

# INDIAN OPINION

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## NOTES AND NEWS

### 'Advertiser' On India Team

WE welcome the very wise and practical suggestion made by the *Natal Advertiser* in its leading article on the All-India Soccer Team, which is reproduced elsewhere in this issue. But our contemporary's suggestion is only to give the European sports ground for the benefit of the Indian players. We would go further and suggest that the European team should give a game to the India team. As Mr. Christopher pointed out in his speech at the welcome reception held at the Pavilion in honour of the visitors, not for the sake of Indians in South Africa, but for India, it would be a very graceful act on the part of European sportsmen if they were to rise to the occasion. Some of the officials of the European sporting bodies such as the president of the Maritzburg Football Association and others, have expressed their goodwill from public platforms which have been very much appreciated by local Indians and we have no doubt will be appreciated by India. Words translated into deeds will doubtless have a much better effect and will give an unmistakable proof that in sports at least there is no distinction of class, creed or colour. We appreciate very much the spirit of friendliness so generously advocated by our afternoon contemporary toward the India team as well as the South African Indian Football Association and in that we have no doubt we are voicing the sentiments of the Indian community in general.

### Indian Pupils In Transvaal Schools

LAST year the Agent-General for India asked the Director of Education, Transvaal, for figures of Indian pupils in the Transvaal. As a considerable number of Indian boys and girls went to schools with coloured as well as Indian pupils, separate figures for Indians have not been available in the past. The Director has now kindly supplied the desired information according to which the total number of Indian boys and girls attending primary schools in the Transvaal in the beginning of 1934 was 2,037 and 788 respectively. Secondary classes were attended by 23 Indian boys and 1 Indian girl.

### More Indians Repatriated

124 Indians have been sent away to India under the assisted emigration scheme last Tuesday by the

new Andrew Weir vessel, *Inchanga*. This was the first batch of repatriates to leave Durban since January and will be it is stated the last large batch to leave this port, for it has been decided that in future there will be monthly batches. One reason for this decision is stated to be that on arrival in India it would be easier to handle a small number, and better attention could be given them.

## Indian Opinion

FRIDAY, JUNE 15TH, 1934.

### WANTED: TRUE LEADERSHIP

THE Indian community in South Africa is suffering at the present moment from a plethora of leaders. From one point of view it may perhaps congratulate itself that it has so many leaders. But from our experience of public affairs we hold the firm conviction that true leadership is not a common thing. True leadership requires many things and only when a community has a few leaders of the true type it can feel safe and march towards progress and advancement. Otherwise plethora of leaders only intensifies dissensions and differences within the community and prevents united action—where such action is necessary and desirable for the good of the community at large.

INDIAN OPINION since its very inception has always been idealistic in its outlook and has not believed in the leadership of privilege and honour seekers. It has always advocated that leaders must be men of independence, courage and above all, inspired by a spirit of sacrifice, truth, honesty and fairplay. We think these are also the main tenets of *Satyagraha* which has had its origin in South Africa under the leadership of Mahatma Gandhi whom some of our leaders idolise.

We have seen from our experience how weakness on the part of leaders have weakened our cause in this country. The recent unfortunate incident in connection with the arrival of the All-India soccer team is a case in point. Many prominent leaders

wanted to go and show their leadership and then a competition followed. A few who believed they were the known leaders of the community and thought this was an occasion of great honour when distinguished visitors were coming to this country to receive them and be known to them as *the* leaders, instead of going the right way about, in their egotism, did all in their power to come in the forefront. Making use of authority for such purpose has become quite a common thing. How far it enhances their own prestige or that of the community is not far to seek. The above mentioned leaders who feared they would be left out of the picture actually competed with the others to go on board the ship to accord a welcome to the soccer team from India and in doing so left no possible stone unturned. The result was that no Indian was allowed by the immigration authorities to board the ship as was described by a spectator in our last week's issue. It is interesting to note that those actually in charge of the team were in the beginning given permission to send five representatives on board to receive the visitors but the uncalled-for interference on the part of the other leaders was responsible for the cancellation of permission even to those who had already been given it. The interferers may wear a feather in their caps if they wish to for this act on the part of the authorities but we certainly do not consider it a very honourable position either for them or for the community. Every Indian knows here in South Africa the humiliating position in which the whole community is placed and the present tactics of our leaders are far from being conducive to improving that position. They are only helpful in adding injury to our insults.

Is it not time, we would ask in all earnestness, for our leaders in public life to pause and ponder over a little and give up petty jealousies and bickerings and discard that spirit of outdoing one another and to try to spend their time and energy in serving the more urgent needs of the community?

Let this hint be not interpreted as a sermon on our part. We feel strongly that our position in this country is growing worse and it is to a large extent due to the ebb in true leadership—which does not lie in figuring big in the community but lies in humility, truthfulness, honesty, straightforwardness and spirit of self-sacrifice for the sake of *service* and not for *glory*.

We are making no personal reflection on anybody but we have to face facts and we feel we would be failing in our duty as an organ devoted to the material and moral welfare of Indians in South Africa if we did not at this juncture remind our public workers the duties and responsibilities that devolve upon them.

It will not be out of place to conclude our remarks by mentioning the three main conditions of leadership which Mahatma Gandhi pointed out some time back. Firstly he said; a leader must possess intense patriotism; secondly: "he must be inspired by a spirit of sacrifice and service;" thirdly: "he must have the material resources at his disposal." But this Mahatma Gandhi did not give the first place.

We hope our brethren in this country will remember these words and think and act accordingly.

