

# Indian Opinion

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## CONTENTS.

	Page
Notes And News ... ..	61
EDITORIAL :-	
Bishop Fisher's Appeal ... ..	62
OTHER ARTICLES :-	
Bishop Of Natal's Appeal ... ..	"
Promises That Were Not Kept ... ..	63
Current Topics ... ..	64
Our London Letter ... ..	65
News In Brief ... ..	66
Weddings ... ..	67
Sporting News ... ..	"

## Notes and News

### Our New Venture

Owing to insistent demands we have once more introduced Tamil and Hindi columns in INDIAN OPINION which were abandoned in 1905. It was owing to lack of adequate support that these languages had to be discontinued. In later years, however, the demand for them seems to have grown as there were papers published in both these languages by individual enterprise. In response to the urgent call upon us we have launched on this new venture not without additional financial burden. The life and growth of it is entirely dependent upon the amount of support given by the Tamil and Hindi communities.

### Morning Market Tea Room

AN amusing story is attached to the Tea Room in the new Indian Morning Market which was recently opened in Warwick Avenue. The tea room, it is understood, was originally to be given to the Indian Farmers Association for their sole benefit at a rental of £10 per month. The representatives of the Squatters Association put in their claim for a share of the profits which might accrue from the tea room; and that they were made partners in this concern. The farmers, however, would not agree. The result of this quarrel led the Corporation to recognise neither of the bodies and the tea room is now put up for tender from the public. It is now learnt that the differences between the two Associations above mentioned have been patched and are anxious to get the tea room. The Associations have little reason to complain if they find the tea room gone from their hands. It is now left entirely in the hands of the Market Master to use his good influences with the Town Council and to persuade it to give preference to the Farmers and Squatters Associations. We hope he will do so.

### "Insult To God And Disgrace To Man"

IN his report to the Durban Town Council on the squalid conditions of Indians in the added areas Dr. G. H. Gunn (Borough Health Officer)

said "To quote an eminent English sanitarian commenting recently on Lancashire slums, the housing conditions (of most non-Europeans in the added areas) are an insult to God and a disgrace to man!"

### Some Interesting Figures

ACCORDING to figures prepared and published in the *Natal Mercury* the total number of original Indian immigrants remaining in Natal at December 31 is 31,101. It is interesting to note that of these Indians only 4,938 are younger than 40. There are 2,489 men and 1,528 women between 41 and 45; 4,897 men and 2,142 women between 46 and 50; 3,831 and 1,764 women between 51 and 55; 2,985 men and 1,616 women between 56 and 60; and 3,120 men and 1,794 women between 61 and 90. It is obvious, therefore, that the remaining indentured Indians will grow rapidly less in number through death alone. Over 13,000 have returned to India under the repatriation and assisted emigration schemes; and it is believed that, when the last of the indentured Indians have died, or returned to India, the stream of returning Indians will practically cease. It was estimated in 1931 that there were 163,400 Indians in Natal, so that it will be seen that about 80 per cent. of them are South African-born. There are 6,531 Indians in the Cape, 15,500 in the Transvaal and only 100 in the Free State.

### Congress Deputation Interviews Minister

A deputation of the Congress under the leadership of the Agent of the Government of India interviewed the Minister of the Interior, Mr. J. H. Hofmeyr, in Capetown. Matters relating to Immigration, trading and ownership of land in the Transvaal were discussed. The deputation was given a sympathetic hearing and was promised a written reply to the questions raised.

### C. B. And S. I. A. East London Branch

The British Indian Union of East London at a meeting held in the Indo-African Traders Building in Argyle Street was dissolved and the meeting then unanimously formed the Colonial-born and Settlers Indian Association (East London Branch) with Mr. D. P. Parbhoo as chairman and Mr. R. S. Harry as hon. secretary.

### Bihar Earthquake

According to a message sent by Babu Rajendraprasad to the organisers of the Lord Mayor of London's Relief Fund in connection with the recent earthquake in India at least 20,000 persons were killed and thousands more have been buried in the debris. Three thousand square miles of agricultural land are ruined by sand and water, wells are choked. Of the 15 sugar mills in the earthquake area 10 were destroyed and the sugar cane crop jeopardised.

## Indian Opinion

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 16TH, 1934.

### BISHOP FISHER'S APPEAL

THE Bishop of Natal's appeal to Christian Churches published in our last week's issue and his appeal to the public this week is a distinct contrast to the general cry of the Europeans in Natal against the so-called Asiatic menace and the methods suggested to deal with it. "That the mentality which sees a menace in the progress and prosperity of the other races," the Bishop says, "will react most injuriously upon South African culture. . . That we stand to-day before a momentous choice—the choice between a future civilisation based upon moral principle and one resting upon oppression cloaked in the language of hypocrisy." The Bishop's appeal will no doubt go home to all true Christians but it will have no effect on the politicians of the type of Mr. Tielman Roos. The Bishop did not believe that differences of tradition and outlook, such as were always found when race met race, were inevitably a hindrance to harmonious working. Spirit of fairplay, equal standard of living, increased facilities for education for both boys and girls, said the Bishop, would provide the best conditions for that harmonious co-operation between Indians and Europeans which was in the best interests both of the individual and of the country as a whole. The Indian community has been asking for nothing more. "When competition is fair" the Bishop very rightly says, "the result should be to raise the standard of efficiency and thus to promote progress to the benefit of the whole community. We in this country fully realise that we should adopt the western standard of living. We have welcomed measures that have been introduced from time to time which had for their object the establishing of that standard. But almost all such measures have been worked on racial lines. For instance the Wage and the Industrial Acts apply to all alike but Indians are not given equal opportunities under those Acts. While these Acts outwardly appear to be quite innocent they are designed with the object of squeezing out Indians. One sees this spirit in almost every Act. The whole object of the licensing laws, it would appear, is to keep the Indian out of trade. The patience of the Indian in this country is exercised beyond limit. The irony of it is that Indians who are British subjects are branded as foreigners and their condition is worse than the real foreigners. British Empire nor even the South African nationality has any meaning for the Indian. The principles laid down by the Bishop of Natal are gems and if they were to be sincerely followed there would certainly be no cause for any complaint either on the part of Europeans or Indians. We know how difficult it is for any member of the ruling race in this country to give expression to his thoughts frankly. But if all those who feel as the Bishop of Natal does were to express themselves fearlessly they would be doing the best service to the Christian faith.

