

INDIAN OPINION

Founded by
MAHATMA GANDHI
IN 1903

No. 15—Vol. XXXII.

Friday, May 4th, 1934

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PRICE FOURPENCE.

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pretext is wanted and the licence is refused without question. In all the above cases the applications were for transfers and a transfer of a licence is considered to be a new licence and an Indian stands the remotest chance of getting a new licence. The Transvaal Municipalities, we understand, are gradually refusing Indian licences on a larger scale.

The Indian community did not like the Land Tenure Act Commission. The Agent of the Government of India who is in this country to see to the proper working of the Capetown Agreement said, 'Tis in the bond' and you shall have to fulfill it. Like honourable men Indians carried out the conditions of the bond. The Indian community did not like the Colonization Inquiry Committee. The Agent again said: 'Tis in the bond' and like honourable men the Congress yielded and fulfilled the terms of the bond. The Indian community did not like the Assisted Emigration Scheme. The Agent again said: 'Tis in the bond,' and the Congress yielded and suffered to see thousands of their brethren leaving these shores to undergo untold sufferings in India.

Now the Indian community cries: But it is also stated in the bond that "the Union Government firmly believes in and adhere to the principle that it is the duty of every civilized Government to devise ways and means and to take all possible steps for the uplifting of every section of their permanent population to the full extent of their capacity and opportunities and accept the view that in the provision of educational and other facilities a considerable number of Indians who remain part of the permanent population should not be allowed to lag behind other sections of the people." It is also in the bond that in regard to trading rights "the Union Government will give all due consideration to the suggestions made by the Government of India Delegation that the discretionary powers of the local authorities might reasonably be limited in the following way (1) the grounds on which a licence may be refused should be laid down by statute (2) the reasons for which a licence is refused should be recorded; (3) there should be a right of appeal in cases of first applications and transfers, as well as in cases of renewals to the courts or to some other impartial tribunals." The Indian community asks whether these terms of the bond are never to be fulfilled. The Agent in this country we expected would play the part of Portia if the Union Government played the Shylock. But to our utter disappointment we have seen three successive Agents to have watched in quiet acquiescence the tightening up of the licensing and other laws affecting Indians rather than giving them opportunities for their upliftment to the full extent of their capacity. Not long ago a list of the Agent's achievements was published. Those achievements are like crumbs which might go a little way just to keep the body but what he and his predecessors have failed to achieve will destroy the body as well as the soul of the community.

Black And White Justice

We reproduce the following leading article from *The Star* (Johannesburg) which gives an idea of two codes of justice existing in this country:—

Several correspondents have written letters to us, both privately and for publication, calling attention to a recent case at Harrismith where a European who killed a native child and was found guilty of culpable homicide was sentenced by the judge-President to six months' imprisonment or a fine of £12. Over a long period of years we have frequently directed attention to the utter inadequacy or excessive severity of sentences imposed by judges and magistrates, in dealing with Europeans and natives, especially in case involving both, but so far there is no apparent improvement and it seems almost futile to continue to protest. And yet if no protest were made it would amount almost to a condonation of actions of which a great many citizens, who are far from being "negrophile," deeply disapprove. South Africa is free from the reproach of mob violence and the kind of lynch law which is so discreditable and recurrent a feature of life in the southern States of America. On the other hand we have a "lynch law" of our own practised by individuals, instead of mobs. Also the more serious of these cases come before the courts, and their frequency suggests that the offenders are not deterred by any fear of the consequences. They count upon a jury drawn from their own race and class; and if they are well-to-do they are able to employ the best available counsel for the defence, whereas the prosecution is not expected to do more than state the case against the accused without unduly pressing it. There have been instances where defending counsel has appealed to the jury on grounds which are highly improper in a court of law which is also supposed to be a court of justice. If the worst comes to the worst and the jury, on the evidence, cannot reasonably or conscientiously do other than pronounce a verdict of guilty, the accused hopes for a lenient sentence. It is in this respect that the Bench has a very considerable responsibility. A form of punishment which fits the crime cannot but have a deterrent effect, where as misplaced leniency merely encourages others to do likewise. And if we may judge by the number of cases of murder, culpable homicide or more or less serious cases of assault committed by Europeans on natives, we can scarcely escape the conclusion that there has been a good deal of misplaced leniency.

The particular case referred to by our correspondents is that which came before the Criminal Court at Harrismith on April 16, when a European named Piet Jansen was charged with assaulting a young native lad in such a manner as to cause his death. The following is a summary of the proceedings:

Evidence was led that Mosea hit another little native over the head with a riem for letting the calf out of the kraal. Accused is then alleged to have hit Mosea with a whip, reversed his grip, and hit him on back of the head with the butt of the whip, whereupon Mosea collapsed. *Accused, however, continued to belabour with the whip.* Mosea got up, staggered away a short distance and again collapsed and died almost immediately. The accused gave evidence and stated that the blow in-

tended for the shoulders of Moses accidentally struck him behind the head. The jury returned a verdict of guilty of manslaughter with a strong recommendation of mercy. The judge sentenced Jansen to pay a fine of £12, or serve six months' hard labour.

The "strong recommendation to mercy" is not readily intelligible in view of the admitted facts. In any case the judge was not obliged to act upon it. Presumably he was disposed to agree with it, for on no other assumption can we explain his decision to give the prisoner the option of a fine, and a fine which, in view of the seriousness of the offence, was very small. By way of contrast we have the case referred to by a correspondent in Wednesday's Star. This correspondent, L. du Preez writing from Harrismith, says: "Some weeks ago two native children were each fined £10 for stealing a fowl. Last week a white man in this district was fined £12 for killing a native boy by striking him with a whip several times. The value of a native being just £2 more than that of a fowl, it would be interesting to know what would happen if a white child were clubbed to death by a native."

By way of future contrast, and with special reference to the point raised by our correspondent, L. du Preez, we have the case reported in yesterday's Star. On the same day at Harrismith a native named Gatebe was charged with assault to commit murder, the complainant being one Marius van den Bosch. The evidence for crown was that Van den Bosch ordered Gatebe to leave at once as he had previously dismissed him. We give the following extract from the report:

The accused man went to his hut, took his clothes and his kerrie, and walked away. The complainant followed him, swore at him and at his mother, and kicked him. He then closed with the accused man and tried to take away his kerrie. The accused man hit him on the head, and when he fell to the ground he hit him again. The complainant could not give evidence of the assault, as he said that this mind was a complete blank in so far as the matter was concerned, and he would not deny that he had first kicked the accused man, and sworn at him before the accused man retaliated.

