Yes. We are considering providing educational facilities for the children. At one time an Indian did not care very much about his son being educated, but to-day you will find that practically 90 per cent. of the parents are sending their children to school. In school they are being taught a hygienic life. A special clinic has been provided for. And being under the supervision of a European principal, they are naturally taught how to live decently. In addition to that we have sporting facilities which have been provided.

Where?—A recreation ground; one provided somewhere near the City and Suburban.

As a recreation ground for Indians and Coloured. One big ground is given for the Indians, and another to the Coloured.

Where?—Somewhere near the City and Suburban.

On the south side?—Yes. Another ground has been provided in the Vrededorp pan, near Mayfair.

CHAIRMAN: Are those Municipal or private?—They are Municipal.

MR. BRINK: Is that at the back of the location, just where the Jhajibhai Memorial School is—that part, near Brixton?—Yes.

Between the Malay Location and the west of it—south of the cemetery and west of the Malay Location. That is where the Jhajibhai Memorial School is?—Yes.

And are Indians going in for sport like tennis and football?—Yes; in large numbers.

Out-of-door sports?—Yes. I think I might say we have not sufficient playgrounds for Indian children. It is very limited.

Would you like to see areas around the schools where the children could play—playgrounds?—Yes.

And also in the areas where they reside; do you think it necessary that there should be grounds where the children could play in the open?—Yes.

Are any Indians sending their children overseas—their sons to attain higher education?—Yes they have started sending their children.

Can you give the Commission an idea of the number?—It is difficult to give an idea of the number. The number would not be a very big one. It would be somewhere in the vicinity of five and ten per cent; approximately five per cent; ten per cent. would be too big; five per cent. of the children attending school. We have also the Sastri College in Durban.

And other places; and also they go overseas?—Yes.

CHAIRMAN: Where do they go overseas?—To England.

MR. BRINK: And where else?—To India; to Aligarh University.

And they go to Oxford and Cambridge too?—And very shortly there will be other educational facilities provided in Johannesburg. We want to introduce higher education in Johannesburg itself.

MR. BRINK: Well, Mr. Jhajibhai, we can leave that alone. Will you tell us what you know about the possible danger of rack-renting?—In our opinion, if the areas are altogether restricted, one would find that the poor people will suffer, particularly and the Indian people, because they will find that the outlet will be restricted

altogether. In that area the rock-renting landlord particularly will put up his rent. Therefore, it is important that there should be a certain amount of play in between.

(To Be Continued.)

## News In Brief

The delegates to the Annual Students Parliament now sitting in Durban, were entertained to lunch by the Orient Club, on Monday, July 3. The Agent-General, and the Mayor of Durban were also present.

Latest reports state that Sir Rabindranath Tagore, India's great national poet has written a poem to commemorate the Mahatma's recent 21 days' fast. It is 20 years since the poet won the famous Nobel prize for literature.

The general secretary Mr. R. Regath writes:—

"The Eighth Annual Conference of the Natal Indian Teachers Society will be held at the Sastri College, Warwick Avenue, Durban, on Friday, 7th July, 1933 at 11 a.m. Kupwar Sir Maharaj Singh the Indian Agent General will open the proceedings. In the absence of the President Mr. V. N. Tumbadoo who is ill, Mr. T. M. Naiker (Hon. Life-Vice-President) will preside. Several motions of importance concerning the Educational Development of the Indian community will be discussed in the afternoon session. The Annual General Meeting is scheduled to take place in the evening at 7 p.m. when the office bearers will be elected for the ensuing year. The meetings are open to the public

The Minister of Native Affairs, Mr. P. Grobler, has refused permission for the Pathfinders, a native organisation corresponding to the Boy Scouts, to send representatives to the world jamboree at Godollo, Hungary, in August. The Minister has barred these native Pathfinders for reasons of policy.

Several counterfeit half-crowns have come into the hands of the Krugersdorp police within the last few days, and they advise the public to examine carefully any change handed to them. The counterfeit coins are very well made, but are lighter in weight than the genuine coins and are smoother to the touch. The half-crowns, moreover, do not ring true.

"If it be proved that the boycott of the Federal Assembly and the Provincial Councils under the future Constitution would result in irreparable harm to the country, the Congress would not boycott legislature. We should not think that Congress leaders like religious fanatics would for ever stick to a particular policy" declared Mr. C. Rajagopalachari, ex-President of the Indian National Congress, in an interview to *The Tej* of Delhi recently.