## Bishop Of Natal's Appeal To Europeans And Indians

SPIRIT OF FAIRPLAY, EQUAL STANDARD OF LIVING  
INCREASED FACILITIES FOR EDUCATION  
ADVOCATED

AN appeal for the spirit of fairplay, a more equal standard of living and increased facilities for sound education as a means of achieving co-operation between Europeans and Indians, and, thereby promoting the progress of the whole community, was made by the Bishop of Natal, Dr. Noel Fisher, in an address at a public conference on Race Relations in South Africa, held in Maritzburg.

It was sometimes assumed, said Dr. Fisher, that differences of tradition and outlook, such as were always found when race met race, were inevitably a hindrance to harmonious working. He did not believe that to be the case. It was true that when people were ignorant about each other and were afraid of the future there was the kind of atmosphere in which dissension and strife were easily born. It was not variety, but mutual ignorance and suspicion which was the real obstacle to right relations. So far from differences being a hindrance they might greatly enrich the life of a country, though only in so far as each race sought to represent its nationality at its best. European and Indian alike had much to contribute to the common good.

These were days of keen competition, and when those who competed were of different race, a fresh cause of bitterness was introduced. As it was impossible to eliminate competition, it was necessary to free it of its worst features.

"May I insist," said Dr. Fisher, "that co-operation is more fundamental than competition? When competition is fair, the result should be to raise the standard of efficiency and thus to promote progress to the benefit of the whole community. But it is essential that competition should be on fair and equal conditions. On the one hand, no one should be handicapped by artificial restrictions. But again no one should gain an unfair advantage owing to an uncivilised standard of living, enabling him to undersell his neighbours; nor by being able to pay lower wages to those whom he employs. We must press for fairplay, and for equitable conditions of employment that competition may be on a fair basis, as between the two races.

With a view to an improved standard of living and a larger measure of understanding and mutual appreciation, the benefits of sound education must be placed within the reach of all. That did not mean that all would be educated to the same level, but that each should receive the kind and degree of education which corresponds to his capacity and requirements. He believed that it was as important to educate the girls as the boys, for they were the future mothers, and on them depended the character of the homes.

If one could bring about those three things—the spirit of fairplay, a more equal standard of living and increased facilities for sound education—much would be done to provide the best conditions for that harmonious co-operation between Indians and Euro-

peans which was in the best interests both of the individual and of the country as a whole.

There were many difficult problems, political, economic and social, which had to be solved. Europeans were demanding, as they had a right to do, the safeguarding of their Western civilisation and standards of life which they regarded as essential. Indians, on the other hand, were demanding as they had a right to do, a recognised position in the life of the

country and opportunities for progress. It was inevitable that politics should enter largely into the question and that efforts should be made from time to time to alter and adjust the laws of the land. He urged the exhibition of patience for which the East was famous and to trust the wisest leaders. Hasty and uncontrolled speech by European or Indian usually set back the hands of the clock.—*Natal Mercury*.

## PROMISES THAT WERE NOT KEPT

### INDIAN REPATRIATES FROM SOUTH AFRICA

#### MR. P. BHARAT SINGH'S ACTIVITIES

Bangalore, Jan. 9.

**M**AHATMA GANDHI was to-day interviewed by Mr. P. Bharat Singh, representative of the Colonial Born and Settlers' Indian Association of Natal, on the question of repatriation and assisted emigration of South African Indians.

Interviewed by the *Indian Express* (Madras) about the present state of Indians who have come from South Africa to this country under the above schemes Mr. Singh stated as follows:—

"I have been deputed by the Colonial Born and Settlers' Indian Association of Natal to investigate the conditions of the Indians repatriated from South Africa under the repatriation and assisted emigration schemes. At Calcutta I visited Arra, a suburb of the second largest city in the British Empire, where about 400 returned emigrants from various colonies are living in miserable circumstances, I saw about 20 repatriates from South Africa. I understood there were many more but as my visit was totally unexpected, a large number had gone out of the camp. What I have seen at Arra cannot bear description. Men, women and children are living in a disgraceful condition. They are ill-fed, ill-clothed, and many of them are fever-stricken as Arra is a noted malaria centre. The tragedy of the whole thing is that Government who are a party to the repatriation of Indians from South Africa, have not carried out their promises of looking after these unfortunate people.

At Madras I learnt that Mahatmaji, whom I was most anxious to meet, was at Bangalore, and I took the opportunity of going there. I have still to carry out my investigations in Madras. The Colonial Born and Settlers' Indian Association, whom I represent and who have deputed me to carry out these investigations is entirely opposed to repatriation, assisted emigration and colonisation. In connection with the latter, the Government of South Africa have appointed a Committee to explore the possibilities of finding another country to settle the Indians at present in South Africa. My Association has declared in unequivocal terms our opposition to the above scheme. Protest meetings have been held throughout Natal, and a large majority of Indians are behind our attitude of non-co-operation with the Government on this Commission.

My countrymen would perhaps be surprised to learn that since the repatriation and assisted emigration schemes were put into force, about 30,000 Indians have left South Africa, and from my in-

vestigations so far, a huge majority of them are leading very miserable lives in this country.

At Calcutta had it not been for the noble work of Messrs. H. K. Mukerjee and Pandit Benarsidas Chaturvedi, the plight of the returned emigrants would have been more pitiful. Through the former's instrumentality, Messrs. Birla Brothers of Calcutta have been supplying food, clothing and medicine for about 400 emigrants for the last four months."