The accused man, who was not defended, was found guilty and sentenced by the Judge-President to three years' hard labour and three lashes. We have taken steps to ascertain whether our report of the case was a fair summary of the evidence, and we are informed that it is correct in every detail. The contrast between the sentences imposed upon Jansen for culpable homicide and Gatebe for an assault under severe provocation cannot but create a painful impression upon the public mind. We are reluctant, for obvious reason, to criticise our judges, in the performance of their very difficult and arduous duties, but we also have duty to perform, and there are circumstances in which comment is demanded in the public interest and to satisfy the public conscience. Such occasions have occurred before both in the Union and in Rhodesia, and no doubt will occur again. We can only

hope that as time goes on, and under pressure of a more enlightened public opinion, they will become less and less frequent.

Germiston Indian Location

Petition To Town Council

The following petition signed by about two hundred Indians resident in the Asiatic Bazaar at Germiston was sent to the Germiston Town Council.

We, the undersigned, Indians residing in the Bazaar of the Germiston Town Council at Germiston, pray that you will consider our grievances in regard to the following matters:—

Our people have lived in this district since the time of the Republican Government, and, to the best of our knowledge we have never at any time caused the Council any trouble, in or about the year 1912 we were removed from the residences to the present site of the Bazaar by the Town Council, and we were then definitely assured that this site would be set aside as a permanent home and Bazaar for the community of Germiston; being then out of the way of the European business and thoroughfare.

During the past three years we have received numerous notices to vacate our premises unless we enter into a form of lease for six months, and subject to six months' notice. So far we understand no other place has been set aside as a Bazaar in case any of us are ordered to remove from the present site; and no indication is given whether your Council will pay us compensation for our improvements; which have been effected with the knowledge and consent of your Council.

After the receipt of further notices dated the 16th March 1934, a meeting was held on the 18th April 1934, which was addressed by the Town Solicitor, Mr. Rose-Innes and by the Location Superintendent and we were then told that unless we sign the form of lease provided we should all be ejected from the Location.

Since May 1933 our usual rentals have been refused by the Superintendent. Legal proceedings for ejectment have been issued against some of us, and we are being forced to these leases by threats of ejectment.

If the Council give us the assurance and undertaking that we shall be given another Bazaar adjoining the Native Location when this Location is removed, in the same locality and at the distance as the present one is from the Native Location, as done in 1912, and will pay us full compensation for our buildings, etc., we are willing to sign the lease.

A number of our poorer members have to trade with the European community in the town of Germiston, and their needs should also be considered, as they will be forced into starvation if the Bazaar be removed any distance from the town.

We humbly pray in the name of Justice and Equity to give our case your grave consideration, and earnest and sincere thought, as we are helpless in your hands, with no votes or vote in the affairs of the Council; and without any power to advise or criticise in regard to our affairs as a community.

CURRENT TOPICS

COMMENTS AND CRITICISM

(BY BHUSSMASOOR)

Indian Labour For Malaya

MALAYA is wanting about 20,000 labourers. She has asked India to supply her with this quota. The labour conditions in Malaya were not appealing and public opinion in India was against assisting, unless she improved her labour conditions. India Government after negotiating with the Malaya authorities for the improvement of the conditions have now agreed to supply her with labour for the rubber plantations. India Government apart from her own unemployed Indians has the thousands of the South African repatriates who are starving in Calcutta and Madras streets for want of food. She would now be able to send them to Malaya where the probabilities are they might be able to eke out their living. Mr. Bajpai has given an assurance that the Government will keep a watchful eye on their political, economic and other interests. South Africa in 1875 was very anxious to obtain Indian labour and Lord Salisbury then gave the assurance that Indians will be *free men* in all respects with privileges no whit inferior to those of any other class of her Majesty's subjects in the Colonies. How that promise has been fulfilled the Government of India and we in South Africa know very well. We are not only considered inferior but treated worse than outsiders or refugees from Europe who are all given status of equality in this country. I hope Mr. Bajpai on behalf of the Indian Government has left no loopholes for the Malaya Government to suck the life blood of these poor labourers and then dump them back on Indian soil to die for want of food and clothing in their old age.

Malaya Visited

Dr. Lanka Sundaram who recently visited Malaya has issued a statement, summarising which he is of the opinion that, the resident Indians of Malaya would have preferred that India should have waited a little longer before an influx of labourers are permitted. Although things in Malaya are on an upward grade as far as the rubber industry is concerned, but wages are still unsettled, living conditions far from perfect, the rights of combination and association still denied and the problem of sex ratio is not fully met with. The Government of India before agreeing to allow labourers to go to that country should have seen that these adjustments were made and the residents of Malaya including the Indian public of India were informed of them. Perhaps it would not be out of place here to suggest that a few more questions from that champion of overpaid Indians, Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh would make Mr. G. S. Bajpai lay all his cards to show the agreement arrived at between the two Governments. The irony of fate of the repatriated Indians from South Africa is that they are truly being knocked from pillar to post.

Manning Place Association

Manning Place Landowners and Resident's Protective Association has addressed a letter to the Town Clerk, Durban, requesting for a Park and Sports ground in their district. They suggest, since there is no other available land, except the one at the corner of Brickfields and Kenilworth Roads consisting of five acres, the Corporation should get in touch with the owners for the purchase of same for purposes indicated above. In view of the fact that the district has no proper recreation ground it is to be hoped that the Town Council will favourably consider the request of the above Association.

Kipling's Error Exposed

If one read the translation by Alan Harris of Paul Cohen-Portheim's "The Message of Asia," one could not but come to the conclusion why such books were not translated ere now. He severely criticised Rudyard Kipling by very vividly pointing out that as France and Germany need each other for the full development of their own distinctive qualities, so do Europe and Asia. "I can think," he writes, "of no more erroneous judgment, no more superficial view, than that contained in Kipling's line, "For East is East and West is West and never the twain shall meet." This German writer then goes on to ask: What is East and what is West? . . . The earth is round. . . . When we talk of opposite extremes we ought always to think of a circle not of a straight line. This is a grave error on the part of Kipling. In his thesis he goes further to prove; and shows, that as all religion has sprung from Asia to deny Asiatic spirit is to repudiate all religion. One cannot ignore the profound rapprochement which he sees between Europe and Asia by instancing in particular the high honour in which the name of Tagore is held throughout Europe. For many a day arguments of this nature have not come our way and we could safely say how Kipling has erred.