### Fountain Of Wisdom

*Every thing that has selfishness for its basis, competition for its right hand and enjoyment as its goal, must die sooner or later.*—SWAMI VIVEKANAND.

*"A civilised labour policy is built on very rickety foundations when it excludes from its advantages the great majority of the inhabitants of a country.*—MABEL PALMER.

### Test Of Greatness

#### Character And Not Genius

I KNOW a Swiss peasant woman whose character is greater than that of any president or cabinet minister I have ever met. She has not accomplished great things. But she has lived up to her own aims and ideals, despite almost heartbreaking obstacles; writes Emil Ludwig in *America*.

That is the test of character. No matter how much talent you may have, it is wasted unless you also have the strength of character to use it in the face of difficulties. Edison had genius, but he would not have accomplished what he did without immense energy and endurance. In other words, he accomplished more by character than by genius.

Everyone of us, of course, has some sort of character; and every character is different from all others, just as every face is different from all others.

Part of this inner, guiding force which we call character, is born in us. But as we go through life we are constantly changing the proportions of the various qualities that make it up. It plays practically no part in our surface life, the little conventional things we do and say. We all lead double lives; one life that our friends and neighbours see, and the other invisible life within us.

The surface life is trivial, unimportant. But the life within is vital. It dictates every important decision on which may depend prosperity or failure, happiness or unhappiness, victory or defeat.

Great men always have great characters, whatever moral lapses or meanness you find in the records of their careers; otherwise the genius within would never be converted into the deeds which make them great. But the greatness of character is independent of genius. Genius must be developed by activity, but great character arises from suffering as well. That is why there are more geniuses among men than among women, who use up so much productivity in childbirth. And that is why more women than men have great character.

## Durban Welcomes India Soccer Team

Large Assembly At The Pavilion  
Deputy-Mayor Presides

**W**ELL over 1,000 Indians of all creeds assembled in the Pavilion Thursday night June 7 to bid the team of Indian soccer tourists welcome to Durban. The Mayor, Mr. Percy Osborn, was not present, owing to a previous engagement and Mr. S. K. Elgie deputised for him.

In welcoming the team on behalf of the Indian community Mr. A. Christopher retailed the history, stretching over a period of 20 years, of the attempts which had been made to get a team of Indians to tour the Union. Political influences were at first biassed against the sending out of a team. Then it was found that there was no controlling body in India. In desperation, the South African Indian Football Association sent a team of players from this country on a tour of India in 1920. This evoked considerable public interest, and the first real hope of success was given to South African Indians when the Round Table Conference sat in Capetown. One of the members of the conference, a well known Indian sportsman, was approached and he gave his word that he would do everything in his power to induce the people of his own country to send out a team. It was as a result of his representations that the visitors were amongst the audience. They had shown great courage in coming to the Union in the face of the severe criticism levelled at the idea of a tour by the Nationalists in India, and he hoped they would be rewarded for their courage by the warmth of their welcome and the happy memories he hoped they would take back to their mother country.

Emphasising the fact that sport, like art, knew no creed or colour, Mr. Christopher pointed out that a team of European baseballers recently met a team of Japanese players in Durban. These people were not only non-Europeans but they were not even members of the British Commonwealth. He appealed to the sport loving Europeans of this country to stage at least one match against the tourists as a gesture of friendship. He did not ask this for the local Indian community but merely for the visitors.

### Mr. Elgie's Address

In extending a welcome to the tourists on behalf of the town, Mr. S. K. Elgie drew attention to the rapid strides forward made in Indian social service in this town. The Town Council had done all in their power to make the lot of the Durban Indians as comfortable as possible. Schools, playing fields and other amenities had been provided and this was reflected in the Durban Indians of to-day. Physically many of them were fine specimens of manhood. In conclusion he extended a sincere welcome to them and hoped they would enjoy every moment of their stay here.

Dr. Dutt, the captain of the team, spoke briefly and to the point. He and his team were glad of the

opportunity to visit this country, and had been overwhelmed with the warmth of their welcome.

In a spirited speech, Mr. S. K. Mookerjee, the manager of the team said that he had been looking forward to a tour of the Union for many years. He stressed the fact that his team had come out purely as messengers of peace and goodwill. They had come out to play the game and to cement a feeling of friendship and sympathy between colonials and the Indians in India. The result of the matches did not matter so much as the effect of the tour. If the tour promoted a better understanding of the Indians, with all sections of the community, it would have achieved as much as could possibly be desired of it.

The Swami Adyanand, in a short speech, said that he was particularly pleased to see a team of his fellow countrymen in South Africa as the Indian people were considered by the world at large as being thinkers and theorists rather than practical people. The tour, he hoped, would prove that they could hold their own on the field of sport as well as on the field of philosophy.

Other speakers were Messrs. L. A. Padmore and J. G. Tyzack, of the Natal Football Association, the Rev. W. H. Webb, chairman of the Natal Referees Association, R. A. Moodley, president of the Natal Indian Football Association, D. F. Yusuf, chairman of the reception committee and S. L. Singh, the South African manager of the India team.

## A European View

In the course of a leading article the *Natal Advertiser* writes:—

**T**HE arrival in Durban of an all-India touring football team is an event of much wider import than appears at first glance. We in Natal particularly should hail it as another indication of the significant texture of which our strangely woven Commonwealth is made. Association football was taught to India by British people many years ago, and to-day the soccer field is one of the arenas where the divergent races in the great Dependency meet in a rivalry that should be to the definite advantage of all concerned. Indians have proved themselves apt pupils of their teachers, and the playing standard attained among them is very high. Nor are the tourists men of a type unrepresentative of the best their country can offer. In their ranks are barristers, graduates and other men who, from an Indian point of view, correspond to the university products of the Old Country. The visitors will find, unhappily, that in South Africa there is not that cordiality shown by the European peoples to men of their race that their social and educational attainments entitle them to expect. But they must not let this fact disturb them too greatly. We in South Africa do not always see the Indian at his best; and many of our own people are very insular indeed in their dealings with people of different complexions from their own.