#### Letter To The President

Mr. Bharat Singh writes to the President of the Colonial Born and Settlers' Indian Association from Karachi, dated Jan. 22, 1934:—

"My cable re the condition of repatriates from South Africa could not have caused much surprise for we have known for years past that their condition in India was far from satisfactory. Nobody in South Africa, however, has a true knowledge of the appalling state of affairs here. During the course of my investigations at Calcutta and Madras I have seen sights which I shall never forget. It is no exaggeration when I say that thousands of our people from South Africa are unemployed in India, while hundreds are really starving, diseased and homeless. They are in tatters and bear no resemblance to the once sturdy Indians of Natal. I have wished, oh how I have wished, that those who have been responsible for this precarious scheme could have been with me during my investigations. Children run about naked, young Colonial-born youths of between 16 and 22 years of age are in a pitiable condition. They came to me in large numbers in Madras and pleaded I can still hear their pleadings—that something should be done to enable them to return to South Africa. They were compelled to come to India with their parents and since then have never been able to secure jobs of any kind. India's economic condition to-day cannot bear description and it is a tragedy that more repatriates are coming from South Africa. I implore you to do all you can to stop this. Extensive propaganda is necessary—and not another Indian should be allowed to return to India under this abominable scheme. We owe a duty to our people there and we must apprise them of the conditions existing in India. I have obtained statements from various repatriates at Calcutta and Madras and have also taken some snaps. On the journey back to South Africa I hope to prepare a detailed report which I shall present to our Association. I am leaving India by the *Kenya*

sailing from Bombay on the 21st February and hope to reach Durban on the 14th March.

Let me urge again that the position of repatriates here is very serious and distressing. From what I can make of it, we cannot do anything except to agitate for Government assistance to our people here. But whether our voices would be heard by those in power is a matter for conjecture. I certainly do think they will assist. What we must aim at is to prevent further repatriation at all costs."

## CURRENT TOPICS

COMMENTS AND CRITICISMS

(BY BHUSMASOOR)

### Mahatmaj's Appeal

IN this time of depression and distress among the millions in India, it is God's will that a further calamity should befall the poor by the recent earthquake when thousands and thousands have perished, cities and towns have been brought to the ground and thousands of them have been made desolate and homeless, what wonder, when historians say that from time immemorial India is still the land of suffering and want. The cruel drain on her resources and the strong grip on her coffers has made India impotent, cripple and paralytic but with such calamities as earthquakes, floods, plagues and famine she is put years behind the clock. It is a marvel how she survives all this and yet allows the continuous drain to go on. Mahatmaj has made an appeal for help and succour for those suffering and helpless victims and who will not help them who have lost their all through no fault of theirs. I hope Mahatmaj's appeal will not fall on deaf ears in this country and a substantial sum will be sent for the relief of the sufferers in India.

### India in South Africa

Indian sportsmen and others throughout South Africa will be happy to note the cable received by Mr. Albert Christopher from Mr. P. B. Singh whose mission in India was to arrange for a team to visit South Africa. It appears from the cable that the All-India football team has accepted the invitation and will in due course sail for our ports to play a series of matches in the different Provinces. The visit of the Indian team will not only be of immense benefit to the representatives of India but of incalculable value to the Indians of this country. It would be, as it were, the link that would bind the South African Indians more to their Motherland. Mr. Christopher is the pioneer in this movement, as it was he who had sent the "Christopher Contingent" to India some years ago. Those who went in that tour to India speak very highly of the educational value of the visit apart from the sporting merit which they gained, on the football fields of Hindustan. I know every Indian in South Africa will be anxiously waiting for the day to welcome the sons of India to these shores. I, in anticipation of that great day, congratulate Mr. Christopher, Mr. P. B. Singh and those who are working with them to make the coming tour a success. Their arrival would really mean India in South Africa.

### Teacher's Society Ignored

I understand from a reliable source that the Natal Indian Teachers' Society have been ignored by

the Mayor in not having been asked to arrange for the thousands of children to participate in welcoming H. R. H. Prince George to Natal. The Mayor, it seems, after having given up all his rights and titles of the two functions to the Natal Indian Congress is now resting on his oars. It might be recalled that during the Prince of Wales visit, the Natal Indian Congress boycotted the celebrations because they were refused admission to the civic banquet. The Teachers during Mr. Wadley's mayorship carried on the celebrations with thousands of children at the Albert Park. Mr. Park's Committee acted for the Indian community. The present Mayor has thought fit, in spite of representations made from different bodies—teachers included—to ignore them all. This high-handed action has created another division among the Indians and we have to thank ourselves for being told that we have no status and hence cannot be recognised. The Albert Park show without the help of the Teachers will fall flat and it seems any amount of cajoling will not bring the children to participate under the wings of the Congress. It would therefore appear that the Mayor is not wisely advised in ignoring the representations of the C. B. and S. I. Association and the Natal Indian Teachers' Society. Could not a last effort be made by the Mayor by inviting the President and Mr. S. Rustomjee from the Congress; the President and Mr. M. M. Gandhi from the Association, the President and Mr. Anand Rai from the Teachers' Society, to a Conference and they to settle up a general programme for Prince George's visit to Durban.

### How Figures Lie

Last week in my comments, I referred to the Congress 2,000 members as reported on the salver vide the *Natal Advertiser* and which was presented to Prince George at Cape Town. It is now stated officially by one of the secretaries of the Congress that through an error the figure 2,000 was given instead of 200,000. This makes the position worse still, for at no time, to my knowledge did the Indian population of the Union ever reach two lac unless the Congress secretary is including the present total population plus those yet to be born, but figures sometimes lie and in the present excess of enthusiasm, particularly in these hot days and especially when Prince George is in our midst, it might be that Babu Ashwini Chowdree has blundered.

### Legislation: On The Anvil

On account of the Wages Act hundreds of Indians in the different trades have had to make room for Europeans. The trades and industries which hitherto employed a good proportion of Indians at reasonable wages had to get rid of them because the law compelled the masters—who in nearly all cases were Europeans—to pay standard wages to all. The result of this legislation was that the masters who were Europeans employed Europeans in preference to Indians and the consequence was that we find hundreds of printers, painters, carpenters, cabinet-makers, upholsterers and other trades men marching the streets for want of employment. And now another legislation is on the anvil for unskilled labourers in industries and

municipalities for a standard wage. Readers could imagine, if this is passed, and there is every indication that it will be, what would be the position of Indian labourers, say in the Corporation employ, sugar industries or any other industries. If the standard wages for all is fixed at 8/- per day, is it possible that the municipalities or the sugar industries would employ Indians? If not, what would be the position of those Indians, I shudder to think and yet we find the community divided, knowing well, that their house is on fire.