White Child In Native Compound

An extraordinary case has just come to light at the Newcastle Colliery compound. The wife of one of the European employees of the mine found that an elderly native woman at the compound, was in charge of a little European boy about three years of age. On asking whose child it was, she was informed, that he belonged to a native woman. Further inquiries elicited the story that the native in question, who is married to one of the native employees of the mine, was in the Volksrust district and took the child, then an infant in arms, from its mother who, said the native woman, intended to strangle the child; but she persuaded her to give it up to her. Ever since the child had been brought up entirely by this native couple who have treated it as their own. They have no other children and the child is well cared for and clothed, but speaks nothing but Zulu. There is no doubt that the child is pure European. It is a bonny boy with fair straight hair and is stated to be particularly bright and intelligent. When told that the child might be taken away from her the native woman was most distressed.

SOUTH AFRICA

NEWS IN BRIEF

Union's Future Native Policy

The statement made by General Hertzog in the Union House of Assembly in regard to the transfer of Bechuanaland, Swaziland and Basutoland to the Union has caused a stir among Natives here and the British Press in England. The Natives of Basutoland are strenuously opposed to the Prime Minister's suggestion that the Union Government should take over the administration of the three Native Protectorates. They are opposed to the suggestion because they think that they have more freedom under the present system than they would have under the Union control and because they are afraid that the system of chiefs would be abolished and that the chiefs would be divested of their power. The Natives of Swaziland are also reported to be perturbed and will definitely oppose any policy of removing them from the direct control of the British Government.

British Press Comments

The *Manchester Guardian*, commenting on General Hertzog's proposals, declares: "There can be no question of maintaining it without adequate safeguards that the status of 1,000,000 or so Natives affected will be in perpetuity and will be as secure as under British rule." The paper proceeds to point out that the Protectorates were formed and maintained for the express purpose of preserving to Natives their land and tribal customs. Previous demands for their incorporation had been rightly resisted. The inauguration of the Union had inspired hopes of a liberal Native policy, but the tendency unfortunately had been in the reverse direction. Native chiefs made it amply clear that they would to-day regard the handing over of our trust as a betrayal of our promises," adds the *Manchester Guardian*. "The British Government must clearly await better assurances for Native welfare than are at present available."

£60,000 For Repatriation

Another sixty thousand pounds has been budgeted for the repatriation of Indians from South-Africa in the coming year.

Town Council And The Lakhi Gift

The Mayor of Greytown, Councillor Graham, presided over the fortnightly meeting of the Town Council. Arising out of the Lakhi gift of two acres of ground for sports purposes, Councillor Duncan proposed the insertion in the Deed of Gift of a clause empowering the Council at any future date to reclaim the ground should the town development extend in that direction or other public services necessitate reversion, and instanced a case in another town where the absence of such a clause necessitated a special Bill in Parliament. The matter is to be discussed with the donor.

South African For India

Captain and Mrs. Webb of Paddock are shortly leaving for India where Captain Webb is taking up an appointment as Chief Officer to his Highness the Rao Rajah of the State of Sikar in Rajputana.

Natal's Increasing Prosperity

The Natal Provincial Administration has exceeded its revenue estimates for the financial year 1933-34, according to official returns in the Government Gazette. The total estimated revenue was £785,500 and the amount received as at March 31 was £741,974, an increase of £6,474. The most important increase was in respect of Personal and Provincial Income Taxes. The amount received was £147,130 as against an estimate of £140,000. Motor vehicle licences produced £186,046, which is more than £6,000 over the estimate. Trade and professional licences estimated at £66,000 exceeded this figure by £972. Hospital receipts at £44,831 were up nearly £2,000. Both the betting tax and entertainment tax showed substantial increases, an index which suggests returning prosperity. The betting tax produced £64,520, the estimate being £61,000. Entertainment tax yielded £42,210 against an estimate of £38,000.

Building Plans Show Big Increase

There has been a striking increase in the number of building plans approved by the Town Council during the first eight months of the present financial year. Since last August, 1,181 plans have been approved, representing buildings to the value of £668,000. For the same period last year only 627 plans were approved, representing buildings to the value of £170,500. Last month 139 plans were approved with a building value of £133,913.

Borough Licensing Officer's Post

Recently the General Purposes Committee of the Town Council was asked to submit recommendations on whether the post of Borough Licensing Officer (now vacant) should be filled, or whether other machinery should be provided to deal with licensing applications. The Town Clerk, in reporting on this matter, suggested that one of three courses might be followed the proposed alternatives being:

Appointment of a successor to Colonel Molyneux, but at an increased salary grade.

Appointment of a young lawyer as Borough Licensing Officer.

Appointment of a Licensing Committee to deal with all new applications, leaving the routine work of renewals, revenue collection, and so on, to be dealt with by an officer, who could also act as clerk to the Licensing Committee.

These proposals were submitted to the General Purposes Committee when, it is learned, they were referred back for consideration after the committee dealing with reform of municipal procedure has submitted its recommendations on the reform and re-organisation of corporation departments.

Pandit Jaimini At Stanger

Pandit Metha Jaimini, B.A., L.L.B., M.R.A.S., Ph.D., under the auspices of the Lower Tugela District Hindu Veda Dharma Sabha, delivered an impressive and interesting lecture at the Sabha Hall, Stanger, on "The Future Religion of the World." Several addresses of welcome were also read and the Pandit was garlanded. Musical items were also supplied by the Vedic Orchestra.

Indo-European Council

The fiftieth meeting of the Council will be held at the Hindu Tamil Institute, Cross Street, Durban, on Friday, May 4, at 8 p.m. Pandit Mehta Jaimini B.A., B.L., who has recently arrived from the East will address on "India's Contribution to World Culture." After which Mrs. Mabel Palmer will lead a discussion on "The Principles which ought to determine the Relations between European and Coloured Labour." Professor Edgar Brookes has kindly consented to attend. Members and friends are kindly invited to attend. An interesting evening is assured.

