

INDIAN OPINION

Founded by
• MAHATMA GANDHI •
• IN 1903 •

No. 35—Vol. XXXII.

Friday, August 31st, 1934

Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper
PRICE FOURPENCE.

NOTES AND NEWS

Growing Consciousness Among Natives

THAT no country can keep a section of its population suppressed till eternity is a thing South Africa has yet to learn. Nature's ways are inscrutable. No amount of human ingenuity will succeed in suppressing it. The following words from the presidential address of Dr. Seme before the African Native National Congress are significant:

"I need not tell you that your people in South Africa and Rhodesia to-day find themselves in a hopeless and helpless position, economically, politically, educationally and in every other position. . . . Our people now indeed have begun to realise that they cannot any longer find employments which they expected from the white people. The latter have to provide work for their own folk who are as poor perhaps as we are. This fact together with the "white policy" of the Government have already taken away the best jobs from us. The question therefore is whether or not the African National Congress should now assume the responsibility of developing our people along the lines which will make them more and more economically self-supporting and if so what step this General Conference should take in order to raise the General National Funds or to generally organise the offices of the African National Congress for that purpose. We must establish our own hotels, butcheries and our own stores along the Reef, Pretoria and all other cities. All these "Naturelle winkels" should really belong to us. The transportation of Africans between locations and towns should be undertaken by the Africans themselves. For this and other purposes we should have a General African Garage with branches in every city in South Africa."

Non-European Labour on Railways—Settled Policy of Government

THE Railways and Harbours Affairs Commission appointed by his Excellency the Governor-General in October last year to investigate and report on the financial position and the working of the South African Railways and Harbours has completed its report. Sir W. Guy Granet was chairman of the Commission. According to the report, "during the period from Union to 1924 the number of European

labourers employed in all branches of the Railway service was never much more than 5,000. In the latter part of 1924, however, the employment of Europeans to replace Natives was adopted as the settled policy of the Government and in the succeeding years the numbers increased rapidly from 4,760 in 1924 to 14,736 in 1933. On March 31, 1924 the non-European staff numbered 47,157 or 90.8 per cent. of the total labouring staff employed, while on March 31, 1933, the number had decreased to 27,928 or 65.5 per cent. of the total labouring staff.

Indians Stick Up for Standard Wages

TWELVE Asiatic tailors employed in the factory of the Albion Clothing Manufacturers in Parry Road, refused to carry on owing to dissatisfaction in wage rates offered them. These men it is understood were doing piece-work, and according to a recent court ruling the wage determination was inapplicable to piece-work in the clothing industry. An amicable agreement in the form of a compromise was later arrived at between the management and the tailors in question.

An Act Worthy of Emulation

MR. HAROLD L. COHEN, of Liverpool, whose family have been associated with the city for four generations, has made a gift of £100,000 to the University of Liverpool for the purpose of erecting a new Library. In a letter to Lord Derby, Chancellor of the University of Liverpool, conveying the decision to make the gift, Mr. Cohen says: "We have received so many kindnesses from our fellow-citizens that it occurs to me that I might find an opportunity for expressing my gratitude for all these benefits if I were to try to secure for the young men and women of the University a chance of obtaining for themselves and future generations of students the benefits that come from a good University Library."

A Happy New Year

WE wish all our Parsee friends every happiness and prosperity in their coming New Year which they will celebrate on Friday September 7.

Indian Opinion

FRIDAY, AUGUST 31ST, 1934.

WAGE LAWS AS AFFECTING INDIANS

THE Industrial Legislation Inquiry Commission which is at present sitting in Durbati is seriously engaging the minds of the leaders of the Indian community. The terms of reference, which are comprehensive and embrace three Unions Acts are to inquire into: (1) The effect upon employment of the operation of (a) the Wage Act of 1925 as amended, and (b) the Industrial Conciliation Act of 1924 as amended; (2) The extent to which wage determinations and agreements under these Acts are evaded, and the effects of such evasion (a) on employers acting in accordance with the spirit of such legislation, and (b) on the workers. (3) The effect (a) of fixing lower wages for women than men; (b) of laying down ratios between different classes of employees, both male and female. (4) The comparative wages fixed by determination under the Wage Act for similar classes of work in different occupations. (5) (a) The effect upon employment of the operation of the Apprenticeship Act; and the extent to which apprentices on completion of their indentures have become absorbed as journey men; (b) the desirability of fixing ratios of apprentices to journeymen. (6) The adequacy of present wage rates (a) for unskilled labourers; (b) for semi-skilled workers, and (c) the desirability of fixing minimum wage rates for such workers. (7) The disparity between wage levels of skilled workers and those of labourers and of persons in semi-skilled occupations.

The wage legislation has caused a considerable amount of dissatisfaction to the Indian community and the working of it has resulted in imposing hardships on many Indians who find themselves thrown out of employment. Wage laws have their good side as well as their evil side. The good side is that the employees may not be unfairly treated by his employer. The evil side is that under the present working of the laws there is little scope for a small concern with very limited means to get a chance and the trade would be the monopoly of the large concerns. The Chamber of Commerce and other like bodies have only one thing in mind and that is that the small concerns should be wiped out so that the big ones may thrive. Wage laws under the present condition, certainly do not provide for the livelihood of the small man. We see glaring examples of it in the furniture and the printing trade. Harsh laws always lead to criminality and the wage laws have been circumvented not by Indians only, who are made the scape goats always, but by Europeans also. Where there is circumventing of the law to a large extent and it necessitates constant

vigilance there must be something wrong with the law itself.