**Congress Nominee**

Mr. S. R. Naidoo who was the Congress nominee on the Colonisation Inquiry Committee, according to the Capetown correspondent of the *Natal Mercury*, finds that opportunities for Colonisation do exist and recommends the appointment of a Joint Commission of the Governments of India and the Union to investigate schemes indicated in the report. This is exactly what was feared by a vast majority of the people of this country when the Congress by nominating one of their representatives to the Inquiry Committee tacitly agreed to send away those born and settled in this country. If the correspondent of the *Natal Mercury* is correct in forecasting the above from the report, then it seems that the Congress must be bitterly disappointed. The members of the C. B. and S. L. Association must be smiling with chests out, as it was they, who from the very commencement came out into the field to warn the people, to warn the Congress and to warn the authorities that they were treading on dangerous grounds by encouraging the committee in any shape or form. They said that the Indians are here and what they need is fair treatment, but the Congress was adamant to their pleadings, the result of which is an "unanimous report" for the reduction of the Indian population of the Union. I wonder what the Indian Government would have to say, but if we are to take what the Agent has told us on behalf of India, then the book for further exploration is closed and we should have our powder dry for the coming Class Areas Bill.

**Indian Child Welfare Society Centre**

150, BROOK STREET, DURBAN

Open daily, Monday to Saturday, 8-30 a.m. to 11 a.m. Infants, young children, nursing and expectant mothers.

Lady doctors give free attendance.

Tuesday morning 8-30 o'clock. Friday afternoon o'clock.

**Notice**

**INDIAN UNEMPLOYMENT**

Will employers of Indian labour kindly notify the undersigned of any vacancies in their establishment.

WRITE:—Hon. Secretary, Sir Kurma Reddi Unemployment Relief Committee, Indian Sports Ground, Durban.

**Our London Letter**

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT)

January 20th, 1934

THE tragic news of the earthquake in India has aroused great concern here and much sympathy. Each day brings fuller details of the havoc wrought. The remark of the airmen who flew over the stricken area comparing the tract between Muzaffarpore and Bettiah to a "gigantic battlefield of the Great War," has brought a realistic picture to the minds of the people here. Science is now able to grapple to some extent with flood and famine. But earthquakes are beyond human reckoning. I was in China at the time of the Japanese disaster some ten years ago and well remember the plight of some of the refugees who came to Shanghai. Later, I saw for myself the havoc wrought—it was a sight I shall never forget.

The hearts of men and women in this country go out to the stricken areas of India in deepest sympathy.

**"Whither Britain?"**

Under this title the B.B.C. is featuring a series of uncensored talks, the first of which was given by Mr. H. G. Wells and the second by Mr. Winston Churchill. This was the first time that Mr. Winston Churchill has broadcasted an uncensored speech on a political subject and several people probably "listened in" with some apprehension. He prefaced his talk by saying that he did not expect that either the Government or the Opposition will send me a bouquet to-morrow. Mr. Churchill dealt mainly with the need for reform in both Houses of Parliament—the need for stronger defence and a strong Empire. His remarks on our defenceless condition were regrettable in view of all the difficulties the Disarmament Conference is facing just now. Speeches like this did not help Mr. Henderson who left London this week to resume his duties as Chairman of the Disarmament Conference.

On Imperial affairs Mr. Churchill said:—"We must be a strong, successful, scientific, commercial Empire or starve. That is why I feel so anxious and so angry when I hear all these high-brow sentimentalists and chop-logic feeble minds talking in their airy, philosophical detachment about letting India go, or throwing away the Colonies, or losing touch with Canada, Australia, New Zealand or South Africa."

The following sentence evidently sums up the direction in which Mr. Churchill feels we are going:—"All this talk of our melting down the inheritance by which we live and to which we render faithful service into some vague international mixture—some sludgy amalgam; all these crazy appeals to disarm ourselves utterly amid an armed and arming and an ambitious world; all these suicidal temptings to cast away what our race has gained by its valour and kept by its virtue; all these shameful and blatant declarations that we are unwilling to defend our rights and possessions, and that it is wrong even to think of doing so, lead only to the starvation and misery of the working masses and to the end of that splendour of Britain for which its every generation the best of our race have always been ready to die."

At the end of his talk one was tempted to ask "Whither Mr. Churchill?"

### Conference On White Paper

The *Times* this week notes that the All-Parties Conference on the White Paper is proposed to be held in India in February, the object being to make clear the modifications desired in the White Paper Constitution. Information with regard to this is meagre and further news will be awaited with interest. Should an agreed statement result, it will help to clarify the position in the minds of a rather bewildered public here on this subject.

### The Viceroy's Speeches In Calcutta

The Viceroy's speeches to the Associated Chambers of Commerce and the European Association in Calcutta were reported in the Press here. One sentence in his speech to the European Association, referring to the Terrorist Movement, gives food for thought—"the measures which the existence of this menace entail, and which will certainly be continued without intermission until the menace is finally removed, involve the province. . . . in a large expenditure, and divert much of the effort of the Administration from ordinary beneficent activities." When will the forces of goodwill begin to explore a "better way" out of this deadlock so that the efforts of the Administration and expenditure can be used for "ordinary beneficent activities?"

### 'Harijan' And The Miners

An interesting incident came to my notice recently. A social worker who lives amongst the miners in one of the South Wales mining areas where there is much unemployment, sent a subscription for *Harijan*. The paper will be placed regularly in the Institute where the miners congregate. This man tells me his men follow the *Harijan* movement and Mr. Gandhi's efforts with the greatest interest.

### Farewell Reception To

### Mr. R. B. Chetty

A well attended farewell reception was held in honour of Mr. R. B. Chetty, in the M. K. Gandhi Senthamil School Hall on Sunday 11th February. Mr. R. B. Chetty is, one of the trustees of the School and at the moment was also manager of the School, which has attained Government aided Status.

There were about 300 present, including a large number of children. The Hon. Secretary, Mr. V. M. Naidoo read out the numerous messages and telegrams that were received, wishing Mr. Chetty *Bon Voyage* on the eve of his departure for India. Mr. S. A. Pillay, who presided, then garlanded Mr. Chetty according to Indian custom and presented him with a fountain pen and a gold pencil, as tokens of appreciation of Mr. Chetty's services to the School.