Health Visitor For Indians

It is proposed by the Johannesburg Municipal Health Committee to create an additional post of health visitor for the benefit of the Indian population (which is prepared to provide the necessary accommodation) on the grade £300 to £340 per annum, plus £6 12 4 locomotion allowance.

Edendale Welfare Society

A committee meeting of the Edendale Welfare Society was held at Mr. Rudman's nursery on Sunday. The secretary reported in connection with malaria control work organised by the society to assist the malaria officer in the district and extensive spraying had been carried out. Mr. Rudman, patron and treasurer of the society, has kindly donated six spray pumps and several gallons of paraffin and pyagra to the society to carry out the malaria work in the district. A sub-committee was appointed to raise funds for the purpose of buying pyagra to continue the work of spraying. The medical officer of health had expressed appreciation of the society's assistance in this direction. The matter of the water-furrows giving water supply to many residents in the village, and the complaints received regarding them, was referred to the advisory board for consideration. The society decided to seek representation on the advisory board, and empowered Mr. Rudman to place these matters before the board and report at the next meeting. Among other matters considered by the committee was that of finding a suitable site for a school. The committee will in due course commence raising funds in the district for the school.

Indian Child Bitten By Cobra

An Indian child, aged nine years, daughter of W. Darumlinga, Indian chef of Van Reenen Hotel, was bitten by a cobra. Fitzsimons's serum was injected and the child was progressing favourably.

Slight Earth Quake Tremors

Slight earth tremors were felt last Monday at Hlabisa and Empangeni. At Hlabisa the tremor was felt at 7. 15. and lasted for about 10 seconds, and at Empangeni it lasted for a few seconds and was noticed by many inhabitants of the village. No damage was done.

Protection Of Wild Birds

By-laws relating to the protection of wild birds in the Borough of Durban have been confirmed by the Administrator in Executive Committee, according to an announcement in the latest issue of the Natal Provincial Gazette. Under these new by-laws no person shall kill, catch or attempt to kill any wild bird by means of any trap or snare or by the use of lime or of any weapon or missile or by any other means or device whatever. No person shall take or remove the egg of any wild bird from a nest or take or remove any nests from any bird. No person shall dispose of by sale or acquire by purchase or barter or otherwise any wild bird, whether alive or dead or the egg of such bird, save in terms of a permit issued specifically for the purpose. Nothing, however, in these by-laws shall apply to the sale of those varieties of game birds which are ordinarily used for food.

Durban Parking Arrangements

Durban's new parking by-laws have been confirmed by the Administrator in Executive Committee and are published in the Natal Provincial Gazette. The following are now all-day parking areas:

Russell Street (centre parking).

Leopold Street (on side adjoining railway fence only).

Pine Street (Nicola's Square).

Four-hour parking spots are:

Esplanade, between Russell and Allwal Streets—South side only.

Smith Street, between Church Street and Milton House—North side only.

Railway Street, between Queen and Leopold Streets—Railway side only.

West Street, between Allwal Street and Town Hall—South side only.

West Street, between Police Station and Town Baths—North side only.

Commercial Road, between Field Street and entrance of Fire Brigade Station yard—North side only.

Pine Street, between Field Street and yard gate of Telephone Exchange—North side only.

One-hour parking places:

Pine Street, between Railway Street end of Market Building and first gate of produce section of Market—North side only.

Commercial Road, between the Railway Street corner of the Market Building to gate of egg receiving depot—South side only.

INDIA

NEWS IN BRIEF

Gandhiji Praying For Obeidullah Khan

Mr. Mahommed Aslam, a prominent leader of Frontier, has sent the following telegram to Mahatma Gandhi:—

"Obeidullah Khan, nephew of Frontier Gandhi, is on hunger strike. His condition is precarious. Please pray for him."

To this Mahatmaji has sent a telegraphic reply from Patna:—

"Ever since I learnt about Obeidullah's condition, I have prayed for him and still continuing."

Pt. Malaviya's Appeal To Lord Willingdon

Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya has sent the following telegram to the Viceroy:—

"May I invite Your Excellency's attention to the case of Khan Obeidullah Khan, a political prisoner in Multan Central Jail. He has been on hunger-strike nearly for 50 days and is reported to be lying in a precarious condition. Considerations of humanity demand that he should be released immediately. Hope Your Excellency will be pleased to interfere and save his life."

Viceroy's Reply To Malaviyaji

The following telegram from the Private Secretary to the Viceroy has been received by Pandit Malaviya, in reply to his appealing for immediate release of Khan Obeidullah Khan, who has been on hunger-strike in the Multan Jail:—

"I have laid your telegram before His Excellency the Viceroy, who wishes me to say, as already publicly stated, that the matter rests with the Government of the Frontier Province, and he does not feel that he can interfere."

Mahatma Gandhi's German Disciple

Dr. Spiegel, Mahatma Gandhi's German disciple, who is staying at Sabarmati Ashram, has decided to devote her life to the cause of Harijans. She is learning Gujarati and looking after the boarding and school for the Harijan girls.

Harijan Collections By Gandhiji

Total collections during Mahatma Gandhi's Harijan tour amount to Rs. 375,000.

Famine Apprehended Between 1941—1946

Greater interest in village holdings as an economic unit in India was urged by Mr. H. Calvert, C.S.I., in an address to the Conservative India Committee of the House of Commons expressed the opinion that there might be a famine in India any time between 1941 and 1946.

All India Swarajist Party

The Congress leaders who took decision of far-reaching political importance of reviving the All India Swarajist party following the course formulated by the four great deceased patriots of India, viz., Mr. C. R. Das, Pandit Motilal Nehru, Hakim, Ajmal Khan and Mr. Vithalbhai Patel, and captured the legislatures at the elections in 1926. The Leaders's Conference has appointed a watch dog committee in preparation of its programme on the event of the new constitution.

By Lorry To Mecca!

About 50 Muslims have left Delhi on pilgrimage to Mecca in lorries. It is probably the first time when such a trip has been undertaken. The caravan will pass through Baluchistan, Persia and Iraq and after crossing the northern portion of the Central Arabia, will reach its destination covering 4,500 miles. The party is expected to return to Delhi in the second week of May after visiting the famous shrines at Baghdad and Mashed which is the meeting place of caravans from Russia, Persia, Afghanistan and India.

