

Indian Opinion

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THE COLONISATION ENQUIRY FARCE

THE Colonisation Enquiry Committee has completed its sittings in Natal and will shortly proceed to Capetown to hold further sittings there and its report is expected to be out by the end of January. We do not wonder at the Pretoria correspondent of *The Hindu* saying that the work of the Committee had at certain stages come to a deadlock, but his statement that "the Indian community had so far nothing to lose and everything to gain by appointing as representative Mr. Naidoo who has been vigilant in seeing that the Indian cause did not suffer within the terms of reference," is, we think, nothing but an attempt to throw dust in the eyes of ignorant people. There was indeed nothing for the Indian representative on that committee to be vigilant at all whose work was to look for a country where our brethren in this country could be sent out and to find out how many were prepared to go. The very presence of an Indian representative on such a committee had damaged the Indian cause to the extent that it amounted to the acceptance of the principle of colonisation which was vehemently opposed by the Congress and its representative from public platforms. The mere fact of an Indian representative being on the Committee would not prevent our brethren being sent out of this country, nor would the Committee have succeeded in sending them out if they did not want to go out even if an Indian representative were not on the Committee. The action therefore of appointing an Indian representative on the committee is indefensible.

Of all the evidences given before the Com-

mittee the evidence of the Agent of the Government of India seems to be the only one to the point. How the committee has assumed unto itself the power to inquire into the economic position of the Indian community we are entirely at a loss to understand. What questions, such as, unskilled European labour being more efficient than the Indian or how many Indians have been replaced by Europeans or *vice versa*, or what the birth rate or death rate is among Indians etc., could help the committee in finding places for Indians outside the Union or how many Indians are prepared to go—the precisely only two questions before it—we are also at a loss to understand.

But what is most of all amazing is the fact that the Agent of the Government of India has at last let the cat out of the bag and confirmed our contention that the Government of India was not at all interested in the colonisation of her own increasing population and that this was a scheme only to find out the possibilities of further reducing the Indian population in the Union. Of course Mr. Bajpai had made it clear in the communique of the Government of India that "in so far as reference to India is concerned it is merely the reproduction of the wording of the Capetown Agreement," but our wise leaders were too dense to understand that. The Agent said, as far as he knew, and he had a lot to do with the colonisation of Indians from India, the Government of India had never considered financing any colonisation scheme. This clearly proves that India was not going out on a mission to look for outlets for her increasing population and once when it did send out its representative for such a purpose in 1925, and practical suggestions were made to and adopted by the Government of British Guiana, the Agent tells us, they were never carried out owing to lack of finance, and be it remembered that the scheme was for the labouring class only who were expected to give six months in the year to working on the sugar estates. If things were so bad in 1925, the Government of India must surely have been in the dream lands to have thought of such a scheme at the present time. Mr. Heaton Nicholls, who has publicly stated that the Committee was inspired by philanthropic motives to find a place for Indians in India and that it was up to South African Indians who were trained in the art of colonisation and had been in contact with western standards to unite together and to help in the noble and patriotic work, seems also to have been convinced of the fact that the Government of India was not serious about colonisation; for in a question put by him to the Agent he asked: "Assuming India was serious... would not the Indian from South Africa... enhance such a scheme, presuming he would go?" To this

the Agent replied: "I presume they would not go, and further I do not think colonists from South Africa and colonists from India would fit in with one another." He further expressed the opinion that, "the present economic position puts out of consideration colonisation from any one country to any other country." Is it to be believed that the Government of India was unaware of all this? And if so was it not the duty of its Agent who was an authority on the question to inform his Government beforehand and thus save the unnecessary waste of time and money in inquiring into a thing which was impracticable and also save the Congress from playing the part of a hypocrite? Has this inquiry then not amounted to a farce? But perhaps we might be prejudging. The Congress has yet to present its lengthy statement on the question at Capetown. For all we know, notwithstanding what the Agent has said, it may yet have in mind an unpopulated country with a magnificent scheme to suggest for those whom it represents to go to and to develop it into a fine outpost for India thus fulfilling the very lofty desire of the Committee! We shall be really surprised if it has anything else to say for if it has it will be just putting the final touch to a huge farce.

ST. AIDAN'S HOSPITAL

In the absence of a hospital of our own and the treatment at the Addington Hospital not being too sympathetic towards non-European generally, St. Aidan's Missionary Hospital has proved a blessing in disguise to Indians in Durban. This hospital though a Christian institution has been serving patients of all denominations without any kind of religious discrimination and has been in existence for the last eight years in a house in Cross Street which was originally built as the residence of the Missionary in charge of the Mission. By additions and alterations this building was adapted to the purpose of a hospital. Crowded into several small rooms, with an overflow to a verandah sheltered from the weather, there are 20 iron beds which are nearly always occupied. The Rev. W. H. Satchell is at present Missionary in charge and Sister Pratt and Sister Hart with their staff of Indian assistants are carrying on the work of the hospital. Perhaps the most useful work done by the hospital is that of attending to maternity cases for which there is not a single institution for Indians.