General Smuts has been conducting important negotiations in London with the Rockefeller Institute with a view to obtaining Rockefeller financial support for a great survey of the relations between Black and White on the African Continent. General Smuts feels that the various States in Africa are pursuing different policies regarding the Natives

and that, if this divergence in aim continues, it may lead to serious trouble in the future. Accordingly, as a preliminary to international action in the matter, he is anxious that the Rockefeller interests should carry out this research work throughout Africa.

## Sporting News

The Senior Natal Cup, District Final, will be played on Saturday, July 8 at Curries Fountain, between the Pirates and Sastri College, who, last week defeated the Daffodils in a gruelling struggle by 3-1.

The Sastri College Juvenile Team will meet the Transvaalers in a curtain-raise, to the above match. The visitors will then be the guests of the Sastri College to a dinner in the College hall. Students and ex-students, desirous of being present, should get in touch immediately with the Sportmaster, Mr. G. Singh.

Arrived from the Rand, is the Transvaal Indian Schools Soccer Team, accompanied by a few teachers. The contingent arrived in Durban on Wednesday morning, July 5. The itinerary of their tour was published last week in these columns. The team, during their sojourn in Durban, will reside at the St. Aidan's Mission Hall in Cross Street.

The Rev. B. L. E. Sigamoney, who will be Jonosky's chief second at the ring on Saturday, July 8, is also down from the Rand.

### BOXING

With July 8, in sight boxing fans as well as boxers are reaching fever pitch. H. Julius and Peter Frenchman arrived in Durban on Wednesday morning; Cecil Jonosky from the Rand arrived on Wednesday evening. As the boxers have arrived late there will be no public try-outs but Motee (Kid) Singh, entertained his supporters to some delightful snarring on Tuesday afternoon at his training quarters, adjoining the Central Laundry, in Gale Street. There was a fair crowd in attendance. The presence of the Boxing Board of Control added an air of officialdom. All present were tremendously impressed with Kid Singh's tryout. Kid Singh is a very able and accomplished exponent of the American system. He certainly is in the pink of condition and if his opponent, Frenchman, lives up to reports, the boxing world will be entertained to some classic boxing.

The town is now keyed-up for the great night and as a capacity house is anticipated, it is hoped, enthusiasts will make an early and unhesitating bid for seats.

### WEDDING BELLS

#### OUNDEN-PILLAY

Sportsmen throughout South Africa will join hands in extending to Mr. Ounden our heartiest congratulations on his betrothal on the July 2, to Miss Soobrammal, second daughter of Mr. and Mrs. T. Sooban Pillay of Overport. There was a large gathering of friends and relatives at the Nuptial ceremony. Mr. Sookdeo, President of the Natal Indian Football



Association, of which Mr. Cunden is Secretary, presided. For several years Mr. Cunden has been intimately associated with the various Indian sports bodies and the extremely large crowd of sportsmen present at his wedding testified to his popularity in the sporting world. There were also general presents, a list of which was read out.

#### NUNDOO--ANDREWS

On Wednesday afternoon, July 5, the wedding took place at the St Aidan's Church, Alice Street, Durban, of Andrew Nelson, eldest son of Mr. and Mrs. D. P. Nundoo, and Lydia Irene Constano, only daughter of Mrs. Esther Andrews. There was an overwhelmingly large gathering present. Tea was served to the guests at 4-30 p.m. In the evening the guests were entertained to dinner which was followed by music. At the afternoon tea there was a large crowd present among whom were the Kunwar Sir Maharaj Singh and the Kunwarani Lady Singh.

#### REDDIAR--NOBIN

We also take pleasure in showering our congratulations on Harold Reddiar and Miss Nobin of P.M. Burg who were married at Sydenham on Wednesday morning, 5th July.

## THE INDIAN REVIEW

Edited by the Hon. Mr. G. A. Natesan.

(A JOURNAL For INDIANS OVERSEAS)

*The Indian Review* is edited by one who, for over a third of a century, has evinced deep interest in the condition of Indians overseas. Mr. Natesan took a leading part in the great agitation in India in connection with the South African Indian struggle under the lead of Mahatma Gandhi. Mr. Gandhi was in constant communication with Mr. Natesan both in regard to keeping up the agitation in India as well as in safeguarding the interests of the South African deportees, whose cause he made his own. Mahatma Gandhi, writing in "Satyagraha in South Africa" says: "In those days, Mr. Natesan perhaps stood alone in India as a student of the grievances of Indians abroad, their valued helper, and a systematic and well-informed exponent of their case. I had regular correspondence with him. When the deportees reached Madras Mr. Natesan rendered them full assistance..." In this public work, his monthly magazine, *The Indian Review*, has played an inconceivable part. For month after month, a special section in that journal devoted to the problem of Overseas Indians has kept up and stimulated Indian interests in the problem of Indians abroad. Such a magazine deserves to be widely read by South African Indians.