Rani Gives Rs 8½ Lakhs For Charity

A Patna message states: Rani Chandravati has made a gift of Rs. 8½ lakhs for religious and charitable purposes. The Administrator General of Bengal will be the sole trustee.

Pt. Jawahar Lal Loses Weight In Jail

It is understood Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru has lost five pounds in weight in jail. His cell is locked up from 6-30 a.m. to 5-30 a.m. He is allowed to take some exercise for thirty minutes every morning and evening. He has been given no fan until now.

A Land Of Desolation

In an interview to the representative of the *Searchlight* Mahatma Gandhi gave his impressions of his recent tour in Champaran and some parts of Muzaffarpur district. He said:—

"My impressions are that what used to be for me a fair land I witnessed as a land of desolation. Motihari, Hajipore, Lalganj and Muzaffarpore are places which I had visited before. Other places, which I visited this time, I have no recollection of having visited before. In Motihari I lived for several months, that being my headquarters during my stay in Champaran in 1917. To see in these places houses after houses, some of which I know so well, in a dilapidated condition or a heap of ruins was a heart-rending sight to me. Fields after fields covered with sand showed how difficult life must have become for the peasantry of several thousand acres of land. The problem of restoring conditions to anything like pre-earthquake days is calculated to baffle the combined efforts of the best workers in the land. In the midst, however, of this desert, it was a matter of joy to me to meet representatives of different relief societies, including those representing the Government Relief Department, and to find that they were working, more or less, in consultation with one another, all having one end in view, namely, relief to the distressed people to the best of their ability."

Miss Agatha Harrison of the Whitley Labour Commission who is at present on a visit to India accompanied Mahatma Gandhi in his above tour.

Mahatmaji's Health

Dr. T. N. Banerjee and Dr. Raghunath Saran examined Mahatma Gandhi who complained of pain on the left side of his chest and advised that his tour programme should be cancelled for a week. This was necessary in view of the pain in the chest which was likely to be aggravated from overstrain and exposure. Mahatmaji has however declined to postpone his tour and has said that he is feeling quite fit.

Oxford Indian Students' Donation

Mahatma Gandhi has received a hundred pounds by cablegram from Mr. M. S. Sundaram on behalf of the Indian Majlis, Oxford. Forwarding the remittance the sender writes: This contribution from Oxford is in token of the genuine goodwill and friendliness on the part of the youth of England. It would be very appropriate to devote the small sum for relief of poor school children but you may utilise it in whatever way you think fit. £387.0 have been received from Miss A. Maude Rayden, the amount representing the collection made at Guild House.

113 Year Old Paper Ceases Publication

The *Englishman* one of the oldest papers in the world and the first and the only paper to appear for over one hundred years in India has ceased publication from March 26 after 113 years of publication.

Black 1934 For India

An Indian astrologer in London foresees a black 1934 for India. Outstanding incidents, he alleges, will be:—March: flood in the Punjab, June: death of famous Indian statesman, September: earthquake in Burma, December: great fire in Bombay.

THINGS IN GENERAL**Britain Contributes £47,000**

Approximately £47,000 has been contributed to the Lord Mayor's Earthquake Fund, excluding donations made direct to the Viceroy's Fund by British business houses before the Lord Mayor's Fund was opened. The *Times* says that, while the sum is substantial, it is infinitesimal as compared with the need and urges the necessity of further efforts to augment the fund.

Restriction On Jews By Afghanistan

The Afghan Government has placed severe restrictions on Jews, who henceforth will not be allowed to visit Kandahar or the southern and western provinces, or to leave Kabul without police permission.

Japan To Double Air Force

The Japanese Air Force will be nearly doubled during the next three years at a cost of 44,000,000 yen (£3,200,000) as already provided for in the Budget. Eighteen squadrons consisting of 500 machines will be added to the existing 646 machines by the end of 1936.

Drug Formula For Colonies

A German offer to exchange the formula of a valuable drug in return for her lost colonies was mentioned by Sir Leonard Rogers, the distinguished authority on tropical medicine, talking at Manchester on tropical diseases. Germans discovered a remedy for sleeping sickness and offered it to Britain against the restoration of her colonies; but before it could be seriously considered French doctors had discovered the formula themselves. A Berlin Reuter message says an appeal to the world to allow Germany an equal share in the development of overseas countries was voiced by Dr. Schnge, on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the acquisition of Germany's first colony. Germany, he said, urgently needed elbow room in tropical countries for raw materials and colonies for emigrants, who otherwise would be compelled to go to foreign countries.

Voronoff Marries At 68

It is reported from Bucharest that Serge Voronoff, the rejuvenation expert, who is 68 years of age, was married at the Austrian consulate to Hilda Schwartz, aged 21, who is a cousin to Madame Lupescu.

Hitler's Plan To Conquer Unemployment

Allotment of a thousand million marks to conquer unemployment was announced by Herr Hitler in a speech at a lonely spot between Munich and the Austrian Frontier to men engaged in road-works. The speech, which is the last of a series in commemoration of his accession to power, was made in the presence of most Cabinet members and broadcast throughout the nation. All workers in the country downed tools for one and a half hour to hear Herr Hitler. All cities and villages were beflagged. Herr Hitler declared that the Government intended to marry at least 300,000 girls this year and 150 millions would be appropriated to matrimonial loans, 600 millions would be spent on road-making and 300 millions given in taxation loan certificates. Herr Hitler, in conclusion, appealed to other nations to realize that Germany desired nothing except freedom and peace, to contribute towards creating a better world.

12 American Countries Sign Anti-War Pact

Representatives of 12 American countries the United States, Bolivia, Cuba, Ecuador, Salvador, Guatemala, Venezuela, Panama, Nicaragua, Honduras, Costa Rica and Haiti—have signed an anti-war pact. Peru is expected to sign later.

World Buddhist Conference

An invitation from Japan to the All-Oriental Buddhist Conference to send delegates to the World Buddhist Conference to be held in Japan from July 21 to July 29, was considered at an emergency meeting of the Executive Committee of the Buddhist Congress. After a long discussion the meeting resolved to accept the invitation and decided to appoint suitable delegates. The World Buddhist Conference is to be held under the auspices of the Japanese Imperial Government.