Among the other speakers were Messrs. V. S. C. Pather, M. L. Sultan, Anand Rai, T. M. Naicker, and A. M. Padiachy.

Musical items were rendered by the pupils of the School while Mr. Varathan Reddy, who recently returned from India where he recorded for gramophone companies, also contributed to the lighter side of the function.

Mr. R. B. Chetty left for India on Thursday, 15th inst. It is not known exactly how long Mr. Chetty will remain in India.

### News In Brief

Under the auspices of the Arya Prathinidi Sabha (Natal) the Shiva Rathree Celebrations were held in the Hindu Tamil Institute, Cross Street, Durban, on the Tuesday, 13th February, 1934. The Celebrations commenced a little after 6. p.m. and were preceded by the performance of Havan. Prayers were then offered followed by songs and speeches. There was a fair crowd of Hindus present to take part in the celebrations. Bhawani Dayal Sanyasi presided.

A meeting of the Hindi residents of Fairbreeze and adjoining districts was held in the Fairbreeze Indian School, for the purpose of forming a body. The chair was occupied by Mr. A. Jeeawon. Messrs. Bhagirathi and Budrinath Gosal presented a quarter acre of land to the Hindu public of the districts. It has been suggested that a hall should be built on the land. Mr. A. Jeeawon proposed that the hall should be named, "The Mahatma Gandhi Hall," which was unanimously agreed to by all.

Mies Maree Salachie Thumbadoo the second daughter of Mr. and Mrs. V. N. Thumbadoo, of "Trichy Villa," 487, Briekfield Road, Overport, attained her 21st birthday. A musical function took place last Saturday when there were about 50 guests—her friends—present. There were many beautiful presents and delightful music was rendered by Mr. Fourie, a talented pianist of Johannesburg.

Statistics for the year 1933 show the population of Newcastle to be 4550 Europeans, 82,000 Native and Coloured and 2,500 Asiatics. Births decreased from 188 to 127 and deaths showed an increase from 82 to 105.

Mr. George S. Armstrong, one of the best known figures in the Natal sugar industry, died on his way back to South Africa on the Winchester Castle on Sunday Feb. 11. He was returning from a visit to Mrs. Armstrong who is under treatment in England. He was buried at sea. The late Mr. Armstrong was a popular figure among the Indians as an ex-employer of indentured labour on a large scale.

The opening ceremony of the Grahamstown British Indian Association Hall was performed by the Mayor Mr. Councillor Lewis Miles on Saturday, Feb. 10.

The death has occurred of Sir Provasch Chandra Mitter, a member of the Bengal Executive Council. He was a delegate from Bengal to the Round Table Conference in London in 1930-31 and 1931-32. He was vice-president and hon. secretary of the British Indian Association.

The Rt. Hon. Lord Charles Percy de Villiers eldest son of the first Chief Justice of the Union of South Africa, Lord de Villiers died suddenly at Stellenbosch on Saturday night Feb. 10. Lord De Villiers who was in his 63rd year entertained Prince George to tea on Thursday afternoon and seemed in his ordinary health even on Saturday. The Hon. Arthur de Villiers heir of Lord De Villiers, was overcome with grief when informed by Reuter of his father's death. He said he could hardly believe the news; it seemed impossible; he had not even heard his father was ill. His father was very fond of sport, and in his last letter said that he was

playing strenuous tennis. The new Lord De Villiers is not keen on using his title.



**Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru**

who has been arrested on a warrant from Calcutta where he has been taken. Panditji was only a few months ago released after serving a long term of imprisonment. His fearless and frank utterances against the proposed reforms have apparently been too much for the Government to swallow. Mrs. Motilal Nehru, mother of Pandit Jawaharlal as also his wife are on their sick bed.

## Weddings

### V. D. NAIDOO—RAJAMMAL SOOBIAH

The wedding of Mr. Prushothman (V. D. Naidoo), son of Mr. and Mrs. N. L. V. Naidoo of Mayville and Rajammal second daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joe Soobiah of Maritzburg took place on the 21st January at Mayville, Durban. The bridal couple were the recipients of many valuable presents.

### BOBBY NAIDOO—M. NAIDOO

Mr. Bobby M. Naidoo, son of Mr. and Mrs. C. Nulliah Naidoo of Maritzburg, and Miss M. Naidoo eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. M. Narainsamy Naidoo of Kimberly were joined in the hands of matrimony on the 4th February at Maritzburg.

### PILLAY—LAZARUS

Mr. A. P. Joseph youngest son of Mr. and Mrs. Anthony D. Pillay of Durban and Miss Phyllis Manica Lazarus, youngest daughter of Mr. Joseph Lazarus of Durban were married at St. Anthony's Church, Victoria Street, Durban, by Rev. Father N. de Gersigney, O.M.I. on Wednesday, 8th February. The reception took place at Singh's Market Hall, Warwick Avenue, Durban. The happy couple received many valuable presents.

### NAGIN—MOOLOO

Mr. Haripersad, eldest son of Mr. and Mrs. Nagin of Mayville, Durban, and Miss Rajwanthie Devi, second sister of Mr. B. R. Mooloo of Pretoria were married on the 10th January at Pretoria.

### NARAINSAMV NAIDOO—MENOMONEY PADAYACHEE

The marriage of Mr. Narainsamy, second son of the late Mr. O. K. Thambi Naidoo, and Mrs. Thambi Naidoo with Miss Manomoney Padayachee, the only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. M. M. Padayachee of Pretoria took place on Wednesday Feb 14. A matrimonial reception was given at 9 p.m. in the Trades Hall, Johannesburg which was presided over by Dr C. M. Doke. The bride and bridegroom were the recipients of many gifts and messages of congratulations.

## SPORTING NEWS

(BY SPORTSMAN)

### Big Boxing Show

#### Kupido—Kid Return Fight

#### Kupido Goes Full Distance

OVER 4,000 boxing enthusiasts drawn from all races as well as both sexes, congregated on Saturday night, February 10, to witness the big and much-talked-of return fight between Mottee Kid Singh of British Guiana, U.S.A. and England, and Arthur Cupido, the Coloured Western Province Champion.