The dissatisfaction caused to the Indian community by the wage laws is to this extent that while apparently the laws are applicable to all, irrespective of race or colour, in the working of the laws the colour line is invariably drawn. There are many instances where Indians are employed by Europeans where such Indians though they are capable of doing a certain kind of work which entitles them to the higher rates of pay are kept in lower grade simply on the grounds of their race or colour. Moreover Europeans are never over-anxious to see men of other than their own race working side by side with them. There can be equality of standard in one thing if there is equality of circumstances in the rest of the things. While the wage laws are imposed on Indians with strict vigilance as to their adherence they are totally denied equality in other matters. Is this not putting them at a disadvantage? and are not the laws instead of being a blessing, as they are supposed to be, instruments imposing hardships on them? Indians are denied all the opportunities of living up to the European standard, which means a life of extravagance. If they go about in cars, if they are property owners, if they are wealthy enough to purchase sites which perhaps a European might not be in a position to buy there is at once a hue and cry: "My word, the Coolies are thriving while our own kith and kin are starving? What right have they to be in the midst of the White men? Oh! how dare they rub against us? Down with the Coolies, he must be kept in his place, put him in to locations, put him into reserved areas and let him develop on his own lines." Trading licences he may not get excepting in his own areas, and he should be allowed to trade with his own people only.

Now if in this respect the Indian is not given equality with the European and is treated like the untouchable in India, and there are special laws applicable to him where is the sense in placing him on conditions of equality with the European only in so far as wage laws are concerned? Indeed it is not equality, it is the height of inequality.

We fear, therefore, that unless the general conditions of Indians are improved to enable him to reach the European standard in all other respects the wage laws will always be worked to his detriment and will be a source of discontent.

Fountain Of Wisdom

Religion could not be served or saved by violence, untruth or anger, but only by self-denial, self-restraint and self-suffering.—MAHATMA GANDHI

Usually the greatest boasters are the smallest workers. The deep rivers pay a larger tribute to the sea than shallow brooks, and yet empty themselves with less noise.

—SECKER.

The Things We've Forgotten.

Twenty Years Ago

EXTRACTS FROM "INDIAN OPINION,"
SEPTEMBER 2, 1914

MR. GANDHI ON SPORTS

In the course of his speech at the Albert Park, Durban, on the occasion of the children sports, he said:—

THEY had raced for prizes and, as Mr. Baillie had just reminded him, that prize-giving might have a demoralising effect upon those who had the training of the children in their hands as well as upon the children themselves. He shared that fear, but, if they had raced that afternoon for the sake of racing in order to show that during the past few years they had been endeavouring to keep the physical position of their being in a fit and proper state, it showed also the value of the industry, the courage and the time they had put forth in a disciplined manner in order to gain that particular purpose in life. All the children who went to churches if they were Christians, or all the children who were Hindus if they had any Hindus to teach them what their own religion taught, or if they were Mahomedans and had priests to tell them, he felt sure that they would all tell them that there was that race in life where they had to make themselves good in future and behave themselves if they grew up as men and women.

Reports "INDIAN OPINION"

Under the auspices of the Natal Indian Association the Indian community met on the Indian Recreation Ground on Sunday last to demonstrate their loyalty to the Crown. Amongst those present were Messrs. Parsee Rustomjee, V. Lawrence, Abdool H. Kajeer, V. R. R. Moodley, R. Bugwan, Goolab Singh, M. B. Maharaj, Lutchman Panday, G. D. Lalla, A. S. Singh, Lazarus Gabriel and others. Mr. Christopher who presided said they had with them on previous occasions, when there were internal wars, Mr. Gandhi to organise and to lead them in the service of the country. But that day he was not among them; but what he had done here in those times he was at that hour doing in Europe. It was a matter of pride to them that their brethren from their homeland, India, were on the water on their way to the seat of war and it appeared superfluous to remark that they would distinguish themselves in the present war as they had done in the past, and uphold the prestige of the Indian Army, and the honour of their Motherland.

The Maharajah of Mysore has offered to donate £330,000 for the Indian forces, and also offers his troops for active service. The Viceroy of India has gratefully accepted the Maharajah's offer, and has promised that the Maharajah's troops will be used if required.

Reuter states in India the spirit animating the people is illustrated by the attitude of the great agitator Tilak, who is exhorting every Indian to support the Government.

Our Indian Letter

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT)

Salem, 10th August.

GANDHIJI'S FAST—PURIFICATION WEEK FOR WORKERS

IMMEDIATELY after an attack of dysentery, brushing aside the doctor's request for a week's postponement in order to allow time for recovery from a strain of a strenuous and long tour, Mahatmaji has entered upon a seven days' penitential fast. It began on the morning of the 7th instant after prayers. In a statement before commencement of the fast he emphasised the necessity on the part of Harijati workers helping the cause by greater personal purification. The monster of untouchability cannot be killed without constant and ceaseless effort on the part of workers who have faith in the mission and who

POET'S CORNER.

Lokamanya Tilak.

How shall our mortal love commemorate
Your sovereign grandeur, O heroic heart?
Changeless, austere, your fame is counterpart
On your high storied hills, inviolate,
Your proud immortal deeds irradiate
The darkness of our land, and star-like dart
The lustre of your wisdom, valour, art,
Transfiguring sorrow and transcending fate.
Hail dauntless soldier, hail intrepid sage,
Who taught your Nation Freedom's Gajatri!
Immutable from the redeeming flame,
Your ashes are our children's heritage,
And all the epic rhythms of the sea
Accclaim your pure imperishable name.