Smaller Nations Impatient

The smaller Nations' impatience at the delay in the Disarmament Conference is revealed by a movement led by Sweden, which has communicated to the League the text of proposals for hastening a substantial convention. Holland, Denmark, Norway, Spain and Switzerland have approved the proposals, which will be considered at the next meeting of the Bureau.

The Swedish memorandum suggests that a convention be limited to certain branches of armaments, leaving a comprehensive solution until later, and postponing naval considerations until 1935.

First Woman F.R.C.P.

For the first time in 400 years a woman physician has been elected a Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians. She is Helen Mackay, who is attached to the Queen's Hospital for Children in London and with her colleagues recently evolved a simple and cheap remedy for infant anaemia.

Philippines Accept Independence Bill

The Philippine Legislature has voted acceptance of the Independence Bill passed by the United States Congress on March 24 granting the Philippines independence within 10 or 12 years.

Fight For Estates Worth £740,000

The Court of Appeal at Warsaw has begun the hearing of the appeal of Countess Brassoff, sister-in-law of the late Czar, against the decision of the Lower Court depriving her of estates valued at about £740,000 formerly the property of the late Prince Michael Alexandrovitch. The Lower Court held that Polish soldiers fought for freedom and not to enable members of the Czar's family to continue to enjoy estates. The Countess retorts the soldiers are not brigands and did not fight to steal other people's property.

Cuba's Debts

President Mendicta has proclaimed a moratorium for two years, or until Cuba is able to meet her obligations without imperilling her economic structure, on 80,000,000 dollars of British and American loans. Officials explain that it was a choice of paying national obligations and salaries of public employees or suspending certain foreign payments. The interest on the charges, however, will be met.

Ford To Pay £1 A Day

The Ford Company announced a restoration of the daily minimum wage of £1 for all employees. This is the second wage increase within a year, Henry Ford having announced a 2s per hour minimum wage last summer, and approximately 47,000 workers employed are affected by it.

Vidya P. Society's Meeting (Maritzburg)

The first committee meeting of the Vedic Vidya Pracharak Society, Pentrich, was held on Sunday at its hall. Among those present were Messrs. Gookul Rambhull Singh in the chair, J. B. Singh, H. Akloo, R. Mahadevi, P. K. Singh, N. Sember, S. Daserath, M. Suleen, R. Bharos, S. Pabaroo, R. and G. Manroop, R. Mahabeer, J. Maharaj, and B. Boodhan. The chairman welcomed the new officials and committee members and appealed to them for close co-operation in the Society's great task of fostering our religion and propagating our mother tongue and to impart free education to all children irrespective of class, colour or creed. It was also decided that an attempt should be made to raise funds by collecting the outstanding donations to the credit of the Society and thereby liquidate the liability of £85 incurred in the building of the hall. The committee decided to make suitable presentations to each of the seven girl students who have passed their examination at a later date.

Social And Personal

Mr. S. Visvernathan, of Maritzburg, has now been appointed on staff of Oedipus Street Government Indian School, Durban, who has left Maritzburg during the week.

Lady Graham, the wife of Sir Lance Graham, K.C.S.I., Secretary to the Legislative Department of the Government of India, has arrived in Southern Rhodesia on a visit to relatives. She will go to the Victoria Falls later, before travelling to Maritzburg, and will sail for Capetown for England on June 1.

Answers To Correspondents

Mr. S. BHAGWANDEEN's letter is libellous and therefore cannot be published.—Ed. I.O.]

South African Hindu Conference

The third South African Hindu Conference will be held in Durban on 26th, 27th and 28th May, 1934. The opening of the Conference by Swami Adhyanandji will take place in the Durban Town Hall on Saturday 26th May at 3:30 p.m.

The President-elect of the Conference is Pandit Mehta Jaimini, B.A., L.L.B., M.R.A.S., Ph.D. Shriman Hazishanker Vidyarthi, a notable public worker in India, will arrive and participate in the Conference.

All Hindu Associations, temples, schools and other institutions are hereby invited to forthwith apply for affiliation with the South African Hindu Maha Sabha to the undersigned.

Representatives of affiliated bodies will be entitled to participate in the deliberations of the Conference without payment of additional fees, but representatives not exceeding five for any one institution which is not affiliated with the Maha Sabha will be entitled to participate on payment of a delegation fee of 5s. per representative.

For full details see handbills.

All affiliations must reach the secretaries by the 21st of May.

B. M. PATEL,
President.

S. R. PATEL,

T. M. NAICKER,

Hon. Gen. Secretaries,
South African Hindu Maha Sabha.

38, Cathedral Road,
Durban.

SPORTING NEWS

(BY SPORTSMAN)

Soccer

The Coming Indian Tour

Doubts regarding India's ability to send a football team to South Africa have been set at rest. The Football League at a meeting decided definitely to make the tour and picked 22 men from whom 15 will be finally selected.

Owing to the clashing of dates with the Motherwell tour, the South African Indian Football Association has arranged provisional fixtures for the visiting Indian soccer team. This list in the main will be accepted as final but two of three matches will either have to be cancelled or substituted. The response by the frontier and Eastern Province Associations has been quite satisfactory but the Western Province has sent in a reply which conveys nothing. They are quite prepared to play the visitors and suggest three dates instead of the one allotted them, together with the information that they play on grounds which are not enclosed. The officials seem to forget that this tour involves a great deal of expense and the travelling to Capetown will be a costly item. The South African Board has written quite definitely on this question and if no satisfactory response is obtained then the fixture may have to be cancelled. It would be a great pity if the visitors are not entertained at Capetown but the Board will have no other alternative but to pursue its course in view of the financial responsibilities. Another fixture provided for the South Coast District will have to be gratified, as no direct reply has been received.

Matches With Europeans Not Fixed

The matches with the European elevens of Natal and Transvaal have not been placed on the programme pending a reply from the South African Board, but if satisfaction is obtained then a slight re-arrangement will have to be made. The tourists arrive in Durban on June 6 and will depart from here on July 23.

Draft Programme

The full draft programme is as follows:—

At Durban: India v. Natal (provincial), Saturday, June 9.

At Maritzburg: India v. Natal (provincial), Saturday, June 10.

At Johannesburg: India v. Transvaal (provincial), Wednesday, June 13.