A pleasing spectacle, too, was the number of Indian women who, decked in colourful saris, came to see the fight—so keen and universal was the interest taken in this classic contest. The Natal Boxing Board of Control was also fully represented and chose the judges and referees for the various fights.

#### Mottee Kid Singh vs. Arthur Cupido

The star bout of the evening came on just before the interval. By this time the Town Hall was packed to capacity; all available standing room was also fully occupied. Arthur Cupido (9st. 5lbs.) and Kid Singh (9st. 2lbs.) were given a thunderous ovation as they glamorously stepped into the ring. Mr. Jock Stephens was in charge of the fight.

The fight opened evenly; Kid being more energetic took the initiative and tried to force matters but Cupido's ringcraft as well as side and crouched stance prevented Kid from getting too close to his opponent. Towards the end of this round Kid landed a well-timed right.

The second round was a round of classic fighting. Kid twice nearly got his piston-like punches working but Cupido, realising the weakening effect of these soon extricated himself from danger.

In the 3rd round Cupido was showing signs of tiring and quite frequently leaned on Kid and even took the initiative at times to prevent Kid from attacking. In the 4th round Kid did very little fighting; it was apparent that he was out to tire his opponent.

The fifth round was one of splendid boxing. Kid once more went on the offensive and got in a volley of hard punches and jabs. The gong found Kid labouring Cupido in the latter's home corner. At this stage Cupido's legs were showing signs of

sagging. Kid meanwhile was scoring with every blow; Cupido's left ribs were showing signs of weakness. He landed very few blows during the fight—his main object being to save himself from a K.O. In the seventh round Cupido was definitely tired and once fell. But in the next round he started aggressively. In the eleventh round there was a good deal of infighting. In the following round Cupido opened furiously but failed to frighten Kid whose attack never for a moment abated in vigour. In this round Kid slipped once but quietly resumed the attack and had Cupido in a most embarrassing position when the timely gong came to the latter's rescue.

In the 12th and final round Cupido realising that there was now no need to conserve his strength opened vigorously but Kid was ever aggressive. He fought like a Trojan. It was decidedly a round of classic fighting. On several occasions a K.O. was in sight but Cupido's extensive ring-experience saved him from being defeated by the short route. In the 12th round Kid was scoring heavily and it is quite probable that if the fight had been over a longer distance Kid would have won by a larger margin. This fight will have an indelible impression on all who saw it. It was indeed a classic contest. Though he did not win by a K.O. Kid revealed himself as a boxer of the first order. His change of tactics according to circumstances, his speed, his ring-maneuvring were such as had never before been witnessed in this country. Cupido, too, must be admired for his plucky defence. He quite often went on the offensive to lessen the force of Kid's prolific attack. His age was decidedly a disadvantageous factor.

**Other Bouts**

**Ted Baker vs. M. D. Chippen**  
This was a 6:22 mins. contest in which Chippen outboxed Ted Baker 10 to 7 in weight. The fight opened with hard, hectic hitting. Both took as well as gave much punishment. The fourth and fifth rounds were marred by wild blows and at times there was a good deal of unnecessary infighting. The final gong found both contestants gaping at each other. M. D. Chippen was given the verdict on points.

**F. Smith (8st. 5lbs.) vs. Midget Chin (8st. 4lbs.)**  
This fight opened evenly. F. Smith was continually on the offensive but Chip quite often used his right to advantage. But Chin will never be a good boxer unless he gets out of his sluggish and irritating habits. He often covers his head with his gloves, and allows himself to be battered without the slightest effort at retaliation. Then suddenly he would start hitting heavily and wildly. Very often he missed hopelessly. His left punch, too, is weak and is nothing more than a mere push. Another very disgusting habit he has is that of pushing his opponent to the ropes. In this fight he often pushed his opponent across the ring. Smith won easily on points and by the way he fought he proved a cleaner boxer.

**Seaman Chetty (8st 10lbs) vs. Tommy Chelin (7st. 6lbs.)**

Tommy Chelin started off well and landed several rights to Chetty's body but they were all low. Seaman Chetty had the advantage of weight and reach but whenever Tommy Chelin had the opportunity he mixed matters well.

Once Tommy Chelin was down for what he considered a below-the-belt blow but the referee considering otherwise counted on. But Chelin soon rose to resume the fight.

In the later stages Chetty took the initiative and had Chelin in awkward situations but Chelin's speed was a helpful factor. Two glorious misses by both boxers came just before the final gong which brought Chetty the victory on points.

**D. D. Naidoo vs. Govender**

This was 8:2 mins. contest. D. D. Naidoo began furiously and throughout the fight swung both hands wildly. There was a good deal of activity but little real fighting. Their swings were wild and erratic. Naidoo in particular was most indiscreet. Once he missed so badly that he fell heavily to the ground. Govender was the steadiest fighter and won on points.

**Mannie Dixon (9 st. 9lbs.) vs. Benny Singh (9st. 11lbs.)**

This was the last fight of the evening and evinced a good deal of lively interest as both contestants had many supporters. From the commencement it was a hard-hitting fight. This was a return contest. Previously Benny Singh was given the verdict on points. On this occasion it was quite obvious that Dixon was out to secure a win. He started aggressively but Singh also rose to the occasion and using his left prolifically he held his own. In the second round Singh was most unfortunate. His left brow began to swell rapidly and by the 5th round his left eye was completely closed. But he was heroic enough to persist and though his visibility must have been impaired considerably he fought with unabated vigour. Dixon, however, was not taking any chances but fought well and made Singh's eye a target for his jabs. In the 8th round Benny fought exceedingly well but his left eye was apparently a serious handicap. The final gong was sounded and Mannie Dixon was given the verdict on points.

The programme concluded at 12 p.m.