—MRS. SAROJINI NAIDU in *The Volunteer*.

have by patient toil built up personal purity and integrity. He also felt great anguish on account of the activities of certain congressmen who seemed to have forgotten truth and non-violence during the election of local Congress committees. He uttered a word of warning to those workers also. Finally he asked all friends whether in India or outside, no matter to what faith or race they may belong, to pray that God may bless the little penance.

Mahatmaji spent the first two days of his fast more or less comfortably. *Ramayana* and *Gita* were read to him by his companions. The fast will terminate at 6 on the morning of the 14th.

INDIAN SCIENTIST INVITED TO VENICE

Sir C. V. Raman, the eminent Indian scientist and president of the newly established Indian Academy of Science has received a pressing invitation from Signor Marconi and Count Misroto, to take part in the deliberations of the International Biological Con-

gress at Venice. Sir Raman will very likely proceed to Venice by the aerial route to be there in time for the opening function and return to India in a fortnight.

ENQUIRY ON THE SPOT

Mr. K. P. S. Menon, Agent to the Governor General of India in Ceylon has been deputed by the Government to make enquiries in Zanzibar in connection with the recent legislation affecting Indians. He sailed for Africa by the steamer *Kenya* after conferring with the members of the Indian Citizenship Association.

SAROJINI DEVI'S APPEAL TO INDIAN WOMEN

Srimati Sarojini Devi was unable to be present at the meeting of the Congress Working Committee in Benares on the 28th July as she had to be near her husband who underwent an operation for cataract in Bangalore. During her stay in Mysore she was the guest of His Highness the Maharaja. In a stirring appeal to a huge gathering of ladies there she said that unlike the pioneers of the Suffragette Movement in England, Indian women were not obliged to fight out the battle of redemption. Their struggle was against their own apathy, laziness and ignorance. If they complained that they were badly treated it was all their own fault. If really women of India made up their minds to throw off their conservative ideas India would be rid of many of her ills ere long. She, however, deprecated very strongly the tendency on the part of modern girls that they need not acquaint themselves with ancient traditions of India. India could give the rest of the world gifts

of piety, devotion, service and sacrifice but she had a good deal to learn from the West in the shape of organised effort, punctuality, economic independence and missionary spirit.

"Gandhiji who is India's greatest missionary believes," she pointed out, "what women will today men would do tomorrow."

Concluding she appealed to them to cease to be idle, afraid of neighbours, indifferent and to be brave, faithful, and willing to work for the national weal. This done Indian women would lead the women of the world.

Srimati Sarojini Devi is expected to visit Madras in a few days.

THIS PICTURE AND THAT

The Charkha is the symbol of the revival of India's cottage industries and requires rich and poor, the educated and the uneducated alike to contribute their share for the success of its mission. By voluntary spinning the rich and the educated are expected to take part in this *Yagna*. But they have not yet learnt the dignity in labour. In this connection it is interesting to note from a letter to the *Hindu* from its Tokyo correspondent that the Empress of Japan takes pride in spinning and weaving clothes for His Majesty the Emperor and other members of the Royal Family. Her Majesty is much interested in sericulture and will personally reel silk for six days or learn the technique. She has herself raised 400lbs. of silk cocoon and from this will prepare apparel for use by the Emperor, herself, the Crown Prince and the Imperial Princesses.

SO-CALLED SCIENTIFIC CRITICISM OF ORIENTALS

(By DHIRENDRA NATH ROY, PH.D., Head of the Department of Philosophy, University of the Philippines)

(Reproduced from the "MODERN REVIEW")

(Continued from last week)

IF we have hitherto endeavoured to describe the points in the abstract, it is because many ugly things are being done in the name of science,—things whose awful meaning may not be clear to all of us until the true nature of this science is exposed, and because it will now be easy for us to understand the mighty problem with which the Orient has been grappling.

And nowhere in the whole Orient is the problem so relentlessly exacting as it is in India and China. This is because these two countries represent two splendid civilizations which never yielded to the ravages of time and still refuse to yield, in their intrinsic values to any upstart civilization. These two great countries have been turned into veritable laboratories in which any type of foreigners may come and investigate facts about the people or rather "natives,"—often without their knowledge and sometimes in spite of their protests—for some "scientific discoveries" most of which are usually more self-pleasing than scientific. The facts they collect are not what they find but what they look for and these to often without due regard to their quantity,

time, place, and other circumstances so that the intended generalization may be justified. But even these facts may not have the same meaning for the foreigners as for the native people and hence, the former cannot be in a position to form a generalization representing the latter. Yet, hundreds of generalizations are ungraciously formed about the Orientals and then sedulously spread all over the world through books, newspapers, magazines, cinema shows, platform speeches, and pulpit orations. So the world had been educated to know the Oriental peoples and their civilizations in ways which are not misleading but even insulting.

But in every case of such misrepresentation the glaring array of facts, however magnified, gives it a scientific colour and hides its true nature. This is the age of science. The world likes to believe in any thing that may be presented in the name of science, for science is the modern Pope, supposed to be infallible. This is why no amount of protest from the Orientals against such misrepresentation has been enough to impress the world. But the Orientals see and suffer from the injustice of it.

They wonder how the world can accept the false stories of the foreigners who do not understand the facts collected by them.