We hope the visitors have a pleasant stay in South Africa; that they enjoy their football; that they are able to help onward the local standard, and

that they take away with them a better opinion of South Africa than sometimes India is given of this perverse and variegated land. We hope, too, the local Indian officials will approach the European authorities and find out if it is not possible to stage at least one of the touring matches at Kingsmead. There are a great many Europeans in this town who, for more reasons than one, would like to see the visitors in action, and who would like to feel that, on so memorable an occasion, a main European playground was at their disposal. The Indian Association might retort, of course, that there is nothing to prevent Europeans going to the playing fields of the Association at Carrie's Fountain. Nor is there. What we had in mind, however, was that if one of the matches with the visitors could be staged on Kingsmead or the Track Ground, a better gate would be secured which would help the Indian football revenues, and the visitors would be made to feel that the European sporting community was eager to show some courtesy to strangers from a far-reaching land. At the latter end of June there will be so many visitors to Durban that a mid-week match at one of the central grounds under the control of the Grounds Association would draw a popular gate; and we do not doubt that many employers would give their Indian workers time off to see their compatriots in action. Anyway, the experiment is worth trying!

## Natal Education Defect

### Examiners' View

Natal children of the Standard VI age are learning to spell words they cannot use, declares Dr. W. G. McConkey, Inspector of Schools, in a report on the 1933 Certificate examination just circulated. He found that a request for synonyms for simple words from the spelling list was worse answered than any other question in the Second Paper set for children taking English as their main language.

Another fault he discovered was the children's inability to combine simple sentences to form complex ones. This, Dr. McConkey regards as a sign that their ability to use English is unsatisfactory, and he urges teachers to encourage private reading among their pupils, as well as to improve the standard of oral English used in ordinary classroom work.

The importance of reading is stressed by another examiner, Mr. N. E. Nuttall, who affirms that the children who read are always the children who can write good idiomatic English. The need is once again apparent, he says, for well-equipped and wisely-used school libraries.

Mr. Nuttall, who was also concerned with this general Standard VI examination, regards as alarmingly large the number of candidates who were obviously quite unfitted for the examination. The compositions were, for the most part disappointing, and the great majority of the children showed a distressing lack of imagination.

"The use of words in sentences to illustrate their meaning," says Mr. Nuttall, "was generally far from satisfactory. The last question, demanding an

outline of a poem, a prose passage or a speech, or a description of a painting, produced deplorable answers from the majority of candidates. And yet it does not seem unreasonable to expect from children in Standard VI a coherent and intelligible account of something they have seen, read or heard."

## Original Correspondence

To The Editor, INDIAN OPINION.

### The Boy Scouts Movement

Sir,—A meeting was convened recently at the the Star Picture Palace with the object of organising a Pathfinder movement for the Pretoria Indian Government School children. The convenors were Messrs. W. B. Pickles, principal of the school, G. S. Frank, Moonsamy Das and the school staff.

Captain White, a noted Scout Master explained the various laws governing the movement and said it is unfortunate that the Indian Boy Scouts are not recognised in the Union. The Paladins, Wayfarers, Pathfinders etc, are recognised by the Union Council and their training are run parallel to the Boy Scouts movement.

There is an organisation here which was recently formed and is called the "Pretoria Indian Boy Scouts Association." Mr. G. S. Frank was elected as Scout Master and chairman. After a few weeks he resigned from his post without giving any substantial reason and with the assistance of Mr. Moonsamy Das, who has been a scout Master in Natal, he convened the above meeting. Mr. Das promised faithfully to give his service. Instead of uplifting the Scout movement, assisting and encouraging us in our struggle for improvement he did the opposite.

It is a pity that these two gentlemen considered the Europeans as best to judge on the name and that we should abide by their decision. Did they realise that it is a slur on our race to deprive us from using the word "Scout" and its uniform? Mr. Nana Sita, a patriotic Indian said that he was disgusted to learn that the Indian Boy Scouts in the Union are not recognised, whereas in East Africa, India and in other parts the Indians are allowed to be Scouts, to adorn the original uniforms and even attend the Jamboree. He further said the Scout movement was international recognised throughout the world and which stood for what was right and good and strongly protested to the word "Pathfinder."

The convenors had cast a great slur not only on our community, but on the whole Scout movement here. Do the gentlemen know that not long while ago the Minister of Native Affairs refused to grant passports to three cultured Native Pathfinders who were selected to proceed for the Jambore held in Hungary? Will they now understand that the Pathfinder movement is not national and its aims and objects are also different.

Yours etc,  
A. SIGAMONEY,

Pretoria.

# ALL-INDIA BEGIN THEIR TOUR

## FIRST MATCH WITH NATAL

### ALL ROADS LEAD TO CURRIE'S FOUNTAIN

#### INDIA BEATS NATAL BY 6 GOALS TO NIL

**W**ELL over 10,000 excited spectators, including several hundred Europeans, and a comparatively small number of Indian women, were thrilled to their hearts' satisfaction last Saturday afternoon when the first all-India side ever to tour this country, opened their tour with a match against Natal, defeating them by six goals to nil.

Conditions were ideal and the crowd was prepared for the event of the afternoon, by the curtain raiser which was productive of excellent football. In this fixture, Maritzburg outplayed Durban and won by three goals to one.