Mr. C. F. ANDREWS:—I came into closest contact with Mr. Natesan, owing to his devoted work on behalf of South African Indians, and I carried a message of affection from him to Mahatma Gandhi when I departed from him in Madras for South Africa at the end of November, 1913. The cause of Indians abroad has found in him, an indefatigable worker, and now, in the Council of State, I have named him "The Member for Indians Overseas."

Mr. H. S. L. POLAK:—I well remember the gallant support you gave and were instrumental in procuring in the critical days of the South African troubles before the War, and ever since the problem of the disabilities and state of Indians abroad has been ventilated in the *Review* with unflinching regularity.

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પુસ્તક ૩૨ મું.

ફ્રીનીક્સ, શુક્રવાર, તારીખ ૭ જુન ૧૯૩૩

અંક ૨૭૭

## નોંધ અને સમાચાર

### અંકી માટે હિંદીને સળ

વીક્ટોરિયા સ્ટ્રીટમાં પોતાનું મકાન ગંદું રાખવાના ગુન્હા માટે એક હિંદીને ડરબનની ફેર્ડમાં પાઉંડ પુ ના હંડની અથવા એક માસની કફની સજા કરવામાં આવી હતી. આ જગ્યા રીફ્રેન્સમેન્ટ રૂમ અને જનરલ ડિલરના વેપારને માટે વપરાય છે. તેનું ઈયન અને સ્ટોરરૂમ ધણાજ ગંદા હતાં અને લાકડાની આટાની પેટી વાંદા અને તેના ઈંડાંથી ખદખદી રહી હતી. જનર પશુ ધણાજ ગંદા હતાં. આરોપીને અનેક ચેતવણીઓ અપાયેલી હોવા છતાં સ્થિતિ સુધારવામાં આવી નહોતી. પોતાના ગુણગાન મળુસને હમેશાં સારાં લાગે છે પણ એઓ જાહેર થાય તે સારી નથી લાગતી. એ મનુષ્ય સ્વભાવ છે. હિંદી કામને મળુ જો કાઈ તેના ગુણો ગાયા કરે અને મહેનતુ, કરકસરથી રહેનારી છે, એવા તેના ગુણો ગાયા કરે તો તેને તે જ્યારે મૂક પડે પણ તેની એઓ બતાવે તે તેને જ્યારે નથી. આ હંદી આપણી ઉત્પત્તિને હમેશાં પછાતજ રાખશે. આપણે આપણા ગુણો તરફ દુર્લક્ષ બતાવવું જોઈએ અને એઓ હમેશાં નજરની આગળ રાખી તેને સુધારવાનો પ્રયત્ન કરવો જોઈએ. આપણે આ દેશમાં ધંધાપણાની સામે હમેશાં સખ્ત વિરોધ દર્શાવતા આવેલા છીએ. આપણને ધંધાપણા કરવાનું એક કારણ એ આપવા માં આવે છે કે આપણી રહેણી સારી નથી. સ્વચ્છતાના નીયમો આપણે ચોખ્ખી રીતે માળતાં નથી. અમારી સ્લીલ એ છે કે તેનો ધંધાજ એ નથી કે આપણી કામને કે પ્રબળના કાઈ પણ વર્ગને ધંધાપણા કરવાં. પણ સ્વચ્છતાના અને આરોગ્યના નીયમોનું પાલન કરવાને લગતા કાયદાઓ ઘડવા અને તેનો ચોખ્ખા અમલ કરવો. આ કારણથી આપણા જે કાઈ પણ લાખને સ્વચ્છતા કે આરોગ્યના નીયમલગ માટે સળ કરવામાં આવે તેની તરફ અમે દિલસોજી ધરાવી શકતા નથી પણ સત્તાધીશોએ લીધેલાં ધગલાને વાજબીજ મળીએ છીએ. હિંદી લાખઓએ આવા બનાવપરથી ચેતવણી લેવાની છે. જેઓ સુશિક્ષિત છે અને વધારે સમજ ધરાવે છે તેઓની ફરજ છે કે તેઓએ પોતાના અભણ અને અણસમજી લાખઓને સ્વચ્છતા અને આરોગ્યના નીયમોનું પાલન કરતાં શીખવવું અને એ બાબતમાં સત્તાધીશોને આપણી સામે આંખી ચીંધવાનો લેશમાન પેલું અવકાશ નહિ આપવો. તેમ કરવાને તૈયાર નહિ હોઈએ તો આપણે સારૂ ડેવડાહોમાં રાખવામાં આવે તેની સામે આપણાથી વિરોધ નજ કરી શકાય.