To give more concrete facts, it has been said and spread throughout the world that the Oriental people are very low in morals, superstitious, cruel, mean, treacherous, timid, conservative, and so forth. These ugly generalizations have been held before the world for a long long time and facts have always been available to support them. If at the beginning the facts were very few, the imagination was not lacking to make these highly sensational and thus impressive. Where imagination failed, the vastness and variety of the population helped, for no instance of human frailty is absolutely impossible to find in such a vast area of land with more than half of the world's population consisting of large heterogeneous types. Where even that failed, the long history of the Orient helped, for no people, however advanced in civilization, can, for all times and under all circumstances, keep itself free from some moral lapse or other, and the history of some of the Oriental countries being the longest known to the world may supply any required facts at some period or other. When all these ways are thus considered, one can easily understand how these generalizations have been supported by facts to make them scientific,—facts which the Orientals probably cannot deny and yet they sincerely believe that the generalizations are not true. But the world is given facts and it wonders why the Orientals should still venture to contradict.

While these generalizations have been thus working for a very long time in the mind of the world, no pains are being spared to discover, from time to time, new facts to preserve intact the world's impression already created. These new facts may be very few and far between but are certainly useful in confirming the old beliefs. Some of these facts may be picked up from those advertised a long time ago but are made fresh by new artistic skill in brilliant colourings, and the impression of the people is re-quickened. One can, therefore, well imagine what it really means to the Oriental people to convince the world that it has totally misunderstood them.

Take, for instance, the belief that the Orientals are of very low morals. This belief has become so deeply ingrained in the mind of some foreigners that it is clearly discernible in all their dealings with the Orient. We may mention in this connection the view of one of the world's most widely read European poet Rudyard Kipling as typical. Referring to the Oriental people to the East of the Suez this honourable poet very impressively said that "there ain't no Ten Commandments." The motive of excluding the regions west of Suez from his pious attack is that these Ten Commandments are said to have originated somewhere on that side and he could not conscientiously attack the people of that sacred part of the Orient. The Ten Commandments, whether Mr. Kipling knows it or not, have never been unknown and unpractised in the land of the Buddha and Confucius, but they have been more in the form of principles than commandments. The Orient people are by tradition not so used to commandments. A commandment, no matter from

where it comes, has an autocratic significance—something imposed from outside, and is necessary only where people are morally crude and incapable of self-discipline. Mr. Kipling is, of course both effect and a cause. He was certainly not in all the countries he hits, but his sweeping statement is the result of his false education. As he has become very distinguished, although probably because of the nourishment derived from the same land of immorality, his statement has a great influence upon his readers. How can the world disbelieve a man whose literary craftsmanship has won him a Nobel prize? The Orientals naturally find it most difficult to convince the world otherwise. They know it is false and regret that a man like Mr. Kipling should say it. The only way they can consider him as not a liar is that "there ain't no Ten Commandments" for him and for other men of his type when they are east of Suez or speak of things east of Suez. The Orientals know it very well that there are foreign people who come to live among them without ever feeling the necessity of observing what they call their Ten Commandments. If Mr. Kipling means any thing by his statement it is that he is one of these foreigners.

The same may be true of the other beliefs. It is said that the Orientals are superstitious. Of course, in a sense all people are more or less superstitious. But to specify, the Orientals, especially the Indians and the Chinese in general, as very superstitious,—people who have given the world some of the profoundest types of philosophy, studying freely, persistently, and deeply all the rich varieties of cosmic mysteries and social problems, people who still cultivate such studies with unflinching enthusiasm,—is most ungenerous, puerile and ridiculous.

The Orientals are said to be cruel. But the facts of history do not seem to support it. They are not the descendants of the Vikings or Buccaneers. They have never sought to immortalise any bloody conquerors, tyrants or marauders. Their tradition has not been desecrated by holy crusades and inquisitions. They have never sought to exterminate smaller and weaker races. On the other hand, they proudly trace their descent from saints and wise men. They have uncompromisingly sought to discard violence in thought, speech and action. They have sincerely acknowledged other people's right to believe and worship in their own way. They have always discountenanced oppressing smaller tribes and that is why these are still so plentiful in the Orient. Why, they have shown the world by cultivating good feelings even the fiercest denizens of the forest could be made to forget their cruel habits.

(To Be Continued.)

Social And Personal

Mr. F. D. Hugo (Superintendent of Education of Natal) has recovered sufficiently to leave Grey's Hospital, Maritzburg, and return to his home.

A fund has been formed by the Ex-Students' Committee of the Natal Technical College, Durban, to promote a scholarship or bursary in commemoration of Mr. B. M. Narbeth, ex-principal of the College, who retired at the end of last year.

S. A. P. and Fusion

The Parting Of The Ways

The Union Congress of the South African Party met last week at Bloemfontein and this is how Col. Stallard parted company:

Dealing with the constitutional question, General Smuts said:

"We accept the King of Great Britain according to the laws of South Africa. We accept the King as the symbol of unity in our great group and our common allegiance to him we accept as the great tie which binds us all together in this group. If ever we are to have organised struggles and movements in this country for secession it will mean other parties and will not be in the new party."