Promptly at 3.15 Dr. S. Dutt, the captain of the tourists, led his men on to the field. They were greeted with a roar of applause which gave way to a gasp of surprise when it was seen that with the exception of S. Mozumdar, they were all unshod.

The Natalians then ran on the field behind R. A. Naidoo, and were not less generously treated by the crowd.

The teams were: ALL-INDIA: P. Bannerjee, S. Dutt, S. Mozumdar, K. Nassim, Aquil Ahmed, S. Chakraberthy, N. Ghosh, Lakshminarayan, Ramana, K. Bhattacharjee, S. Choudhari.

NATAL: P. Nadasen, George Singh, B. Appalsamy, C. Padarath, G. Raman, R. A. Naidoo, Lewis Paul, Sunny Nursoo, P. Naraidoo, S. M. Nader, Cassim Akbar.

Referee: Mr. M. K. Naidoo.

In beating Natal, as they did, the visitors proved themselves to be footballers of no mean ability. Right within the first minute, the barefooted players, by means of fast footwork, clever passing and brainy play, carried the ball within the Natal penalty area. Lakshminarayan shot from a good position, but Nadasen brought off a good save—only to be defeated a minute or so later when Bhattacharjee broke through and scored.

The tourists were now doing what Natal was not. They were keeping the positions; they drew their opponents, passed accurately and conserved their energy. Bhattacharjee and N. Ghosh were in particular brilliant for while the latter's centres were always accurate to a degree the former seemed to be here, there and everywhere, and utilised these centres to such effect that Nadasen in the Natal goal had his work out out to keep his charge clear.

Several times after their first goal, and within ten minutes of the start of the game, the tourists seemed to be certain of increasing their score, but really brilliant defence by George Singh, the young Natal right back, and good goal keeping on the part of Nadasen managed to keep them out. It was as a result of their combined efforts, in fact, that Natal initiated the attack when the game was 20 minutes old.

Singh punted high upfield and Lewis Paul, the right wing man, showed a flash of brilliance and

took the ball into shooting range, after beating Chowdhari and Chakraberthy. He centred beautifully but Bannerjee cleared well, to send his team once again, on the attack.

It was at this stage that they demonstrated just how superior they were to the home side, as they literally ran rings round them, and all but scored on numerous occasions. This seemed to anger the Natal team, and a free kick for the tourists, just outside the penalty area, resulted; Aquil Ahmed, although he made a brilliant effort, just failed to score.

Natal now and again managed to break through the cordon around their goal. Although these occasions were infrequent, they were always dangerous as the forward line, once it got moving, became a good scoring machine, which just failed on account of excellent defence play by Dr. Dutt, S. Mozumdar and Bannerjee.

The home side were, in fact, robbed of a certain goal by Dr. Dutt, who took Bannerjee's place in the goal when the latter lay prone on the ground, as the result of attempting to clear a shot by S. M. Nader. The doughty Doctor cleared, gave the ball to Ghosh who played brilliantly to pass to Ramana who scored with his head just before half time.

On the resumption, the visitors, looking fitter for the fray than their rivals, soon increased their lead when Ramana scored following an excellent move in which all the forwards participated.

The tourists were now definitely in the ascendancy, and obtained their fourth goal when Bhattacharjee received the ball from the right half, K. Nassim, one of the best men on the field, to score with a low, forceful shot.

Natal rallied once or twice, but were obviously a tired team and it came as no surprise, when five minutes from the end, Ramana, making use of a good pass from Ghosh scored his third goal.

The tourists now played as they liked, and it was only a matter of time before they once again increased their lead. Just as the referee was about to sound the final whistle, Bhattacharjee obtained his hat trick by sending in a world beater which gave Nadasen no chance.

The visitors, who ran off the victors by six goals to nil, were swamped by their host of admirers.

One notable feature manifested itself throughout the match: there were no unpleasant incidents and the referee had very little occasion to use his whistle. This is all to the good as it says much for the standard of Indian soccer.

While it is difficult to single out any one member of the touring side, for special mention (a host occur to the memory) one cannot let the opportunity go by without commenting on the really brilliant play of Nassim, Dr. Dutt, Masumdar, Bhattacharjee and Ramana. On the Natal side, George Singh dis-

tinguished himself while Naidoo showed he was an able captain. Although he let six goals through, Nadasen can rest content that he did not disgrace himself—his performance being most creditable.

## At Maritzburg

### Natal Takes Revenge

On Sunday morning the India team motored to Maritzburg where they arrived at lunch hour. Crowds of Indians were waiting at the H. Y. M. A. Hall to welcome the tourists. After welcome speeches were made by Indian and Europeans and thanks expressed by the captain and the manager of the team Dr. Dutt and Mr. Mookerjee respectively, the visitors were taken for lunch and from there direct to the Sports ground where the play commenced at 3.30 p.m. There was never such a big crowd of spectators present to see an Indian match in the history of Maritzburg, there being over 4,000 Indians and a large number of Europeans present.

Natal beat All-India by 3 goals to 1 in a thrilling match. The game was a very fast one and the ball was swung rapidly from end to end of the field with brilliant movements. Both teams lacked the ability to finish off movements in front of goal, but in the latter stages of the game Natal were always dangerous and the last two goals came from fine combination and splendid shooting.

All-India fell away in the last quarter of the game and, under the spur of success, Natal dominated the game and ran their opponents off their feet. At one stage of the game All-India ran rings round the Natal men who stood helplessly in the face of perfect combination and ball control, but Natal gradually rallied and turned the tables.