The present premises which are 40 years old have served their purpose. The Mission has been instructed by the Department of Health that they cannot serve much longer and that they might have to be closed because of overcrowding. In view of the increasing usefulness of the institution the Mission is now contemplating the erection of a bigger as well as architecturally and hygienically better building at a cost of £5,000. A site in Centenary Road near Sastri College has been bought from the Municipality and the difficult task of collecting donations has been taken up. The Mission has already raised about £4,000 out of what it had in hand and from generous donations from Indian merchants and others. About £2,000 have yet to be made and if everyone, rich or poor, were to contribute his little

share towards this humanitarian work we have no doubt this amount would be raised in no time. We sincerely hope our brethren will rise to the occasion.

The Treasurers are MESSRS. COMPTON AND HORNE, Colonial Mutual Buildings, West Street, Durban, (P.O. Box 1473) to whom contributions should be sent or they may be sent to INDIAN OPINION, Phoenix, Natal. All contributions sent to us will be acknowledged in these columns.

Fountain Of Wisdom

If the removal of untouchability is a primary necessity for the reform of Hinduism, it is equally true that the Colour Bar within the Christian Church has to be removed, if Christianity (as it now exists) is to be made worthy of the name of Christ.—C. F. ANDREWS.

Colonisation Enquiry Committee

Interesting Evidence Taken In Durban

The committee recently appointed by Mr. Hofmeyr, Minister of the Interior, whose members are Messrs. J. Young (chairman), P. F. Kincaid, G. Heaton Nicholls, M.P. and S. R. Naidoo and whose terms of reference are to explore the possibilities of a colonisation scheme for settling Indians, both from India and from South Africa, in other countries and to find out how many Indians from the Union would be prepared to take advantage of such a scheme concluded its sittings in Durban last Saturday. It will meet again in Pretoria on December 20 and in Capetown on January 9, when the South African Indian Congress, it is learnt, will submit their statement which runs to about thirty fullcap sheets.

The report is expected to be published at the end of January.

The Hindu Correspondent's Report

The Pretoria correspondent of *The Hindu* (Madras) sent the following message dated Oct. 31:

Regarding the results of the colonisation committee I am in a position to give certain exclusive information. The committee's work is not proving one of smooth sailing. It is stated that at certain stages there was a deadlock. Yesterday the committee sought the intervention of the Minister of the Interior Mr. Hofmeyr to elucidate certain points. He clarified the position and a degree of unanimity was reached among the members.

The committee, which has been meeting since last week, adjourned to-day till November 22nd when it will resume at Durban. It is likely that the committee may endeavour to hear evidence.

I can authoritatively state that it is anxious to learn every viewpoint including the Colonial Born Association.

So far the Indian community had nothing to lose and everything to gain by appointing as representative Mr. Naidoo who has been vigilant in seeing that the Indian cause did not suffer within the terms of reference. Close investigation has brought home the fact that the task of finding suitable countries for Indian colonisation is not as easy as it was first believed.

Evidence In Durban

The committee heard evidence from Mr. H. Clarke, of the Lion Match Factory, and Mr. E. C. Reed, Manager of African Explosives.

Mr. E. Clarke stated that white unskilled labour was more efficient than Indian. It was better controlled and greater efficiency had been introduced by this means. The physique of the European was

an important factor in this regard. While his firm had no definite policy of replacing Indians by Europeans, this was done where possible.

In answer to the chairman, Mr. J. Young, the witness stated that none of his Indian employees had expressed a desire to leave Natal.

The difficulties of housing Indians were emphasised by Mr. E. O. Rees, manager of African Explosives, Ltd. In the case of married Indians, housing was provided on the basis of a family of eight to each employee. There were 29 married Indians in his firm's employ, at an average of 20, and they had 113 children.

In reply to Mr. Heaton Nicholls, M.P., the witness said he did not see any tendency among his Indian employees to improve their living conditions.

Indians were more intelligent than Natives, said Mr. Rees, and on repetition work more suitable than Europeans. With one exception, all the Indians could be replaced by Natives if necessary. They were quicker to learn than Natives, however, and had a further advantage in that they did not go away every six months, as did the Natives.

Replying to Mr. Nicholls, Mr. Rees said the Indians were very ambitious and would not hesitate to go elsewhere if suitable inducements were offered.

Acting Protector's Evidence

Vital statistics of the Indian population in Natal show that although the death rate has been reduced since the early days of immigration by a tremendous margin, the birth rate is still one of the highest in the world.

Mr. H. Robinson, Acting Protector of Indian immigrants, who was questioned by the committee submitted figures which adequately bear testimony to this, and according to the details secured by a representative of the Natal Advertiser it is apparent that the death rate and emigration alone cannot by any means prevent an increase in the Indian population proportionately far in excess of that of the European population.

The Indian population of Natal at the end of last year was 150,488 (this figure representing immigrant Indians and their descendants only and not passenger Indians, who number thousands). This represents a net increase in eight years of 23,291.

Up to the end of last month the births among Indians this year totalled 5,200 and the deaths 1,646, while approximately 700 returned to India under the assisted emigration scheme. It will be seen, therefore, that during the 11 months there was a net increase of nearly 3,000.