Colonel Stallard, M.P., then rose to express, once more, his feelings against fusion. In conclusion, he said:

"You are pulling up your anchors and starting your ship on an uncharted sea. You have torpedoed the ship of the South African Party and you are going over to another ship, another commander, a new organisation and a new environment. In it I

can find no place for myself, and while we are making preparations here and now to leave the South African Party and join a new party I claim that I am still upholding the principles of the South African Party, for I hold myself free and; indeed, conceive it my duty, to see what organisation we shall have to set up if this congress is so ill-advised as to accept the terms of fusion." Mr. Marwick expressed relief at having parted from all the pre-meditated insincerity and humbug that belonged to fusion under the published terms. He was now able to stand forth and speak freely on behalf of those who had sent him to Parliament without feeling that the Party Caucus or discipline might be employed to silence or over-ride his criticism.

The fusion motion was then put to the Congress and carried by an overwhelming majority, only eight delegates, including Colonel Stallard and Mr. Stuart, voting in the minority. Following the announcement of the Congress, Colonel Stallard said that in view of the "fatal decision" taken he had no alternative but to leave the Congress. He did so, however, with the hope that there would be no bitterness or ill-feeling on either side.

SOUTH AFRICA

NEWS IN BRIEF

Immoral and Suggestive Films

"As soon as I hear from the Central Committee of Catholic Action in Johannesburg, I shall start a campaign in Durban against immoral and suggestive films," the Bishop H. Dellate, Vicar Apostolic for Natal of the Roman Catholic Church, is reported to have said, "it is evident that most films shown have an awful effect on young people and children, and still a worse effect on the native, Indian and coloured population. No wonder we frequently hear of attacks on white girls being made by natives and coloureds, I think it absolutely necessary that not only Catholics but all people with any sense of decency should join in the movement."

Bharatha Women's Association (Greyville)

At a meeting of women held on Sunday, August 18, at the Gandhi Senthamil, May Street, Durban, under the chairmanship of Mr. Bharathasarthi Pather the formation of a body known as the Bharatha Women's Association took place. The object of the association, we understand, is to work together with the present Indian Women's Association for the future advancement of the Hindu women. The following were elected officials for the current year:—Patrons: Mrs. S. B. Pather, Mrs. R. B. Chetty, Mrs. K. K. Pillay, Mrs. V. Naidoo, Mrs. Ellanah; Chairwoman: Mrs. V. V. Pillay, Vice-chairwoman: Mrs. R. K. Naidoo, Joint hon. treasurers: Miss Atheelutchmee Alfred and Miss Salachee, Joint hon. secretaries: V. R. Nair and Mrs. G. S. Naidoo. An appeal is made to those who have so far failed to join as members to do so now. Mr. K. N. Pillay who took an active part in aiding the women to make this occasion a success was thanked by the chair.

New Indian Aided School At Inanda

The Wyld Memorial School which is named after Mr. Wyld who has been conducting the school for Indians at Inanda for some time has been allowed a grant in aid as from August 1,

New Leave Regulations for Teachers

Alterations to the Teachers Leave Regulations have been approved by the Administrator-in-Executive Committee of Natal, and are set out in the latest issue of the Natal Provincial Gazette. The new regulations state that no period of leave without pay in excess of 14 days shall count as service for leave under these regulations, and that a teacher who has been granted sick leave on half-pay, or without pay or accouchement leave, and who has the necessary long leave credit, may elect to substitute long leave in lieu of the sick leave granted.

Licensing of Builders

The plea, recently put forward to the Town Council by members of the Master Builders' Association, for compulsory licensing of all builders is strongly opposed by the Natal Indian Congress. Writing to the Town Clerk, the Congress secretaries state: "Our Congress is strongly of the opinion that if this request was acceded to it would create a distinct hardship on the smaller builder and indirectly the small property owner. It is of the opinion that as all work is conducted under the examination of expert building inspectors, sanitary and borough engineers, there would appear to be no necessity for such an action." The matter has been referred to the responsible committee.

Durban Hindu Temple

The annual meeting of the Durban Hindu Temple was held on Aug. 19. The report stated that the Sastri College annual bursary for poor and deserving

students who desired to continue higher studies had been increased from £9 to £12. The Temple's activities included a series of lectures on Hindū philosophy and religion by G. L. Sinha, B.A., of the Sastri College, arranged by the committee. Great interest was evinced by the public. The committee, which experienced considerable difficulty in collecting funds to meet the Temple's obligations to the Durban Corporation, sought relief from the Town Council, and as a result of protracted negotiations succeeded in having the land put up for public auction again with a stipulation that it be used for religious, educational and or benevolent purposes. The Temple purchased the property for the small sum of £200. With the appointment of the new priest, Mr. K. M. Maharaj, the report stated there had been inaugurated a Hindi School, with about 30 students, all of whom were making satisfactory progress. The report appealed to parents to send their children to this school, which charged no fee.

Swimming Bath for Indians

A plea for the provision of an open-air swimming bath for the Indian community has been made to the Town Council by the Indian Sports Grounds Association. The Association suggests that the bath be sited within the Indian sports grounds, which "are centrally situated, and convenient not only to Indians in general but to thousands of school children, of whom a large number attend schools in the locality. The Association asks that its application be linked to the Town Council's scheme for providing the Borough with a chain of district swimming baths.