For the first 10 minutes All-India dominated the game and the Natal goalkeeper had a busy time. Natal then started to press and each goal was visited in rapid succession.

All-India narrowly missed scoring on several occasions. At this stage it looked as if All-India were to repeat their Durban score, but the excellent defence, particularly by Natal's right fullback, George Singh, kept the ball out of the goal. Singh played a prominent part in breaking up dangerous movements and throughout the match played brilliantly. The Natal goalkeeper never made a mistake.

All-India's only goal came from a corner at the end of first half when Akil Ahmed, the centre-half headed into goal. In the second half Natal's insiderright, Sunny Nursoo, scored the first goal, heading in from a perfect corner.

The game then became fast and furious both sides being dangerous. From a splendid movement Varda Natal's centreforward, scored from a centre by Cassim Akbar. All-India then fought hard to equalise, but Natal kept the upper hand and the third goal came from Sunny Nursoo as the result of a centre by Cassim Akbar. All-India was defending furiously when the match ended.

Natal.—P. Nadasen, G. Naidoo, G. Singh, R. A. Naidoo (capt.), G. Rawon, Q. Appadoo, Cassim Akbar,

S. Padayachee, P. Naraidoo, Sunny Nursoo, P. Nulliah.

All-India.—P. Banerjee, S. Dutt, (capt.) S. Mozumdar, K. Nassim, Akil Ahmed, S. Chakrabatty, N. Ghose, Lakshminarayan, A. Ganguly, K. Bhattacharjee, S. Choudhary.

The India team was placed in somewhat unfavourable circumstances. They were given practically no opportunity to rest after the previous day's match; they had a tiring journey from Durban to Maritzburg and were rushed to the field immediately after lunch and there to find the ground unusually small and harder than Currie's Fountain. Dr. Dutt had a severe wound under his toe at the end of the match and had to be attended to by Dr. Peters. The wound had to be stitched and Dr. Dutt will be unfit for eight or ten days to come on the field. From Maritzburg the India team left for Johannesburg on Monday accompanied by Mr. A. Christopher, Mr. S. L. Singh and other officials of the South African Indian Football Association.

## India Plays Excellently Transvaal Beaten By 7 To 1

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT)

The India team was in full form when it played in Johannesburg on Wednesday before a huge crowd of spectators including over 500 Europeans, defeating Transvaal by seven goals to one. Hussain as the goal keeper and Ramana with his bare feet amazed the crowd with their excellent game. Lakshminarayan, the inside-right who scored four goals, was carried off the field on his shoulder. Ramana the centreforward obtained the other three goals. The spectators both Europeans and Indians were much impressed with the high standard of game played by India. The Mayor welcomed the visitors.

The first test match will be played in Johannesburg on Saturday June 16.

## Social And Personal

Mr. P. F. Kincaid, Commissioner of Immigration and Asiatic Affairs, is leaving Capetown this week on a tour of inspection of different immigration offices in the Union.

Dr. Edgar H. Brookes has been appointed as the new principal of the Adams mission station.

Pundit Metha Jaimini leaves Durban for Johannesburg on Saturday by the 2.15 p.m. train.

Mr. A. W. G. Champion, the native secretary of the I.O.U., has returned from an exile of three years to resume office in Durban as general secretary of the I.O.U.

## SOUTH AFRICA

NEWS IN BRIEF

*1896 Incident Recalled*

Durban Town Councillors and all prominent Municipal officials were present at a farewell ceremony to Mr. George H. White, Durban's ex-Borough Valuator and Estates Manager, held in the Mayor's Parlour last week. Mr. White has been a member of the Municipal Service for 46 years—a record. Mr. White was the recipient of several handsome gifts as a mark of esteem of Town Councillors and his fellow officials. The gifts included a magnificent grandfather clock, a mahogany desk and chair, and a bag of golf clubs. In presenting to Mr. Whyte an illuminated address containing the Town Council's resolutions of appreciation, the Mayor, Mr. P. Osborn paid a glowing tribute to his services. Mr. White in replying referred to certain records attached to his service and recalled an incident in which Mahatma Gandhi figured in 1896. "When I joined the staff of the Town Clerk and Town Treasurer in 1888," said Mr. White, it comprised five members, together with myself and the Indian office messenger named Dick, who was the father of Sookdeo, the present Indian clerk in the Town Clerk's Department. "Although he could not read or write he knew every book in the Department. Incidentally Dick was the means of saving Gandhi's life during the anti-Asiatic demonstrations in Durban. Dick was very similar in build to Gandhi and while the mob were outside a house in Field Street where Gandhi was hiding the Chief Constable saw Dick on the outskirts of the crowd. He sent for Dick and took him into the house, where Gandhi changed into his clothes and escaped in this way to the Main Police Station, where he remained a week."

*The Study Of Indian Culture*

It will be remembered that during the sojourn of the lecturers from India, who took up their appointments at the Sastri College, an Indian Study Circle was formed. What has been its fate in the interim, needs no effort to relate. It is indeed a pity that the Study of the Indian classics in this Country is so boldly and indifferently neglected. To promote, therefore, the study of the classics and foster an interest in matters pertaining to Indian Culture a new group has been inaugurated in Durban. The president is a keen and interesting student of Indian literature and philosophy, Mr. B. D. Lalla; its Secretary, another member of the teaching profession, Mr. S. Panday. The inaugural meeting of the above club was held in the Parsee Rustomjee Hall on Tuesday evening, 29th May, Pandit Metha Jaimini delivered a lecture on Indian Culture. He pointed out the four W's which constituted the basis of so-called western Culture and terribled them to be in short, Wine, Wealth, Women, and War. He then showed how Indian Culture ensured a safer and more consolidated moral background in that it rested on the pillars of four S's viz. Simplicity, Selfcontrol, Selfsacrifice, and Service. Mr. B. D. Lalla, the President, then delivered his inaugural speech in which he outlined the aims and objects of the society. Among other speakers

were Messrs T. M. Naicker, G. Singh and G. V. Naidoo, who proposed a vote of thanks to the Pandit. Music items were rendered by the Oriental Orchestra.