In 1926 the Indian birth rate was 56.79 and the death rate 18.98. Both figures showed a slight decrease in later years, and last year the birth rate fell from 51.61 in the previous year to 42.62 and the death rate rose from 12.86 to 20.45. The exceptionally high rise in deaths was due mainly to the epidemic of malaria, and the fall in births was also in a large measure attributable to the effects of quinine. Last year, therefore, cannot be counted as normal, and to obtain a fairer comparison it is better to take the figures for 1931 and compare them with the Union European birth rate of 24.40 and the death rate of 9.37, which clearly indicate that while the death rate among Indians is not considerably above that of Europeans the birth rate is more than double.

At one time the exodus of Indians was fairly high, reaching a peak figure in 1928 at 5,400, but recent totals have been much lower, and it is considered that four vessels a year carrying from 250 to 300 passengers each represent the steady level of emigration.

The Agent's Evidence

The Agent of the Government of India Kunwar Sir Mahara Singh came specially from Johannesburg last Saturday to give evidence before the Colonisation Committee. The Agent said he did not think there was any chance of the Government financing a scheme of coloni-

sation to British Guiana. He believed that the economic depression precluded consideration of colonisation in any country, and he did not think the settlement of Indians even from India, in British Guiana would be practicable. He did not think the Indians from South Africa would fit into conditions in British Guiana, whose climate was much less healthy than that of South Africa.

In reply to Mr. Young, the Agent said he did not wish to make a statement, but he would be glad to reply to any questions. He wanted to explain, however, that his report on the colonisation of British Guiana made in 1925, which the Committee had read, dealt exclusively with the settlement from the United Provinces of India where there was great congestion and poverty.

He had recommended the colonisation of Indians in British Guiana in 1926 under a definite scheme by which the men would be given land and money to buy tools and buy implements and seeds. His suggestion had been adopted by the Government of British Guiana but had never been carried out owing to lack of funds.

The Government of British Guiana had been willing to finance the scheme, for there was at that time a shortage of labour in the Colony and it was anticipated that the new settlers would be free to work on the sugar estates for six months in the year.

The climate of the coastal strip of British Guiana was more equitable than that of the United Provinces, but was not as good as the climate of Natal, which he considered was one of the best in the world.

He did not think there was any chance of the Indian Government itself financing a colonisation scheme in British Guiana.

Mr. Nicholls: Surely that would be the financial responsibility of India?

As far as he knew, said the Agent, and he had a lot to do with the colonisation of Indians from India, the Government of India had never considered financing any colonisation scheme.

"In my opinion," he said, "the present economic position puts out of consideration colonisation from any one country to any other country. In almost every country in the world there is unemployment. There is considerable unemployment in British Guiana where the rice industry is in a precarious position. The sugar industry has also been very badly hit."

The committee suggested to the Kanwar that there might be a country with scarcely any population where extensive colonisation could be carried out if sufficient funds could be raised. The Kanwar, however, considered it impracticable; for he did not admit that it could be financed.

The members of the Committee suggested that Borneo, which had the same climate as Cayana, might prove a suitable place for colonisation. The Kanwar said, however, he knew nothing about the country except that it was inhabited by savage head-hunters. "I know the Government of India has no scheme for the colonisation of Borneo and I would not like to commit them to the smallest degree."

No Suitable Country

"I know of no country suitable for colonisation and having regard to the present world wide depression I should be very surprised to hear of any country where colonisation is possible. It would be impracticable in British Guiana at the present time."

The Kanwar said that he did not think that the Natal Indians would fit into the conditions in British Guiana. They would find it difficult to adjust themselves for the Indian from India had a lower standard of living, was less dependent and was less wasteful.

Mr. Nicholls: Assuming India was serious about colonisation, would not the Indian from South Africa, after his training in the art of colonisation and with his greater efficiency through his contact with western standards, enhance such a scheme, providing he would go? Presumably they would not go, and further I do not think colonists from South Africa and colonies from India would fit in with the Kanwar's suggestions.

He added that when he was in Guiana he found considerable opposition there to the immigration of Indians from outside.

Indians In Africa

Colour Prejudice And Not Comition The Cause Of The Trouble

(By C. F. ANDREWS)

[The following interesting article was contributed by Mr. C. F. Andrews to the *Indian Social Reformer* :]

I WOULD fully agree with the thesis of your note in the *Indian Social Reformer* that "the Asiatic is feared as a competitor" but my long experience in South Africa contradicts the further opinion expressed that apart from this economic factor the Indian 'has little cause to complain of his reception by the European.' I would go further and say that in Kenya, in Fiji, and in many other parts of the world, the Indian has every cause to complain of his reception by European races." He is, as Mahatma Gandhi has often called him, an 'outcaste' to the Europeans—an 'untouchable'—because of the colour of his skin. The degrading Colour Bar is raised against him just as it is raised against the African. A few Europeans may have broken it down but the majority of Europeans observe it strictly every day of their lives, and mere trade rivalry will not account for it. It goes deeper. It is racial. It sets up the eternal distinction between the 'white' and 'coloured' races. This is the new White Race Religion which is specially observed by a large majority of Anglo-Saxons as they meet with races of a different colour from their own in different parts of the world.