**Coming Show At Umziro**

**Kid Singh To Give Exhibition**

Following closely on the heels of the recent big tournament in Durban, another variety boxing and wrestling show is to be staged in the Mamoojee Hall at Umziro on Saturday evening, Feb. 23. Young Retlagen, a local promoter, in conjunction with Iemal Mansoor are in charge of the arrangements. Mottee Kid Singh has also signified his willingness not only to be present but also to engage



In an exhibition bout of 3 rounds with the promoter, Young Ramilagh. There will be seven other 10 rounds. The following is the programme:—D. D. Naidoo vs. Kid Nelson, Jimmy Sookdew vs. Young Peter, Young Goolam vs. Rahman Patel, Kid Langford vs. Harry Singh, E. I. Timol vs. Kid Marid; M. E. Lockhat vs. S. K. Pillay, Young Harry vs. Kid Chin.

In addition to the boxing items a physical-culture display will be given by Sonny Moodley and the S. H. Rajoo—pupils. The programme will also include an all-in wrestling bout between Sonny Moodley and S. H. Rajoo.

This is the first occasion on which an Indian boxing show is being staged in Umanito and a huge crowd is anticipated, particularly in view of Kid Singh's participation in the programme.

## Tennis

### Durban Indian Tennis Club

In view of the fact that a number of members of the Durban Indian Tennis Club had sent in their resignation a special general meeting was convened for the purpose of discussing the situation. The meeting took place at Carries Fountain on Sunday, February 11.

Judging from the tone of the letters of resignation it seems that a great deal of dissatisfaction prevails; and unless the situation is eased the membership of the Club will dwindle rapidly.

The question of the Club's relationship with the Durban Indian Sports Ground Association, who own the courts was also discussed. The parent body requires an annual fee of £50 for the use of the two courts. The club apparently is not in a position to pay so exorbitant a fee. Assuming that the membership fee is 2/- per month the club will require a regular membership of 40. This, too, does not take into consideration the expense involved in the way of balls, travelling expenses, reception, to visiting clubs etc. In view of this the fee does appear to be somewhat exorbitant. The club has, however, offered £36 per annum provided they have the sole use of the courts. Another grievance the club also entertains is the fact that the Sports Grounds Association has an arbitrary hold over the courts and may, without consultation with the club, hire the courts to the other clubs and athletes.

The secretary, Mr. P. M. Ondon, read the financial statement of the club, which reflected a balance of £17 0 3. Of this £15 has been handed over to the Sports Grounds Association leaving a credit balance £2 0 3. Mr. O. M. Pillay, the President, was in the chair.

### Moonlighters Beat Verulam

The semi-final for the "B" division league championships was played in very close weather, between the Moonlighters and the Verulam Club, on Sunday, 11th February, on the former's court.

The Moonlighters who are by far the stronger team gained an easy victory over the Verulam Club. By this win the Moonlighters will now play Sydenham for the final of the "B" division Shield.

### The S. Mannick Memorial Shield

The Natal Tennis Union has been presented with another very artistically-decorated silver shield. The donors are the S. Pokan Brothers of Randles Road, Sydenham (Durban) who have presented the shield for annual competition by the "A" division members of the Natal Union. The competition will be played on the Knock-out System.

The shield is a handsome spectacle and the donors presented it to perpetuate the memory of their late brother S. Manick who passed away on October 16, 1925. At present the shield is on view at the Peters' Lounge Café in Grey Street.

## Rosebank Sporting Club

The fifth annual general meeting of the Rosebank Sporting Club was held on Sunday the 11th of February 1934. The following officials were elected:

Patrons: Messrs. R. Krishnamurthe, A. D. Pillay and M. Ballim, Hon. Life Vice-President: Mr. A. P. Pillay, President: M. R. Perumal (re-elected), Vice-Presidents: Messrs. J. Ramthal, G. S. Maharaj, B. Muckerhooj, M. Haniff, R. Rammurthe, David, A. Frank, Doray and M. Lilchand, Secretary and Treasurer: J. S. Naidoo (re-elected), Assistant Secretary: Mr. A. C. E. Bux, Hon. Auditor: Mr. M. R. Varma, Manager: Mr. M. Lilchund, Committee Members: Messrs. Battachoo, G. S. Pillay, Doray, G. R. Maharaj, K. Lalie and T. Durga, Trainers: Messrs. A. P. Pillay, Harry and A. C. James, Mr. N. Reddy (Clairwood Branch), Dal. to D. and D. L. Ar and O. Union: Messrs. Sunassie Naidoo and F. Durga, Captain: J. Sunassie Naidoo.

## Athletics

### A Revival Needed

The dormancy of the Natal Indian Athletic and Cycling Union is giving rise to a great deal of controversy and, apparently, a number of Indian aspirants to Natal titles have found it necessary to seek expression through the columns of the press. The last Natal Championships were held in 1930. Since then no show has been staged. Some who won Natal titles on that occasion have since then been beaten, though not under the aegis of the Natal Union.

The inevitable consequence is that there are a number of claimants to Natal titles. J. Sunassie Naidoo, who is a member of the Rosebank Sporting Club is itching for another meeting, as he feels confident of annexing the Sprint titles. The present holder of the 100 yards, 220 yards and 440 yards Natal titles is Ganas Raman and since 1930, when the last Natal championships were held, the holder has been beaten in in the latter two events.

When athletes are so keen is it not a sign that it is time that the Natal Union roused itself from its three-year old lethargy. The sporting public in general, as well as athletes in particular, will be glad to see the organising bodies revived.

# ઇન્ડિઅન ઓપિનિઅન

પુસ્તક ૩૨ મું.