*Pundit Jaimini's Lecture*

An interesting and instructive lecture on the "Teachings of the Mahabharata" was delivered by Pandit Metha Jaimini B.A., L.L.B., M.R.A.S., Ph.D., at the Shree Ramayan Sabha Schoolroom, 105 Hill Street, Overport, Durban, on Saturday, June 2 under the auspices of the Overport, Indian Study Group and Debating Society. The hall was packed. After prayers the proceedings opened with a song by the pupils of S. R. S. Hindi School. The chairman, Mr. S. P. Singh, in his opening remarks welcomed the Panditjee and garlanded him. The learned Pandit said that the sacred book, Mahabharata, contains 1,00,800 verses. Western culture, he said, dominated rights, but Eastern culture dominated duty.

*Lectures By Shri Swami Adyanandji*

Lectures on "Eastern View of Western Civilization," "Reincarnation & Myth" and "Cult of the Coming Man" will be delivered by Shri Swami Adyanandji at the Parsee Rustomjee Hall, Queen Street, Durban on Monday June 18, Wednesday June 20 and Friday June 22 respectively at 5.30 p.m. All are invited to attend by the Secretaries of the Hindu Maha Sabha.

*Malaria At Sea Cow Lake*

Property owners of Kenville Estate, in the Sea Cow Lake area, have complained to the Town Council that mosquitoes are breeding freely on the estate, and notably in rank grass and thick growth of trees. They declare that the inhabitants of all houses on the estate are suffering from malaria, and that three deaths from malaria occur every year among a population of 100. In a report on this matter, Dr. G. H. Gunn (Borough Health Officer) declares that the infection is probably derived from Sea Cow Lake. The residents have been advised to fumigate their premises regularly, while the Borough Health Department has made arrangements to supervise the settlement and organise malaria preventive measures. Dr. Gunn's report has been circulated to the Public Health Committee.

*Port Shepstone Indian Debating Society*

At the usual monthly meeting of the Port Shepstone, Indian Debating Society held at the Indian School Hall, Port Shepstone, on Saturday June 2, there was almost a full attendance of members, and a number of visitors were also present. Mr. B. W. Charles presided and briefly introduced Mr. R. Muthukisna who delivered a lecture on the poetical works of Mrs. Sarojini Naidu. Mrs. Naidu, said the speaker was a born poet, having "heart of expressing beautiful thoughts in melodious language," this being the highest definition, of poetry.

The next monthly meeting of the Society will take place on June 30, 1934, at 2.30 p.m. at the same place when Mr. C. M. Moodley will move: "That alcoholic indulgence is detrimental to human welfare." Mr. D. G. Purad will oppose. All are cordially welcome.

### *Problem Of S.A.'s Protectorates*

Lord Selborne has been appointed Chairman of an influential all Party Committee of both Houses of Parliament to keep in touch with the problem of the South African Protectorates with special reference to General Hertzog's demand. The Committee will have three secretaries, Conservative, Labour and Liberal, and its members include Lord Winterton, Mr. L. S. Amery, Lord Lothian, Colonel J. C. Wedgwood, Captain V. A. Cazalet and Mr. E. L. Mallalieu. The Committee will first of all draw up a memorandum on the Protectorates for circulation among members of both Houses.

### *Non-European Buses And Taxis In The City*

No further sites as stands for non-European buses and taxis have been recommended by the Works Committee of the City Council. Applications for additional sites were made to the City Council, but the Works Committee reports that it is unable to accede to them. Those already authorised are:—

Non-European buses: Edendale Road, near Gaol; Church Street, South, below Reteif Street; Pietermaritz Street, outside Native Eating House, for three buses.

Non-European taxis: Edendale Road, near Gaol; Reteif Street, East, between Church Street and Pietermaritz Street, for 10 taxis.

### *Estimate Of Maize Crop 19,452,000 Bags*

The Division of Agricultural Economics and Markets announces that the fourth preliminary estimate of the maize crop for this season, based on the May reports of crop correspondents, is 19,452,000 bags.

Production in the various Provinces, including Native crops, is as follows: Cape Province: Transkei, 21,122,000 bags; other, 1,255,000 bags; Natal 2,610,000 bags; Transvaal 6,891,000 bags; Orange Free State, 6,574,000 bags. Total, 19,452,000.

The prospects of the crop have been further improved by the absence of frost. Cobworms, however, are fairly generally reported and appear to have done some damage. The heavy rains during the last week in May will delay harvesting and thrashing operations, as the grain is still very damp.

### *New Protectorates Official*

It is officially announced that Sir Cecil Fforde has been selected for the appointment which will combine the posts of President of the Special Courts of Swaziland and Bechuanaland Protectorates, Judicial Commissioner in Basutoland, and Legal Adviser to the High Commissioner for South Africa.

Sir Cecil Fforde is expected to arrive at Capetown on July 2. He has had a distinguished career as a Judge in the Punjab, but resigned in consequence of the trying nature of the Lahore climate. He is an English and Irish barrister.

### *Future Of S. A. Protectorates*

The future of British Protectorates in South Africa will be raised on July 4, when Lord Standerson, on behalf of the Labour Peers, will interrogate the Government on the matter.