Let me give examples which I have actually experienced; for I am not writing from theory, but practice; and I write with deep sense of utter shame, for which no penance that I can offer can atone. This Colour Bar is one of the most vicious things in the world history to-day. If the removal of untouchability is a primary necessity for the reform of Hinduism, it is equally true that the Colour Bar within the Christian Church has to be removed, if Christianity (as it now exists) is to be made worthy of the name of Christ.

The following, then, are some of the examples. I have often told the story with shame and even with tears how Mahatma Gandhi in South Africa was prevented from entering a Christian Church where I was asked to preach about Christ. I did not know about it till afterwards. Otherwise I should have shaken the dust of that Church from my feet as utterly unworthy to use the name of Christ. This refusal was not due to competition with the European. It was due to hateful colour prejudice for which there can be no excuse.

Again, Indians are not allowed to sit on the same seat with Europeans on the trams in Natal. This regulation, I believe, still exists, and it is due to nothing else than colour prejudice. It is not applied to Jews, who are Asiatics but acclimatised in Europe. But it is applied to Indians, simply because of the colour bar. It is applied even to Indian ladies.

The same is true of restaurants and railway carriages and many other conveniences of life. Once I had to rescue Ramdas, Mahatma Gandhi's son, from violent treatment at the hands of a young English lad who tried to assault him simply because he was putting my bag in the carriage when I was travelling to Durban alone and therefore in the European part of the train. Literally, every day, Indians in South Africa are in danger of such insults because of the colour bar. They are treated in many respects as the American Negroes are still treated in the Southern States of U.S.A. It is true as I have

said that there are many Englishmen and women who detest such treatment, but there are comparatively few who on every occasion will take such action against it as will defy public opinion. It is not possible therefore to say that the Indians in South Africa have "little cause for complaint." Their treatment is such as to make the blood boil even to think about it.

There are highly educated Africans such as Professor Jabavu and his wife and Max Yergan who are among my intimate friends. Their treatment by the Europeans is no less cruel than that meted out to the educated Indians. They have to suffer the very same indignities. How terrible these are, the whole life of Aggrey, the West African, reveals to us. He was Vice-Principal of Achimota College. Yet he was insulted in South Africa in exactly the same way as Mr. Gokhale when he was forbidden to enter a lift in a hotel because he was a "coloured" man. I could go on telling stories of these insults which make one's heart bleed and one's face burn with shame. They have nothing whatever to do with economic competition. They are brutally caused by colour prejudice and colour prejudice only.

Yet at the same time I would entirely agree with the *Indian Social Reformer* that the African question itself in certain important respects differs from the Indian question in South Africa. And I have always tried to look upon the two questions as parallel to each other not coincident. I have never myself accepted the position that the two issues should be amalgamated. On one occasion in Johannesburg, leading educated Africans met me in order to consider this very question. At the end of our discussion we all came to the conclusion that the best possible means of advance would be for Indians and Africans to go forward on parallel lines and to send fraternal greetings to each other's Conferences expressing sympathy on all the great issues. Thus at Capetown in 1930, the leaders of the African Educational Conference came to express fraternal greetings to the South African Indian Congress and to wish the Congress every success in their opposition to a Bill which was brought before Parliament depriving Indians of their rights. In the same way, Indians protested strongly against a racially harmful 'Industrial Bill' in 1927, which chiefly injured African workers. Thus a friendly basis has been established, and I have always done my utmost to keep that basis intact.

Nevertheless, (I must return to the main issue) when the Colour Bar itself arises in a way which insults both races it is obvious that those who are injured must stand together in their resistance. Division here is fatal and union is strength.

Let me name, in conclusion, two tremendous dangers which may still arise in Africa if care is not taken to prevent them.

(1) It is possible for the seeds of contempt to be sown in African hearts against Indians, chiefly by Europeans who wish to keep the two races apart and desire to make the African dislike the Indian. I have seen personally instances of this European action of 'divide and rule' which were difficult to forget and forgive. If there is ever formed a new superiority complex on the part of the Indians in Africa the Africans will notice and resent it. Once I saw this resentment blazing in the eyes of an African who came to me telling me of some insult under which he had suffered. We have too many race prejudices in the world to-day without starting others like them. My own longing therefore is that the friendship between Africans and Indians which is based on a common suffering and a common humanity may continually deepen as mutual respect increases.

(2) It is possible also for the seeds of contempt to be sown in Indian hearts which may spring up and bear evil fruit against the African. It is all too easy, in certain respects, in Africa for Indian settlers

weakly to take the side of the European in his treatment of the African. I can never forget what happened once in Kenya when a prominent educated Indian told me to my face that I did not understand the African if I thought that it was possible to deal with him without flogging him on occasions. This educated Indian had learnt this outrageous idea, not from his inner nature but from the heartless treatment of the Africans which he saw around him. Here again, a new race hatred might easily arise between the Indian and the African if such ideas gained any prominence among Indians who were settled in Africa. Here again, my one prayer is that a common suffering and a common humanity may bind African and Indian together and continually deepen the mutual respect already existing between them.

Sastri College Progress Number Of Students Increasing Additional Wing To Be Built

A record of sound progress at Sastri College, Durban, was revealed by the Principal, Mr. W. M. Buss, B. A., when he read his report at a gathering on Saturday night (Dec. 9) in the College Hall.