At Pretoria: India v. Transvaal (provincial), Saturday, June 16.

At Johannesburg: India v. South Africa (first test), Wednesday, June 20.

At Durban: India v. South Africa (second test), Saturday, June 23.

At Clairwood: India v. South Coast District (Sunday section), Sunday, June 24.

At East London: India v. Frontier (divisional), Saturday, June 30.

At Port Elizabeth: India v. Eastern Province (divisional), Wednesday, July 4.

At Capetown: India v. Western Province (divisional), Saturday, July 7.

At Kimberly: India v. Griqualand West (divisional), Wednesday, July 11.

The Saturday, July 14, date is open.

At Durban: India v. South Africa (third test), Saturday, July 21 (last match).

South Coast I. F. A.

(SUNDAY LEAGUE)

The first match between Ranks and United last Sunday was one sided for the Ranks easily ran out winners by 8 goals to 3. This was caused because the United were playing with less members.

Sunrise and Roesburgh took the field and the Roesburgh were the first to press, and they opened the scoring in the 6th minute. Play was fast and the Roesburgh forwards combining scored two goals. Half time was reached with the Roesburgh leading. On resumption of the play Sunrise pressing scored a goal. A minute later the Sunrise scored again and thus bringing the score 3—2.

The last match for the day was between the South Coast and County. The match commenced with excitement a movement by the South Coast forwards brought a goal. The Coast forwards were having most of the game and by an attempt they registered a goal. Interval arrived with the Coast leading by 2 goals to nil. On resumption the County forwards pressed to score but the Coast defence kept them away. Do what they might the County forwards could not score. The County were tired and the Coast took advantage and scored four more goals, and thus bringing the score sheet for Coast to win by 6 goals to nil.

Maritzburg Soccer

ROYALS—PIRATES

The Maritzburg soccer season commenced on Saturday, April 21 at the Indian Sports ground, when most of the clubs were in good trim in the league matches, so that they may complete the league fixtures, and the senior Intertown, between Maritzburg and Durban which is to take place on May 12, it is decided at the Council meeting of the M. D. I. F. A. to set matches for Saturday and Sunday. In view of the fact that all-India team is due to arrive in this country in June, and the likelihood of some of the local men being chosen for Natal or South Africa side.

There were only two Senior League matches set down, the Royals met Pirates, and the former won by three goals to two. S. M. Kader of Royals gave masterly display and was responsible for two goals, and A. Seepie one.

SCHOOLS—COLONIALS

This match was a very interesting game, in which the Colonials were unlucky, nearly all their shots went out side the goal. The Schools forward played better and deserved a win. The School as a whole showed a better spirit of co-operation and put up a game, which, for the beginning of the season, and was decidedly creditable. The match resulted in a win for Schools by two goals to one.

In the Junior League match the Royals beat Stella, by two goals to one, this match was played on Sunday.

Referees Association

ANNUAL ELECTION

At the annual general meeting of the Maritzburg Indian Referees Association, which took place at the

Restaurant of Mr. D. Sigamoney, recently, the following officials were elected for the ensuing year:— President: Mr. C. K. Naidoo; Vice-President; Mr. G. M. Naidoo; Hon Secretary and Treasurer: Mr. C. K. Lazarus; Board of Examiners: Messrs. G. K. Naidoo, S. Francis and G. M. Naidoo. The meeting also resolved to conduct an examination within the next fortnight, therefore those who are desirous, of becoming referees are requested to send in their application for membership to the Secretary 188 East Street.

Young Colonials F. C. Maritzburg

The annual general meeting of the Young Colonials Football Club was held at the H. Y. M. A. main hall on Sunday last, when the following were elected officials for the ensuing year:— Patron: Mr. M. B. Naidoo; President: Mr. R. P. Naidoo; Vice Presidents: Messrs S. P. David, G. S. Maharaj, N. M. Taylor, C. K. Lazarus, A. Padayachee, S. Pookree, S. V. Charles, and V. P. Pillay; Secretary and Treasurer: Mr. S. Shunmugum; Assistant Secretary: Mr. N. D. Pillay; auditor: Mr. C. K. Lazarus, Committee: Messrs K. K. Moodley, R. Nadasen, O. D. Frank, S. M. Paddy, S. K. Naidoo, Harry Naidoo, G. Padayachee, B. N. Padayachee; Senior Captain: R. Manicium Moodley; Vice-Captain: S. Soobiah; Juvenile Captain: R. Vallithum; Vice-Captain, Stanly Charles. Delegates to the M. D. I. F. A. Mr. B. P. Naidoo and S. B. David.

Estcourt J. L. F. C.

The election of officials of the Estcourt Juveniles League is as follows:— Patron: Mr. M. Naiker; President: Mr. A. G. G. Naraidoo; Vice-Presidents: Messrs A. M. Samuel, A. N. Channah, and J. Samuel; Secretary: Mr. M. K. Lalla; Treasurer: Mr. A. G. Naraidoo; Selection Committee: Messrs A. M. Samuel, A. N. Channah, and R. Gungdyall; Delegates to the W. O. I. F. L. Messrs H. D. Kooverjee, S. Jerrier and G. Mohan.

Estcourt Plough F. C.

ELECTION OF OFFICIALS

At the third annual general meeting of the Plough Football Club, Estcourt, which was held at the Waiters Room, Plough Hotel, on Monday last, it was decided to affiliate to the Weenen County Football League. The following officials were elected for the ensuing year:— Patrons: Messrs. G. Zuckel, E. Posselt, B. Cook, N. French, and Hallet; President: Mr. P. A. Pally; Vice-Presidents: Messrs, Pillay, J. David, K. Bahary, F. James, and Sewgulam Lalla; Captain: Paul James; Vice-Captain: R. Gungadayal; Secretary and treasurer: R. Gungadayal; Assistant Secretary: Nunan K. Lalla. Delegates to the Weenen County Football League, Messrs, Paul James, R. Gungadayal and P. A. Pillay.

Transvaal Football Association

Mr. W. Ernest has been elected as president of the Transvaal Indian Football Association. Mr. S. Cassim as the secretary, with Mr. P. M. Nursoo as treasurer, and the Rev. B. L. E. Sigamoney and Mr. Solomon Ernest have been nominated as councillors to the South African Board.