## THINGS IN GENERAL

### *New Municipal Act in Fiji*

Information has been received in the office of the Indian Colonial Association, Aditmal, from Fiji that a memorial has been drafted by a representative Committee of the residents of the Fiji against the proposals of the Fiji Government to abolish the present constitution of municipalities and to substitute a new one, whereby all the members of the Municipal Council shall be nominated by the Government representing different interests of various communities, for presentation to the Secretary of State of Colonies for consideration of His Majesty's Government. The memorial is now being circulated among European Chinese and Indian residents for their approval and signature. It is understood that the new move is being opposed by every section of the population, including Europeans.

### *Ireland Certain To Secede*

"The Irish people are prepared to accept the consequences of separation from Britain and of being a foreign nation when the test is put to them," declared President De Valera in the Dail.

He said the Government's Policy was directed along the line of self-sufficiency, so that when the time had come to out-adrift the reactions upon the Irish people would not be so serious as they otherwise would be. "We shall out off from Britain ultimately. Nothing is more certain," added Mr De Valera.

### *Brazil Setback To League*

Hopes of settling the Assyrian refugees at present in Irak in Brazil have received a setback as Brazil has passed a law restricting all immigration, which though not directed against Assyrians, bars their entry.

"The League Council at the final meeting of the 80th session decided to make another appeal to governments to facilitate the task of the Assyrian Committee, and simultaneously reminded the Irak Government of its pledges to protect its Assyrian population.

### *Arab Emir Visits London*

A picturesque figure in the dress of his country, Emir Abdallah of Transjordan arrived in London on his first visit to Britain. He is staying three weeks, as the guest of the British Government. In an interview he stated that he was paying a purely courtesy visit, with no political or financial significance. Transjordan, he said, was making great strides. They were entirely free from frontier troubles and were living in cordial relationship with Palestine, Syria, Irak and the Hedjaz.

### *No Future For Tristan*

Tristan da Cunha has no future and should be evacuated, declared the Rev. A. G. Partridge, an expatriate priest in charge, speaking at Southampton. The people of Tristan, he said, should be settled in England and taught useful crafts. If something was not done in 10 years the island would be faced with starvation and it would be one of the scandals of the Empire.



### *A Doctor Accepts The Rope Trick Challenge*

The recent statement by Lord Ampthill at a meeting of the "Magic Circle" that they might as well offer £50,000 as £500 for a demonstration of the Indian rope trick because it was impossible, has caused a controversy with Dr. Alexander, a psychiatrist who has demanded £50,000 for a performance in London, with the additional cost of bringing yogis and assistant and a shipload of special sand to England and having the Albert Hall tropically heated and lighted.

### *Two Stamps Sold For £1,400*

Two Canadian 1851 twelve-penny black stamps realised £1,400 in a London sale of the collection of the late Mr. Arthur Hind, the American millionaire plus manufacturer.

### *Indians Head Mecca Pilgrimage*

Indian pilgrims far outnumbered the pilgrims of other nations on this year's journey to Mecca.

Official statistics show that they numbered more than double the Egyptians who are always staunch supporters of the pilgrimages.

The figures are as follows:—

Indians	9,815
Egyptians	4,170
Javanese	3,188
Syrians	2,316
Algerians	1,915
Sudanese	1,322
Aden	450
East Africa	163
	23,339

Although a number of hardy individuals still prefer to do the pilgrimage in traditional style on a camel, most pilgrims prefer motor transport.

### *Taking The Sting Out Of Telegrams*

No longer will a telegram in Czechoslovakia be automatically considered a harbinger of misfortune. For an additional fee of 6d. the message, whatever it is, will be written in an elegant and decorative copy-book hand, on ornamental paper, and will be delivered in a tastefully designed envelope, so that the recipient can tell, from the outside, what sort of news he may expect inside. There have been so far four different forms perfected. Three of these are appropriate for congratulations or engagements, births, marriage and other occasions meet for celebration. The fourth is a sombre conception, black-edged, and bearing a suitable symbolic design, and is intended for notification of death and for messages of condolence.

## To Correspondents

Correspondents are requested to kindly send their reports or matter intended for publication to reach here not later than Wednesday morning.

Manager 'Indian Opinion'

## INDIA

### NEWS IN BRIEF

#### *Ghose Travelling Fellowship Scholarship*

Miss Sakuntala Rao, a Telugu by birth, who has adopted Bengal as her home will be the recipient of the Ghose Travelling Fellowship Scholarship of the Calcutta University. This is the first time that the distinction of winning this scholarship falls to a women scholar. The holder of this scholarship is required to undertake the investigation of educational methods followed in countries outside India and is required to submit to the Board of management a full report embodying the results of the studies and travels. Since its endowment in 1921, eminent educationists like Sir C. N. Raman have been the recipients of Ghose Travelling Fellowship Scholarship.

#### *11-Year Old Girl Passes Matric Exam.*

Starting her education eight months ago from the primary stage, an eleven and a half years old Sikh girl came out successful in the First Division in the Punjab University Matriculation Examination, the results of which were announced recently. It is gathered that when she made up her mind to study for the Matriculation Examination eight months ago, she did not know even the English alphabet. A tutor was engaged for her, and she appeared for the examination as a private student.

#### *Kapurthala Maharaja Gives 10,000 Lire To Mussolini*

Mussolini received the Maharaja of Kapurthala, who gave him 10,000 lire. The Duce is sending the money to the unemployment relief funds.