Among the many visitors present were Inspector and Mrs. Banks and Miss Banks, the Rev. W. H. Satchell and Mrs. Satchell.

Mr. Buss, in his report, said that considerable change was made at the beginning of the year in the staffing arrangements of the College, consequent on the departure for India of the six teachers imported in 1930. Messrs. V. Sirkari Naidoo and G. Singh were added to the Indian staff, and the places of the teachers from India were taken by Messrs. R. F. Hawksley, G. M. Titlestad, R. W. Martin, G. A. Kolbe, B. Jaight and M. H. Lindsay.

It was found necessary to have two additional teachers owing to the growth in numbers from 265 in 1932 to 281 in 1933. The College would be able to accommodate 300 next year, if necessary.

"Developments during the past two years have been that geography has been substituted for French, and Botany is gradually replacing Physical Science in the curriculum," Mr. Buss said. "Standard VI has disappeared; all pupils are either in the Secondary Department or one of the Teachers Training groups. Candidates for the T3B examination are now more numerous than those for the T5.

"Provision has been made on the estimates for the addition of a wing, which will contain a library, two staff common rooms and a large science laboratory.

"Sound progress has been made. There is a better tone, and habits of order and industry are developing. It would be unwise for us to court popularity by cramming for examinations. We have to consider every type of boy who comes here. Some are not able to reach even Junior Certificate stage, but we want them, none the less, to reap the maximum of benefit from their years among us. Parents can help materially by giving us their full support."

After suggesting the formation of a Parent-Teacher Association, to deal with some matters, Mr. Buss concluded by saying that the hostels at Leathern Road and Sydenham were well conducted, but there was need for a College Hostel.

A programme was rendered by some of the students. There were recitations in Afrikaans, Urdu and English. Members of the Matriculation class per-

formed the introduction to "A Midsummer Night's Dream," which drew well-deserved applause.
—*Natal Mercury*.

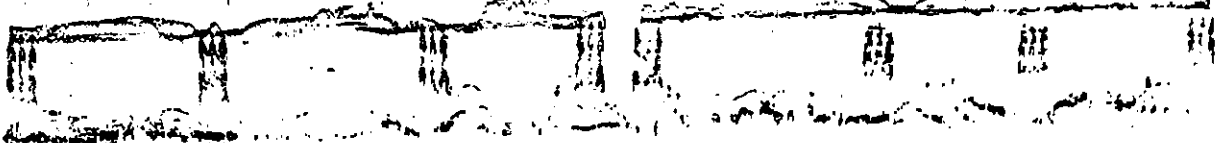
Indian Emigration Centenary

(By PREM NARIAN AGRAWAL, General Secretary,
Indian Colonial Association, Ajitmal, (Etawah)
U.P. India)

Indians overseas and other persons directly or indirectly connected with their problems know the full significance of the year 1834. It was the most unfortunate year in the history of Indians, when discarding every opposition by the Indians the much lamented indentured labour system was introduced and continued in the one form or another until 1920 when as a result of vigorous opposition of Indians the Government had ultimately no other alternative but to yield and then it came to an end. Practically every Indian is now more or less aware of the degrading influence which it had on the Indians who emigrated to colonies under this system and of the many social evils, the degenerating moral life, and the insult at the hands of the white settlers which they endured owing to their helplessness which was due to the negligence of the Indian Government. They also know how cruelly they were recruited in India for which all fair and foul means were adopted. The deceitful and much exaggerated accounts of these places and the then existing conditions in India compelled them to leave their own country. What happened in the way on the ships and on their reaching in these places, where they afterwards worked, was all the more painful and disappointing. The hours of work, and heavy punishment on insignificant breach of rules and the insanitary conditions under which they worked were such that even some white people, what to say of Indians to whom all this was not less than National insult, felt the great injustice. It was due to the alien nature of our Government that very little was done to help our brethren abroad and we suffered in both ways and it is really difficult to give an exact interpretation of their grievances in words.

A long period of 100 years will be completed in 1934 of the introduction of the indentured labour system and that gloomy picture of those days has now entirely disappeared and Indian colonists have new problems to fight with. They look to India for the solution of such problems but they are being overlooked as we are so much engrossed in our own affairs that we hardly get time to look into their grievances. However, it cannot be denied that there exists a very close connection of the colonies with India and their political, social and economic advancement is entirely depend upon Indians and their looking to India for the redress of their grievances is quite natural and legitimate. This coming year, therefore, will open a new chapter and as things are quite different these days so it should be done in such a way, that their future may now always remain bright and their problems should get a sympathetic hearing from India. This year is, as a matter of fact, a year of remembrance by Indians in every part of the world because it was during this very year that for the first time in the history of India a ship carrying Indians under indentured labour system went to Mauritius and since then thousands of Indians were sent to other colonies to work as labourers.

Our Association which stands to safeguard the legitimate rights of Indians overseas and thus clear the way for the building of the Greater India by



establishing a close connection of the colonies with India has undertaken to celebrate this year the first centenary of Indian emigration and are contemplating to declare a day or week as it may then think fit of moving for the observance by Indians throughout India and in the colonies. We have not chalked out the whole of the programme as yet, but mass meetings, processions, resolutions and suspension of work for a few hours may be supposed to be its features. However, I invite constructive suggestions from all interested persons in the cause which may be addressed by the above address to me for which I shall feel greatly obliged.