Tongaat Indian School Old Boys' Club

A number of ex-pupils of the Tongaat Indian Boys' School assembled in the school hall last Saturday. The convenor of the meeting, Mr. R. Sancho, explained briefly the necessity of forming a club of the old boys of the school, with the object of promoting sports, hold lectures and debates, and fostering a spirit of friendliness among its members. After discussion it was unanimously agreed, and the club, with its name as the Tongaat Indian School Old Boys' Club was formed. The officials elected are as follows:—Patron: E. J. Choonoo, President: R. Sancho, Vice-Presidents: V. P. Desai, V. S. Naidoo, M. P. Naidoo, hon. sec.: R. R. C. Naidoo, hon. treas.: R. Timol; Committee members: R. Rajoo, C. R. Naidoo, N. Roopeal, R. Bedesi, Parmanand, R. S. Luken, Sullman Ismail, B. Moonsamy, Bobby Naidoo.

Only European Labour

The Administrator officially opened the Avis dam built in Windhoek in the presence of a representative gathering. He congratulated the Municipality on their initiative in securing the construction of such a splendid dam which would supply an adequate supply of water for the town as it holds 1,000,000,000 gallons of water or three years' full supply for the town. Only European labour was used on the construction of the dam, which was built at a cost of £100,000.

Conference on Poor White Problem

According to *Die Burger*, the conference to consider the poor white question, which will be held in Kimberley from October 2 to 5, will be attended by three Ministers and perhaps also by the Prime Minister. The great majority of those invited to attend the conference have accepted. Among the Ministers who will address the conference will be Messrs. O. Pirow, A. P. J. Fourie and Mr. J. H. Hofmeyr. Dr. D. F. Malan will also be present.

Honour for Sir Herbert Baker

Warm tributes were paid to the work of Sir Herbert Baker at a special graduation ceremony of the Witwatersrand University when the honorary degree of doctor of laws was conferred on him. Mr. H. J. Hofmeyr, Vice-Chancellor, presided. Mr. J. H. Hofmeyr, Minister of Education, paid a tribute to Sir Herbert Baker for his work in reviving the tradition of beauty in our architecture. Mr. H. R. Raikes, principal of the university, referred to the outstanding creations of Sir Herbert Baker in England and overseas.

Dannhauser Arya Samaj

The annual general meeting of the Dannhauser Arya Samaj was held at Mr. R. Patak's home last Saturday when the following officials were elected for the ensuing year: Patron: Swami Bhawani Dayal, President: R. Patak, Vice-Presidents: Raja Ram and Ramcharan Singh, Joint hon. secretaries and treasurers: A. Anthony and S. Bhawani, Committee: Messrs. Chubraj, P. D. Moodley, K. Nanjee, D. R. Mistry and B. O. Chetty. At the close of the usual business Mr. R. Patak, the president, spoke at length about the activities of the Arya Samaj since its inception in Dannhauser. He appealed for better co-operation. Among other speakers were Messrs. D. R. Mistry, S. Bhawani and Raja Ram.

Col. Denys Reitz on the Status Act

Colonel Denys Reitz who recently went from the Union to Rhodesia to open the Salisbury show, in the course of his speech explained to an interested audience the beneficial results of the Union Government's action in passing the Status Act and the Union's relationship to the British Empire. "When we passed the Status Bill," said Col. Reitz, "what we were doing was not trying to weaken but to strengthen the links with the Empire. It will not hang together by man-made laws. It will only survive on condition that it continues to possess the goodwill of the people in the various dominions. If ever Great Britain, or the Empire, is in danger the Union will not take counsel's opinion or pass Acts of Parliament, but will act according to the temper and spirit of the people. South Africa will remain with the Empire as long as any of its constituent parts, and that will be well-nigh for ever. I think I can give that assurance. You need labour under no anxiety with regard to the position of South Africa in the great Commonwealth of Nations. We shall remain in it as long as you will.

South Africa to Pay War Debts

Router's representative learns that South Africa will pay off the whole of the remainder of its war debt to Great Britain, amounting to almost £8,000,000 at the end of this month.

Pandit Jaimini's Departure

We are informed that Pandit Mehta Jaimini will sail not on September 3, by the *Kenys* as reported in our last week's issue but on September 13 by the *Inchanga* for Rangoon. Any one or any Society wishing to see Panditji are requested to communicate with the secretary of the Hindu Maha Sabha or with Panditji direct c/o The Castle, Mayville.

Pretoria Tamil Young Men's Association

The annual General Meeting of the above Society took place in the Tamil School, Pretoria, recently. The financial report was duly submitted by the Treasurer and approved. The annual report reflected some good work done by the Association in the past, and a report in connection with the recent

opening of the Cassim Adam Ward for Indians in the General Hospital, showed that £100 was realised from the Hospital Bazaar Function and Entertainment which amount was given to furnish the Ward with equipments. The President, Mr. G. Krishnan and both the Joint Secretaries, G. Moothoo and M. Nadesan were thanked for their success in their undertakings in organising the Hospital Bazaar, which was the first of its kind in Transvaal. The President, Joint Secretaries and the Treasurer, Mr. S. Arumugam were congratulated and thanked by the Association for their untiring services. The following were elected office bearers for the ensuing year: President: Mr. V.A. Soobiah, Vice Presidents: Messrs V. Govindasamy, S. Aroomugam, Joint Secretaries: A. Somasundram, N. Govindasamy; Joint Treasurers: P. Vella, M. Veeramuthu; Record Clerk R. Vartharaj.

INDIA

NEWS IN BRIEF

Release of Abdul Gaffer Khan

Abdul Gaffer Khan, the leader of the frontier people and his brother have been released from gaol on condition that they do not cross the frontier of the Punjab Provinces. There was a great agitation in India in favour of his release.