Boxing

In the course of an interview, the local promoters, Messrs. J. B. Panday and M. Mohamed, definitely intimated that they have booked the Durban Town Hall for June 9th. The star bout will be between Renico Kid Simmons, a Negro puglist of repute, and Arthur Cupido of Capetown. Kid Simmons had been waiting for some time in England for the necessary permission to tour this country and if such was forthcoming earlier it is quite likely he would have been matched with Kid Singh. He has already met Kid Singh twice; losing on the first occasion and winning on the second. He has already had over 150 fights and has won the majority of them by the K. O. route. That Arthur Cupido will make an excellent match, despite his age cannot be doubted—moreso in view of the fact that the contest will be fought at catch-weights.

Another bout to take place the same evening will be between Jugdeep Morris of Maritzburg and Young Pottier of Durban.

Renico Kid Simmons is already *en voyage* for South Africa and will land in Durban on May 20th. During his stay in this country he will engage in two bouts only.

Tennis

Moonlighters Tennis Club

The eight annual general meeting of the above club was held on Saturday the 29th, April, at Mr. G. Narbaly's Tea Room, Randles Road, Sydenham. The following were elected officials for the ensuing year:— Patrons: Messrs S. Eustomjee, Alfred David, J. S. Roopnarian; President: Mr. A. C. Ayob; Vice Presidents: Dr. Freni Manchershaw, Ismail Goolam, G. Rungnunen, R. Regnath, A. Manickum, P. K. Covender, P. Pillay, A. Camroodeen N. Gunga, S. George, and E. Hassim; Hon Secretary: Mr. R. Jugnath, Treasurer: Mr. F. Ephraim, Captain: Mr. E. H. Shaik. Delegates to Natal Indian Lawn Tennis Association: Messrs A. Manickum and E. M. Shaik, Committee: Messrs M. K. Naidoo, S. Rajpanl, G. Narian, E. M. Shaik, R. Mahabeer.

Sydenham Indian Young Men's Club

The fifth annual general meeting of the Sydenham Indian Young Men's Club, which was held at the Government Aided Indian School Hall, Sydenham on Monday April 23, at which the following officials were elected for the ensuing year:— Patron: Messrs N. Maistry, R. S. Pinkton Chetty, K. R. Nayanah; Presidents: Messrs, P. G. Moodley, G. Sewpaul; Hon Secretary, Mr. S. S. Chetty; Assistant Secretary, Mr. O. Edwards; Hon Treasurer, Mr. C. Manicium Pillay; Auditor, Mr. D. G. Moodley; Committee, Messrs, S. P. Chetty, N. S. Chetty, S. Gunga, S. R. Devar, N. Sewnarian M. T. Peter.

Newcastle Angling Club

At a meeting held on April 15 the above club was formed with the following officials:— Patrons: Messrs E. A. Paytel, I. A. Moola and E. I. Lockhat; President: G. M. A. Vawda; Vice-Presidents: E. A. Paytel and C. V. Aboosen; Captain: E. A. Paytel; Secretary and Treasurer: P. Frank; Record clerk: V. V. Pillay and a committee consisting of the officials and Messrs. M. P. Chetty and D. Pachai. Three cups have been donated for competition and will be held at the Incandu, Ingagane, Ingogo, Pongolo, Buffalo, Tugela and Muden rivers.

Athletics

The Rover athletic Club is holding an athletic meeting on June 3rd. Members of the club are already actively engaged in training. It is also understood that in addition to the events for members of the club, there will be open events in which non-members may also participate. As the Durban Athletic Union has not organised a meeting for sometime it might be wise for those athletics keen on keeping in trim, to take advantage of this meeting.

Australia Invites Indian Hockey Team

It is understood the Indian Hockey Federation will consider the invitation from the Australian Hockey Association to send out an Indian team to Australia Melbourne fair in 1935. Schemes to raise funds for this purpose will also be put forward for consideration before all the accredited members of the federation.

Catering Rights

Public tenders are invited for the catering rights at the Indian Sports Grounds, Currie's Fountain, from 1st June 1934. All tenders must be in the hands of the undersigned on or before the 23rd May 1934.

N. SULLAPHEN,
Secretary

Obituary

Death Of Mr. K. Moosai

The death took place of Mr. K. Moosai, at the Grey's Hospital, Maritzburg, at the age of 60, after a short illness. Mr. Moosai was one of the early Indian settlers in Natal. He came to South Africa at the age of 20, and resided in Maritzburg all his life. He was a committee member and caretaker of Shri Vishnu Temple, for many years and worked for the Maritzburg Corporation for 30 years. His mortal remains were cremated at the Mountain Rise, Crematorium.

**Colonial Born And Settlers
Indian Association**

Clairwood Branch

A mass meeting of the Indian community of South Coast junction area will be held at the Clairwood Indian Boys' School, Clairwood, on Sunday May 6, 1934 at 10-30 a.m. Mr. P. B. Singh, our representative who has recently returned from India will speak on the deplorable condition of the repatriates suffering in India.

P. M. PILLAY, Chairman.
L. GANESH, Hon. Treasurer.
N. M. PILLAY, Jr. Hon.
P. R. PATHER, Secretaries.

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To Correspondents

Correspondents are requested to kindly send their matter in for publication to reach here not later than Wednesday.

Manager 'Indian Opinion'

THE INDIAN REVIEW

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

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The Indian Review is edited by one who, for over a third of a century, has evinced deep interest in the condition of Indians overseas. Mr. Natesan took a leading part in the great agitation in India in connection with the South African Indian struggle under the lead of Mahatma Gandhi. Mr. Gandhi was in constant communication with Mr. Natesan both in regard to keeping up the agitation in India as well as in safeguarding the interests of the South African deportees, whose cause he made his own. Mahatma Gandhi, writing in "Satyagraha in South Africa" says: "In those days, Mr. Natesan perhaps stood alone in India as a student of the grievances of Indians abroad, their valued helper, and a systematic and well-informed exponent of their case. I had regular correspondence with him. When the deportees reached Madras Mr. Natesan rendered them full assistance..." In this public work, his monthly magazine, The Indian Review, has played no inconsiderable part. For month after month, a special section in that journal devoted to the problem of Overseas Indians has kept up and stimulated Indian interests in the problem of Indians abroad. Such a magazine deserves to be widely read by South African Indians.

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

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

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