Transvaal Indian Congress

Election Of Officials

Last Sunday's election meeting of the Transvaal Indian Congress, says our Johannesburg correspondent, was one of the rowdiest meetings ever seen. The organisers of the meeting had come with a determination to have their own way by hook or by crook. A dummy chairman was elected to control the meeting.

The Secretary read his report and when asked to read the statement submitted to the Provincial Finance Committee an explanation was made that the statement was not typed.

Rulings were given mostly by the secretary and not by the chairman, who neither understood English nor knew the duties of the chair. Those who showed any signs of opposition were not given a hearing.

At times there was actual pandemonium ruling. Hoodlums were brought to the meeting to scare the oppositionists. Thus did the election of officials take place amidst wrath, bitterness and dissatisfaction.

At the end of the election people dispersed thoroughly dissatisfied and with a feeling of disgust for the Congress.

The following were elected:

President: Mr. Hajee Cassim Adam, Vice-Presidents: Messrs. N. P. Patel, E. M. Asvat, W. Ernest, E. M. Mooloo, B. K. Patel, M. V. Desai, Z. V. Parekh, Jamail Dadabhai and M. Guba. Joint Hon. Secretaries: Messrs. D. M. Narsoo, and S. M. Nana. Joint Hon. Treasurers: Messrs. M. Valod, and Karubhai Fakira. Members of Committee: Messrs. Ranchhod, Valies, M. Ahd, B. Masters, All Dadabhai, L. B. Patel, N. Ramjee, B. Premjee, Narn Madhav, S. M. Haffeeley, C. Moodley, Moses Akalwaya, A. Mangera, E. S. Dangor, I. Nana, Jeevan Bhaat, M. I. Patel, Umbatal Desai, I. S. Mayet, M. Master, Cassim Samsook, M. Peartood, E. Mayet, A. M. Essankjee, H. M. Patel, Govan Premjee.

We have received the secretary's report which has been held over for next week.

Mayville Indian Youngmen's Society

Fourth Anniversary

There was a large gathering present at the A.Y.S. Government Aided Indian School, Bellair Road, Mayville, on Sunday the 10th December 1933, at 8.30 p.m. on the occasion of the celebration of the fourth anniversary of the Mayville Indian Youngmen's Society.

The president Mr. N. C. Naidoo was in the chair. Mr. N. C. Naidoo in the course of his presidential address, extended a welcome to the guests, and outlined the object and the future work of the society.

The secretary Mr. V. S. Vadival submitted his report for the fourth year of the society's work.

Mr. T. M. Naicker congratulated the society on their good work and delivered an interesting lecture on the "Torch Bearers of a nation and their duties."

Messrs. S. P. Pillay the vice-president of the society, R. N. Naidoo, V. S. Naidoo and Mr. R. Devar all spoke of the progressive work of the society.

A pleasing feature of the ceremony was the rendering of musical items by Messrs. S. M. A. Soopye, A. C. Hoover and the members of the society.

Natal Indian Schools' Arts And Crafts Exhibition

The hon. secretary Natal Indian Teachers' Society writes:

The Bi-annual Arts and Crafts Exhibition organised by the Natal Indian Teachers' Society will be held this year at the Carlisle Street Government Indian School on Friday and Saturday 22nd and 23rd, December 1933.

The opening ceremony will be on Friday at 11 a.m. and the exhibition is likely to be opened by Mrs. F. D. Hugo, wife of the Superintendent of Education, Natal.

The exhibition promises to be of great interest for Schools throughout Natal are contributing towards its success.

Those who have had the opportunity of seeing the previous exhibitions were no doubt loud in their applause of the creditable work done by Indian children.

This is an opportunity for parents and members of the community to witness for themselves the work that is being carried on in the schools.

With a view of enabling parents and the working classes to witness, the exhibition will be open on Friday evening till 8 p.m.

The Exhibition Committee is doing everything possible to ensure the Show a success.

Asiatic Land Tenure Act Commission

Evidence of Mr. Mahomed Essop Gathoo

[Continued from last week]

CHAIRMAN (To witness): With regard to that block fronting on Diagonal Street where you have your store; that is the triangular block between Diagonal Street and West Street; how long has your store down there been established do you say?—In 1928.

How was that site occupied prior to your store being established there?—By Indians.

Was it some other Indians?—Yes. You see; the whole of this was occupied by Indians since the Boer war. It was always mostly Indians.

Did you take over some existing business here? No. It was an old building. I put the new building there.

You did not take over somebody's else's business. You did not get some old licence transferred to you. You started afresh?—No; I moved my business from Barchersdorp to Diagonal Street.

Previously to your establishing yourself in Diagonal Street, where was your business?—In Barchersdorp.

What Street?—Malherbe Street.

Was that on those stands at the corner of Mipaar Street and Malherbe Street?—Yes.

You vacated those stands and took up the occupation of these stands fronting on Diagonal Street?—Yes.