European Couple Blessed By Gandhiji

Among Mahatma Gandhi's visitors during his visit to Lahore were a newly married European couple, who had come to take his blessings on their wedding day. Their turn came just after Mahatma Gandhi had finished his talk to the journalists. Gandhiji gave them a few words of advice and wished them all happiness in their married life. Gandhiji also asked them to inculcate sympathy for the Harijans among the Europeans and at their request autographed on the back of their marriage certificate.

How Ma Bap Hates "Gandhi"

Says the *Amrita Bazar Patrika*.—We have heard of officials in this country going mad over Gandhi caps or over the slogan "Mahatma Gandhi ki Jai." Here is the story of a first class magistrate in the Madras Presidency, mind you an Indian officer, who would rail anybody bearing the name of 'Gandhi.' Now, a school-boy who had the surname of 'Gandhi' given to him by his father saw the officer referred to above in order to obtain from him a certificate for the fee-concession for which he had applied. 'Who baptised you in that name?' asked the magistrate. 'My father' was the pupil's reply. 'Why did your father name you Gandhi? Is your father a Congressman?' To these questions of the magistrate the boy gave no answer. Then goes the fiat: 'No fee concessions will be granted to Gandhi. You had better go to Gandhi himself.' The father of the boy heard all about it and interviewed the magistrate but the latter was adamant. He would not move an inch from the decision he had taken.

Professor's Tribute

Prof. Abdul Majid Khan, a Member of the Working Committee of the Unity League, Lahore, and the Working Committee of the Anti-Communal League, Lahore, pays the following high tribute to Mahatma Gandhi: "That India shall have a new birth and that freedom and righteousness shall not

perish from the earth, God sent Mahatmaji, an angel of light, almost perfect pattern of purity and innocence. Blessed are those who have eyes and have witnessed the glory of the coming of Mahatma; for he has successfully demonstrated to the world the marvels and mysteries of love and service, lest sinful and suffering humanity should grope in darkness, and freeze in chill. The annals of mankind will ever shine with the unique non-violent socio-political revolution brought about by him in the shortest possible time in India and his amazing spiritual feats will serve as perennial beacon-lights, for the future way farers in the path of truth.

Woman Reaches 24,605 Feet in Himalayas

A new mountaineering record for women has been established by the wife of the German, Professor Dyhrenfurth, leader of the International Himalayan Expedition. Accompanied by her husband, Frau Dyhrenfurth reached the height of 24,605 feet on Queen Mary Peak, in the Karakoraks.

Muslims Welcome Congress Decision

Satisfaction at the resolution passed at Bombay by the Congress Working Committee on the communal Award was expressed at a meeting of the Working Committee of the All-India Muslim Unity Board held under the presidentship of Nawab Mohd Ismailkhan. Among those present were Maulana Qutubuddin Firangimahall, Maulana Shaukat Ali and Tassaduq-Ahmed Khan Sherwani. The meeting appreciated the Nationalistic attitude adopted by the Congress Working Committee towards the communal question under the advice and guidance of Mahatma-Gandhi. The meeting welcomed the decision of the All-India Shia Political Conference to join forces with the Muslim Unity Board on the broad issues of Muslim politics and elected Raja Nawabalikhan and Mirza Abid Husain as the Conference's representative on the Boards Working Committee.

Jallianwala Bagh

To commemorate the sacrifice of those killed in the Jallianwala Bagh in 1919, the place had been acquired for the nation and is held in trust by Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya. The Congress circles in Amritsar have been pressed to build a suitable Hall

in Jallianwala Bagh for the purpose of holding meetings.

The suggestion was originally mooted by Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru in 1928, when a political conference was held there. It is understood that the matter will come before the Congress authorities.

Indian Fliers In London

Rest, study and no frivolous relaxation—such is the programme while in London of the four young Indians who accomplished the first instructional flight from India to England. The airmen, whose ages range from 18 to 23 are refusing all invitations. Apart from a little sight-seeing (this is their first visit to London) they are devoting their time to learning

everything possible about aviation with intervals of rest in preparation for the return flight. Provided no complications arise over the permits they will return via Turkey. A special instructor has been engaged to assist them with the studies and they are visiting factories for gaining knowledge in many types of aircraft which will be of great value when they become civil pilots in India.

Gigantic Dam in India

A million acres of land will be fertilised by the gigantic Mettur Dam, which was opened by the Governor, Sir George Stanley. The cubic content of the dam is 64,000,000 cubic feet. It embodies the largest single block of masonry in the world, and has a water fall 95ft. high over a width of 630ft.

THINGS IN GENERAL

What's In The Air?

Sir. Maurice Hankey Secretary of the Committee of Imperial Defence and of the Cabinet, has arrived at Cape Town from London on a confidential mission of the highest importance in connection with the defence of the Empire. He is to visit South Africa, Australia, New Zealand, and Canada, and discuss with experts on the spot vital matters of military, naval and aerial strategy. The utmost secrecy is being observed about the real object of the tour, which it is said, is ostensibly for the purpose of visiting Australia in connection with the Melbourne Centenary Celebrations.

"War Is In The Air"

"We must educate Italians to be military minded and even militaristic people," declared Signor Mussolini, addressing generals and foreign missions at the conclusion of army manoeuvres. Mussolini added: "Nations rise and fall as the result of force. Every Italian must respond as one when the call comes to war. No one in Europe wants war, but war is in the air and may break out at any moment."