### યુનીવર્સિટીઓ અને વર્લ્ડવેક

ગયા અંકમાં અમે જણાવી ગયા હતા કે વીટવોલરેન્ડ યુનીવર્સિટીના વિદ્યાર્થીઓએ ફેર્ડ હેર કોલેજના નેટીવ વિદ્યાર્થીઓને સા. આ. ની યુનીવર્સિટીઓના વિદ્યાર્થીઓના સંમેલન માં દાખલ કરવાની દરખાસ્ત સંમેલનની આવતી પરિષદમાં મુકવાનો ઠરાવ કર્યો હતો. તે મુજબ મેરીટબર્જમાં મળેલાં સંમેલનમાં દરખાસ્ત મુકવામાં આવી હતી પરંતુ તેની સામે વિરોધ એટલો સખ્ત દર્શાવાયો હતો કે અંતમાં દરખાસ્તની ઉપર તપાસ અલાવવાને એક સળ કમીટી નીમાઈ હતી. આફ્રિકાન્સ યુનીવર્સિટીઓ તરફથી તો જો દરખાસ્ત સ્વિકારવા માં આવે તો સંમેલનમાંથી નીકળી જવાની ધમકી અપાઈ હતી!

### કેલોનાઇડેશન કમીટી કમીટી

યુનિયન સરકાર તરફથી તૌમાયેલી હિંદીઓને લગતી કોલોનાઇડેશન કમીટી પોતાની તપાસ આણુ માસના છેલાં અઠવાડીયાથી શરૂ કરશે. સાઉથ આફ્રિકન ઈન્ડિયન કોંગ્રેસની એકએકધુટીવ તો પર હિંદી સભ્ય નીમવાની બાબત માં વિચાર કરવા શુક્રવારે મળી હતી.

### કલકત્તા અને ગોરા

કોમટાઉનમાં થોડા દિવસપર કલકત્તા લોકો અને ગોરાઓની સંયુક્ત પરિષદ મળી હતી. તેમાં ગોરા પોતાના સુધારાની બહાઈમાં લાગણીથીન મૂકી ગયો છે એવો તેની ઉપર આરોપ મુકવામાં આણ્યો હતો. કલકત્તા લોકોની કોંગ્રેસને આક્રમક ચર્ચના હાથમાં રહેલો જોઈએ કે રાજ્યના એ પ્રમુખસ્તી ચર્ચો દરમીયાન સાઉથ આફ્રિકાના શિક્ષકોની લીગના મી. ઈ. એ. કામને આ પ્રમાણે જણાવ્યું હતું અને વધુમાં તેમણે યુરોપીયન અને કલકત્તા ઓક્ટોબરિયાના શિક્ષકોને માટે આપીની માણામહદમાં રહેલા લેટની દરિયાઈ કરતાં જણાવ્યું કે યુરોપીયન ઓક્ટોબરિયા માટે ન્યૂનૈ પાઉંડ ૧૪-૭-૬ આપવામાં આવે છે લારે કલકત્તા ઓક્ટોબરિયા માટે પાઉંડ ૫-૫-૦ આપવામાં આવે છે. મી. કામને પ્રુ છે કે કલકત્તા લોકોને કોંગ્રેસીમાં અને આર્થિક સ્થિતિમાં પછાત રાખ્યાં સિવાય યુરોપીયનને પોતાનું સર્વોપરિષદ ટકાવી રાખવાને શું બીજું એક માર્ગ નથી? કલકત્તા લોકોની હસ્તિને માટે યુરોપીયન જવાબદાર છે અને તેણે તેની સુખાકારીની જવાબદારી સમજવી જોઈએ.

### ગોરા કાળા વચ્ચેનો ભેદ

વિજ્ઞાન શાસ્ત્રના વિકાસ માટેની સાઉથ આફ્રિકન એસોસિએશનની બારબરડનમાં મળેલી મીટીંગમાં વીટવોલરેન્ડ