ફ્રીડેસ, શુક્રવાર, તારીખ ૧૬ ફેબ્રુઆરી ૧૯૩૪

અંક ૭

## નોંધ અને સમાચાર

વિષય મુચી	પૃષ્ઠ
નોંધ અને સમાચાર	૬૭
નારાયણી બીરપની અપીલ (અનુલેખ)	૬૮
બિહારનો ધરતીકંપ	૭૦
નારાયણી બીરપની અપીલ	"
હીંદ, દક્ષિણ આફ્રિકા અને જમત	૭૧
સ્વામી અધ્યાનંદ	૭૨
ભૂમિપર	૭૩
વિવિધ સમાચાર	૭૪
મીતા મન્ય	૭૫

### અમારું નવું સાહસ

અમને જ્યેષ્ઠી આગ્રહી માગણીઓને લઇને અમે 'ઇન્ડિઅન ઓપિનિઅન' માં તામીલ અને હીંદી ભાષાઓ જે ૧૯૦૫ માં કાઢી નાખવામાં આવી હતી તે ફરી પાછી દાખલ કરેલી છે. તે વખતે એ ભાષાઓ કાઢી નાખવાનું કારણ તેને માટે પુસ્તા પ્રમાણમાં માંગ નહિ હતી તેજ હતું. પરંતુ પાછલાં વર્ષોમાં તેની માંગ વધેલી કે કેમકે વ્યક્તિગત સાહસથી બને ભાષાઓમાં પત્રો છપાવાં, લાગ્યાં, હતાં. જાણે હવે તેની ધણીજ માંગણી થવા લાગેલી હોવાથી અમે આ સાહસ ઉપાડેલું છે પરંતુ આર્થિક ભોળે વધારી વગર તેમ બની શક્યું નથી. હવે તેના જીવન અને વૃદ્ધિનો આધાર કેવળ તેને તામીલ અને હીંદી ભાષાઓનો કેટલા પ્રમાણમાં ટેકો મળે છે તેનાજ ઉપર અવલભેલો છે.

### બિહાર ધરતીકંપ

બિહારમાં જ્યેષ્ઠી ધરતીકંપની અમારા કલકત્તાના ખબરપત્રી તરફથી મળેલી વધુ વિગતો અન્ય સ્થળે પ્રસિદ્ધ કરવામાં આવી છે જે પરથી એ પ્રાંતનાં ભોંકાનાં દુઃખનો વાચકને સહેજે ખ્યાલ આવી શકશે. આપણે માનવીઓ તો ફક્ત નાણા અને દિલાસાથીજ મદદ કરી શકીએ. તે મદદથી તેઓનાં અકબનીય દુઃખમાં કંઈકે રાહત મળશે. જ્યેથી વિશેષ તો ધરતીકંપ તેઓને ધીરજ અને હીંમત આપે. સાઉથ આફ્રિકાના ભાષાઓને મહાત્મા ગાંધીજીની અપીલ બહેરા કાનપર નથી પડી એ જોઇ અમને સંતોષ થાય છે. ટ્રાન્સવાલ પ્રજાપતિ એસોસિએશને એ ભાષામાં પહેલ કરી છે તેને માટે અમે તે એસોસિએશનના કાર્યકર્તાઓને ધન્યવાદ આપીએ છીએ. દરેક હીંદી તેનો ધડો લઈ પોતાનો ઉદાર હાથ લંબાવી બિહારના પોતાના દુઃખી ભાષાઓ, ગેનો અને

બાળકોની કકળતી આંતરડીઓને શાંત કરવામાં સહાયમત થવાનો પ્રયત્ન કરશે એવી અમે અંતઃકરણથી આશા રાખીએ છીએ.

### ફાળો કયાં મોકલવો

'ઇન્ડિઅન ઓપિનિઅન' ના ગયા અંકમાં અમે જણાવી ચલા છીએ તેમ મહાત્મા ગાંધીજીની સૂચના છે કે ફાળોનાં રકમો પડના બાણ રાજેન્દ્રપ્રસાદ, જેઓ એ ફાળોના ખાજનગી છે, તેમની ઉપર મોકલવો. એ સૂચના અનુસાર દરેક પોતાનો ફાળો મહાત્મા ગાંધીજી ઉપર નહિ મોકલતાં બાણ રાજેન્દ્રપ્રસાદ ઉપર સીધો પડનાજ મોકલશે એવી આશા રાખીએ છીએ.

### માનવજાતને બોધ

બિહારના ધરતીકંપમાંથી મનુષ્યમાન બોધ લઈ શકે છે. સંસારની માયાના પાસમાં સપડાઇને આપણે મારું, તારું કરીએ છીએ. સગાં સંબંધીઓમાં રચેલા પચેલા રહીને ધરતને જૂલી જઇએ છીએ. ધરત નહિ પણ આપણેજ કેમ જલ્લે સહુના રક્તક હોઇએ અને આપણુ વિના શું થઇ જશે એવું મિથ્યાભિમાન રાખીએ છીએ. પરંતુ આ ધરતીકંપ જેવા બનાવોથી ધરત પોતાના પીરાદ સ્વરૂપનું દર્શન કરાવી આ સંસારની અસારતા બાન કરાવે છે. હાંદુસ્તાનના ભોંકા આ દાખલાપરથી પહોંજ બોધ લઈ શકે છે. સ્વાતંત્ર્યના યુદ્ધમાં આજે હાંદુસ્તાનની પ્રજાએ અંપલાવ્યું છે. સરકારે પોતાની જમન નીતીથી પ્રજાને રંબડવામાં બાકી રાખી નથી. ભોંકાના ધર, બાર, માલ મીલકત હુડી લીધાં છે અને નિરાધાર સ્થિતિમાં મુકી દીધેલા છે. ભોંકા આથી ત્રાસ્યા છે અને તેઓનામાં નબળાઇ આવી ગઇ છે. પરંતુ બિહારના ધરતીકંપથી જે ભોંકા પીડાયા છે તેના સંકટની આમળ આ સંકટ શું છે? આ બનાવ તેઓને ધરત તરફથી જગૃતિ આપનારો છે કે "આ જગતમાં તમારું કશું નથી. બધાનો રચનાર, પાળનાર અને સંહાર કરનાર હુંજ છું. એટલે તમે અભિમાન ન કરો. માલ, મીલકત કુટુંબ, પરિવારથી ન ભોભાઓ. મારીજ ઉપર શ્રદ્ધા રાખો, મારુંજ શરણુ લો અને કર્તવ્ય કરો." આ બોધ બિહારના ધરતીકંપપરથી દરેકે ભેવાનો છે.

### પંડીત જવાહરલાલની ધરપકડ

પંડીત જવાહરલાલ નેહરુને કલકત્તાના વોરન્ટપરથી લખનઉમાં પકડી કલકત્તા લઇ જવામાં આવી છે તેમની સામેનો આરોપ તેમણે હમણાં કરેલાં ભાષણપરથી ધરવામાં