Anglo-Irish Negotiations May Be Resumed

The Anphoblacht, the official organ of the extreme section of Irish Republicanism, states that President de Valera is considering a resumption of negotiations with England in which the latter's right to land annuities will be waived if a satisfactory settlement is reached to keep Ireland within the Empire. The paper adds that the majority of the Free State Cabinet favours a settlement on these lines, and intermediaries had made several journeys between Dublin and London.

International Tea Agreement

At the suggestion of the International Tea Committee, the Government of Kenya, Tanganyika Territory and Nyasaland have agreed to limit the area of new plantings of tea and to prohibit the export of tea seed during the currency of the tea control scheme adopted by the Governments of India, the Netherlands East Indies and Ceylon, which expires in 1938.

World Motor Census

Not counting the United States there are to-day 9,496,466 motor cars in operation against 8,991,206 in the previous year. In America in 1933 there were 23,771,854 cars. In South Africa there were 168,649 and in India 112,982.

S.A.'s Trade Relations With India

Mr. A. T. Brennan, Union Trade Commissioner who arrived in Simla last week had informal talks with members of commerce and industry. He will explore the possibilities of establishing closer trade relations between India and South Africa. He also met Government representatives in connection with emigration questions.

Decline In Birth-Rate—Counter-balanced By Increase In Marriages.

A Reuters message from Geneva states that the excess of births over deaths in Europe (excluding the U.S.S.R.) has in the last ten years fallen by nearly a million. The League of Nations statistics for 1933 and the first quarter of 1934 shows that in Europe, apart from Soviet Russia, births declined from 8,235,000 in 1932 to 7,920,000 last year. On the other hand, there was a striking decrease in infant mortality, and a world-wide increase in the number of marriages during 1933. This is taken as a sign of an all round bettering of world conditions. Herr Hitler's measures of the encouragement of marriage in Germany have resulted in an increase of 20 per cent. in the total for the year—630,826—as compared with 1932. This is the highest figure recorded for the last nine years.

Worlds Conference Of Jews

The Jewish World Congress has privately decided to convene the Jewish World Conference in August, 1935 and it will probably be held. The Conference will be organised on the lines of the League Assembly with elected representatives of Jews of all countries and with a Council Secretariat.

The Plight Of German Jews

The desperate plight of German Jews was stressed by Dr. Jacob Lestschinsky, addressing the worlds Jewish Conference at Geneva. He stated that, although the Nazi Government had declared that equal rights of the Jews would be maintained in the domain of free economy, large Jewish commercial firms had been compelled to hand over their businesses to National Socialists, while 20,000 Jewish employees had been dismissed in Germany within last few years. Sixty thousand Jews had emigrated from Germany in 1933, and a further 100,00 in the first six months of 1934, while the situation was growing steadily worse.

Portugese To Ban Jap Goods

The Portugese Colonial Minister has decided to take steps preventing the infiltration of Japanese goods into Portugese territories.

Women In Men's Clothes

The Congress of the Orange Free State Women's Agricultural Union sitting at Bloemfontein is attacking the condition of female public attire. A motion is being discussed calling on the Congress to express its great disapproval of the present habit among women of wearing men's clothing in public and to urge the Government stringently to enforce the laws in this connection and, if necessary, to enact further legislation prohibiting the wearing of men's clothing by women. "This has caused a stir among the men and women in Durban who while disapproving of the fair sex aping a man consider it a convenient attire for general work. A writer in the *Natal Advertiser* very pertinently remarks in this connection: But the point that intrigues one most in the discussions of the Orange Free State Women's Agricultural Union in Bloemfontein is not the subject of men's clothing worn by women, but the fact that a motion that the congress should express condemnation of the nudist club recently established in Johannesburg was unanimously dropped, with condemnation of its having been brought up in the congress." Can one ask why?

Obituary

The Late Mr. J. A. Lazarus.

The death occurred last week at Stanger of Mr. J. A. Lazarus. The late Lazarus was for over 20 years compounder at the Darnall Estate's hospitals. About 18 months ago he obtained a similar situation at the Amatukulu Leper Institution, which he retained until his death. He was 56 years of age and was trained as medical compounder by the Baptist Mission at Pittaror in India. He leaves a widow and four sons and two daughters, two of the sons are in India with their mother and sisters, one being B. A. in Madras, and the other having just Matriolated. The funeral took place at Stanger, and a large gathering assembled at the graveside, including prominent Europeans, Indians and others. The service at the graveside was conducted by Pastor Cooper, of the Full Gospel Church, Durban, assisted by Pastor Rowlands, the Rev. Mr. Fredolo and Pastor Flewelling.

M. K. Gandhi Library

and

Parsee Rustomjee Hall

Thirteenth Anniversary

The celebration of the thirteenth anniversary and the thirteenth annual general meeting of the M. K. Gandhi Library and Parsee Rnstormjee Hall will take place on Friday September 7, at 7-30 p.m. All are requested to attend.

O. H. A. JHAVERI,
Chairman.

B. M. PATEL,
Hon. Secretary.

Shri Krishna Jayanti

The annual celebration of the Shri Krishna Jayanti will take place on Saturday, September 1, at the Shri Gopal Lal Hindu Temple, Verulam. All Hindus are cordially invited to be present.

BABU TALWANTSINGH,
Chairman.

JUTHA JBEWA,
Vice Chairman.

RAGHAVJEE RUGNATH,
Hon. Secretary.

RAGHOONANDAN,
Hon. Treasurer.

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