And those stands which you vacated, to what purpose are they put now?—I left somebody else in Barchersdorp.

Is there anybody else trading there?—It is the

furniture factory.

That is the European factory?—Yes.

You put up this building in 1928 on the Diagonal Street site?—1927 or 1928. Some in 1927 and some in 1928. I built two lots.

Which stand does the building stand on?—President Street I built in 1927; the Market Street buildings were built in 1928.

Take the Market Street and Diagonal Street site; what stand is that?—The Market Street and Diagonal Street buildings were built in 1928.

What did you spend on the building?—Altogether £25,000 on the building I think.

Is that on the site at the corner of Diagonal Street and Market Street?—No; the whole block of buildings cost £25,000.

There is more than one building covering that?—Yes.

What are these buildings?—One of them is on the corner of Diagonal and Market Street?—And also Diagonal and President Streets.

Is it on two stands?—No; four stands; and also Market and West Street corner.

The four buildings cost £25,000?—The whole block cost £25,000.

They all join up?—Yes, but they were built at different times.

You built them by degrees?—Yes.

The building on Diagonal and Market Streets is a building for residential premises above a shop?—Yes.

Is that where you live?—Other Indians besides myself also live there.

Have all the buildings you put up there residential premises above the shops?—Yes.

And do the people who live above have to do with the shops which are underneath?—Not all. Some of them.

(To Be Continued)

News In Brief

Among those present on the platform to welcome H. E. the Governor-General and Lady Olarendon on their arrival at Pretoria last week were the Agent of the Government of India the Kunwar Sir and Lady Mahardj Singh who were accompanied by Mrs O. H. A. Jhaveri from Durban and Mr. Cassim Adam.

A farewell reception was given by the Springs Indian Commercial Association to the retired chairman, Mr. Essop Moola Matwadia of Messrs. E. M. Matwadia & Co., a leading firm of Springs, who has sailed for India. Mr. Mahamood Sahab, the hon. secretary of the association, paid a tribute to the services of Mr. Matwadia. Speeches were made wishing Mr. Matwadia a pleasant voyage. Mr. Matwadia suitably thanked the Association. At the termination of the function light refreshments were served and Mr. Matwadia was garlanded by the secretary Mr. Mahomed Sahab and by Mr. Moola Master on behalf of his staff. There was a large gathering at the station from the various towns to say good-bye.

At a general meeting of the Indian community held at the Royal Kipema Bioscope, Pretoria, Mr. Essop Ackoojee, presided. He explained that the object of the meeting was to form an Indian Hospital Committee for the purpose of raising over £400 to furnish the new Indian Hospital Ward. The idea of raising funds for furnishing of the new Indian Hospital ward received the hearty support of the large attendend at the meeting.

The following were elected as officials: President: Mr. Hajee Cassim Adam (the donor of the Indian Hos-

pital); Vice-Presidents: Messrs. Hajee Habib, Essop Ackoojee, B. Maharaj, M. de. Joozab, K. K. Khojaj; Secretaries: Messrs. R. Mooloo and Solomon Ernest; Treasurers: Messrs. Goplam Manjee and Krishna Pillay; Auditor: Nana Sita; Committee: Messrs. C. B. Pillay, S. M. Pillay, I. N. Naidoo, Allen Bakakistan, B. R. Mooloo, Alli Bhai Velshi, H. N. Keesbavjee, Hassim Manjee, M. Khau, M. M. Joshi, Rama Narau, Mohamed Sedick, Dawood Oman, Ahmed Suliman, and E. Moola.

Items Of Interest

The total population of the world is 1,850,000,000.

The total population of China is 400,000,000. China is the world's oldest empire.

The entire population of South Africa can comfortably be hidden either in London or New York.

The oldest sanary in the world has recently died. It was 31 years old.

60 Natives were sentenced to death for killing an old woman at Nairobi recently.

Yaga Sunia, a Turk of Istanbul, has just been acquitted of a charge of stealing a small sum of money; the trial lasted for more than 8 years.

The world's longest train run is that from Riga to Vladivostock, 6,800 miles.

Over 100 Indian students, including a number of girls from the Mitchell Crescent Girls High School have been sitting for the J.C. and for the Matric this year.

Prince George is visiting South Africa for the first time in January.

Kit Mooltee Singh won figure in the main bout in the boxing tourney on Dec. 26th.

There will be another bumper boxing tourney in the Durban Town Hall on Boxing Day night, 26th December.

There is a rumour about to the effect that a new wing, costing about £5,000 is soon to be put up at Sastri College.

On Saturday evening, 25th November, a First Aid exhibition was given by the Indian lady members of the Red Cross Society, at the D.I.L. headquarters near the Old Fort, Durban.

A banquet was given by Mr. N. P. Williams, the president of the Blue Bells Football Club in honour of the club recently at Mr. Peter's residence at 48, Prince Edward Street.

CONFERENCE

Colonial Born and Settlers Indian Association

A Conference of the Colonial Born and Settlers Indian Association will be held in Durban on December 30 and 31 and January 1 and 2 on vital matters affecting Colonial Born and Settler Indians.