#### *Death Of Acting Viceroy's Brother*

News has been received of the sudden death from dysentery at Srinagar, in Kashmir, of Admiral, Sir Victor Stanley, who went to India in February to visit his brother, Sir George Stanley, Acting Viceroy of India during the absence in Europe on leave of Viscount Willingdon.

#### *The King's Favour To Ceylon*

The King is anxious that the visit to Ceylon of the Duke of Gloucester should be marked by some expression of his personal favour towards his subjects in the island. He has accordingly decided to restore to Ceylon the ancient throne of the Kings of Kandy, which has been preserved at Windsor Castle for over 100 years, and he has charged the Duke of Gloucester with the duty of making the formal presentation to the Ceylon Government, during his coming visit. His Majesty believes that the return of this historic monument to Ceylon will be agreeable to sentiments widely entertained by all sections of the Ceylon community.

#### *170 Years Old Man*

A Muslim named Ramzan aged 170 resides in a village in Hazara district. His general state of health is very satisfactory and his eyesight is

excellent. He attends to his daily routine of duties and does not feel exhaustion. His daily diet consists of bread, butter and two seers of milk. He is called the 'Grand Old Man' of Hazara.

### World Fellowship Of Faiths In 1936

The first inaugural meeting of the World Fellowship of Faiths was held at Bombay. Sir Govind Rau Pradhan presiding.

Raja J. P. Bahadur Singh said that the object of the meeting was to inaugurate in Bombay an Indian national committee of the World Fellowship of Faiths, with the aim of establishing world peace and unity through methods of conciliation and good-will. Several speakers addressed the gathering and explained the work done by the World Faiths Conference recently held at Chicago. During the last session of the World Fellowship of Faiths it was decided to set up a permanent organisation and accordingly an international committee with the Maharaja of Baroda as chairman was formed.

It was announced at the meeting that the World Fellowship of Faiths was planning to hold its next world conference in India in 1936.

### "Henry VIII" Banned In New Delhi

The Chief Commissioner of New Delhi has issued a notification that the film "The Private Life of Henry VIII is uncertified."

### Deaths In Capsize Of Ferryboat

A ferry boat with 200 passengers capsized in a squall on the South Hoogly River. It is feared that 100 people were drowned.

## Weddings

### Wedding At Fair Breeze

The wedding ceremony of the fourth and fifth daughters of Mr. A. Jeeawan Headmaster of Fair Breeze Government Indian School, with the third and fourth sons of Mr. Beeharae of Stanger was performed at Mr. Jeeawan's residence "The Banaras House," Tongaat, on Saturday May 26. The ceremony was conducted by Pandit Ramcherran Maharaj and Pandit Sunkar Maharaj. There was a very large gathering of friends and relatives. Mr. Adam Naby's Singing party was in attendance.

### Pillay—Naidoo

A very pretty wedding took place at the Orient Palace, Pretoria, on Thursday, 24th May 1934. The Bridegroom Mr. G. Sooboo Pillay, a prominent figure in sports and the secretary of the Pretoria District Indian Football Association, was married to Miss Seehammal, the daughter of the late Mr. O. K. T. Naidoo of Johannesburg, who was a great patriotic leader in S. Africa and the President of the Transvaal Indian Congress. On Wednesday evening a musical entertainment was held, which was provided by the members of the Pretoria Tamil Young Men's Association. The evening ended with a very fine musical entertainment. Indians of all denominations were present and they were well represented from many parts of the Transvaal. On Thursday at 2 a.m. according to the appointed time for the actual ceremony, a large crowd of men, women and children gathered at the beautifully decorated Pandal in the Orient Palace. Mr. S. Padayachy performed the ceremony.

## SPORTING NEWS

### Soccer

#### City Team Wins Weenen Trophy

The Maritzburg "Victorians" "A" again won the Naraidoo Floating Trophy at the Weenen County Indian football League annual five-a-side soccer tournament, held at Estcourt on Sunday last. The Estcourt Royals were the runners up.

After the tournament Mr. A. G. Naraidoo presented the prizes to the successful teams. He complimented the Maritzburg team on its fine play and winning the trophy for three years in succession.

The winning team consisted of S. G. Pillay (Pat), Sandow Francis, K. Moothoo, N. Moonsamy, and J. B. Lall.

### Bootless Football

The amazing display of the bootless All-India footballers says 'Idler' in the *Mercury*, has roused as much comment almost as the Motherwell match. A colleague of mine who is an expert on soccer tells me that the bare-footed players revealed a control over the ball which completely flabbergasted the local team.

The visitors kick with the bridge of the foot with unstinted vigour. Anyone who has tried to kick a football without a boot will realise what that means.

## Tennis

### Central Lawn Tennis Club

At the First Annual General Meeting of the Central Lawn Tennis Club held recently, the following office bearers were elected for the ensuing year. Patron: Mr. A. Moonilal, Vice Patrons: Dr. M. G. Naidoo, Dr. K. M. Seedat, Messrs H. J. Khlowan, Bail Nualall and R. L. Naidoo. President: V. R. Chetty, vice-Presidents: Messrs. C. C. Pillay, R. K. Govender and S. S. Pather. Secretary: Mr. V. Thumbie, Treasurer: Mr. G. S. Samuels; Auditor: Mr. Y. A. Kadwa, Committee: Messrs. V. M. Pillay, D. G. Chetty, O. C. Govender, V. Isaacs, N. L. Radcliff, T. N. Moolly and Monnie Naidoo, Captain: Mr. R. M. Govender, vice-Captain: Mr. Y. A. Kadwa; Councillors to N.I.L.T.A. Messrs. S. S. Pather and V. Thumbie. All communications to be addressed to the secretary, 24 Short Street, Durban.

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