A. CHRISTOPHER,
President.

A. HAFEEZ

S. L. SINGH

D. S. CHEPPEY

Jt. hon. Secretaries C.B. and S.L.A.

Sporting News

(BY SPORTSMAN)

Cricket

Panday Shield Matches—century for C. Akbar.

Over the week-end before last the first round of the Panday shield matches were contested at Currie's Fountain. Owing to the inclemency of the weather there was no cricket on Saturday 25th inst. but with improved weather conditions the matches were played the following day. This competition is on the K. O. system. The following is an epitome of the results:—

Ottomans vs. Overport

Overport, 1st innings, 14.

Ottomans, 1st innings, 166 for 2 wickets.
(Cassim Akbar 107 not out).

Ottomans won by 8 wickets and 152 runs.

Pirates vs. Muslims

Pirates 1st innings 11 runs for 8 wickets.

2nd innings 26 runs.

Muslims 1st innings 111 runs.

The Muslims won by an inning and 74 runs.

Schools vs. Centrals

Schools 1st innings 49 runs.

Centrals 1st innings 52 runs.

The Centrals won by 3 runs.

Roselyns vs. Crescent

Roselyns 1st innings 64.

Crescent 1st innings 29.

Roselyns won by 85 runs.

There was no cricket on Saturday, 2nd Dec. The grounds were hired to the Natal Motoring Club for Cycle races.

Sastri College Football Club

Report—Season 1933

(By G. S.)

Seniors

The season under review was a most interesting and successful one. For the first time since its inception the College ventured to affiliate a senior team to the Durban and District Indian Football Association. At the commencement of the season much scepticism was shown in connection with the College's chances of success. At that time some prophesied its early withdrawal. But these discouraging remarks failed to dampen the youthful ardour of the College team which at the end of the season was 3rd on the League Log.

The College was, however, unfortunate in letting the much coveted Natal Cup slip out of its hands. In the district final they lost by 4—2 to the Pirates. In the Tandarce's Cup competition the College sustained a K. O. in the initial stages but avenged itself in the next competition from which it emerged victorious, thereby annexing the Thajmoon's Cup.

Juniors

The juniors have a pitiable tale to relate. The first five defeats took the wind out of their sails. Thereafter, the team was seldom complete. This is a bad sign and reflects badly on the College as a whole. A team cannot expect to win always. A little more perseverance and determination on their part might have been rewarded as in the case of the Juveniles.

Juveniles

The juveniles were the victims of fluctuating fortunes.

They came 4th on the League Log and like the seniors narrowly missed the Natal Cup. In the district final with the Natal Estates they lost their heads and consequently the match. The aftermath of this affair was bitter. Let us hope it will never be repeated. The juveniles eventually in the last competition inflicted a defeat of 1—0 on the Natal Estates to win the Raman Bros. Rose Bowl.

Five-A-Side Tournies

The College affiliated several teams in various 5 a-side tournaments. The seniors won the Thompson's Cup at P. M. Burg while the juveniles at Durban won silver medals.

Schools (Thursday) Division

There are two divisions in this association. The College affiliated two senior teams and one junior team. The College was most successful. Both Cups came to the College for a 12 months' sojourn. In the five-a-side schools tourney held at Carlisle Street, on October 3rd 1933, the seniors topped the list while the junior were runners up.

Cups In Hand

Last year the College could boast of not a single trophy. This year however the College seems to have had the lion's share. The following cups have been won during the season under review.

- (1) Seniors Thajmoon's Cup (D.D.I.F.A.)
- (2) Juveniles Raman Bros' Cup (")
- (3) Seniors Thompson's Cup (P. M. Burg)
- (4) Seniors League Cup (Schools Association)
- (5) Juniors League Cup (")

Captains

Seniors (Saturday) M. I. Ynsuf.

Juniors (") Murgan.

Juvenile (") R. Govindoo.

Seniors (Schools) R. Govindoo.

Juniors (") Maharaj.

Friendly Matches

During the year a galaxy of friendly matches were played. Teams travelled down to Durban occasionally to play the College XI's though the College more often than not went on week-end tours. This is an important feature of the Club's activities, for it is by matches of this nature that the students of the College are enabled not only to see new places but to make new acquaintances.

The College travelled to Richmond, Umzinto, and Stanger. The Stanger Stars gave the College a return match in Durban. The College also played the Taylor St. Native School in 4 matches. The College won three and drew one. The Melbourne Road Coloured School was also thrice defeated by the College.

The College looks forward to those friendly matches.

Thanks

The Sports-master in conclusion desire to express their deepest thanks to friends and well wishers who have directly and indirectly contributed to the sporting welfare of the College Football Club. They are too numerous to mention but they are those who wish to make Sastri College the centre not only in the Academic sphere but also in the cultural and sporting spheres. To them go the College's thanks and gratitude.

Pillay Bros. Trophy

Durban Indian Municipal Employees Five-a-side football tournament will be played for Pillay Bros. Trophy on Sunday the 17th December 1933 at 9 a.m. at the Native Recreation Ground, Somerset Road, Durban.

The following are the entries: "Jameson Park," "Isaac's Five," "Water Works," "Public Works," "A. B. C. and D," "Parks and Gardens," "A and B," and "Town Hall United."