

# INDIAN OPINION

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## NOTES AND NEWS

### Imperial Indian Citizenship Association on Colonisation

ELSEWHERE in this issue we publish a statement by the secretary of the Council of the Imperial Indian Citizenship Association, Mr. K. Natarajan, submitted to the Government of India on the report of the Union Government's Colonisation Inquiry Committee. The Council while noting with satisfaction the declaration made by Sir Faisal-Hussain in the Council of State recently, that the Government of India could not, owing to financial reasons, undertake any colonisation scheme of the kind suggested in the Committee's Report, the Council has submitted that, even apart from financial considerations there are insuperable objections to dumping down any section of the Indian population in a wild and derelict country which the North Borneo Charter Company, with its resources in men and money, has utterly failed to develop and will be glad to get off its hand. The Council has further called the attention of the Government of India to the illegality of the Australian Commonwealth Government in extending its White Australian Policy to the mandated territory of British New Guinea and have requested that the Indian delegation to the next session of the League of Nations Assembly may be instructed to bring this matter to the notice of the League. The Council has also protested against the assumption in the Colonisation Report, which was signed by Mr. S. R. Naidoo as the Congress representative on the Committee, that Indians should not under any circumstances look forward to have the same opportunities as other nations to emigrate, settle and carry on cultural and commercial intercourse in all parts of the world including those from which they are now kept out by the arbitrary and unjust action of certain Western powers. In conclusion the Council of the Imperial Indian Citizenship Association have recorded their emphatic opinion that the only honourable means of relieving Indian congestion in Natal is to abolish the barriers to their free movement in the different provinces of the Union and to allow Indians equal opportunities with the rest of the population to raise themselves in the economic, social and educational scale so as to become worthy citizens of the South African Union in which full 80% of them were born. The foregoing are the main features of the statement of the Council of the Imperial Indian Citizenship

Association on the Colonisation Inquiry Report and will, we have no doubt, receive the wholehearted support of all sections of the Indian community of the Union.

### Problem of Poor Whiteism

THE National Conference on the Poor White Problem was opened by the Minister of Labour, Mr. A. P. J. Fourie at Kimberly last Tuesday. Nearly 500 delegates from every part of the Union were present. "During the past 18 months," said Mr. Fourie in the course of his opening speech, "the Government had spent £20,000,000 in helping the farmers, in addition to £8,000,000 from Loan Account on public works, designed to relieve unemployment. The Government Protection policy aimed at increased employment for civilised labour, and all tenderers for Government contracts had to prove that they paid fair wages under proper conditions. By subsidies the Government was doing its best to encourage local authorities to employ more civilised labour. A total of nearly 40,000 civilised labourers were employed by the Government and the Railways." Mr. Fourie in conclusion said that the solution of the problem of Poor Whiteism was essential for four reasons—sentiments of simple humanity; the salvation of European civilisation in this country from destruction, a statement which he assured the conference was not an overstatement; the impossibility of expecting European immigration while 20 per cent. of the European population were in dire poverty; and the urgent need for increasing the consuming power of the European population.

While the Government is doing everything possible for the limitation of poor whiteism from the Union what concern, we would ask, is shown to the other sections of the population of the Union among whom unemployment is as serious if not more because they have no Government funds at their disposal. It would appear that the other sections will just have to mark time until the poor white problem is settled. There could be no more short sighted policy for any civilized Government to adopt

### Indian Teachers Conference

THE ninth annual conference of the Natal Indian Teachers' Society was opened in the Parsee Rustomjee Hall last Tuesday, Oct. 2; by Mr. Maurice Webb,

chairman of the Durban Library Group. Two hundred delegates from all parts of Natal were present and were welcomed by the Deputy Mayor, Councillor C. E. Langton, in the absence of the Mayor. Among the messages received by the conference was one from the Minister of Education, Mr. J. H. Hofmeyr, wishing the conference success and expressing his pleasure in noting that the Natal Provincial Council had found it possible to provide £10,000 for the expansion of Indian education.

"By banding themselves together in a Society the Indian teachers of Natal have given evidence of their sense of the importance of their profession," read the Minister's message. "As teachers they can make a very great contribution to the future welfare of their people. I hope that the conference will bring them great inspiration and encouragement in this task."

A fuller report of the conference will appear in our next week's issue.

#### President of Indian National Congress

BABU Rajendra Prasad, the prominent Congress leader of Bihar has been elected President of the forthcoming session of the Indian National Congress. Babu Rajendra Prasad is a seasoned soldier of the Congress and one who has renounced a very brilliant practice and embraced voluntary poverty for the cause of his country. Notwithstanding his delicate health he has gone through the rigorous of gaol life and on the present occasion from the moment he was released his time was taken up in relief work in the devastated areas as a result of the recent great earthquake. Indians in South Africa heartily join their brethren in India in congratulating Babu Rajendra Prasad for the very deserving honour the country has chosen to confer upon him.

## Indian Opinion

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 5TH, 1934.

### THE KUNWARANI ON INDIAN WOMEN

THE main target of those who want to run down India and her ideals is India's womanhood. We can well understand Westerners, who are too materialistic in their outlook of life, not being able to understand the Eastern philosophy but when an Easterner, and an Eastern woman at that, indulges to loose talk about her own philosophy and ideals is wholly unpardonable. It is enough that a Miss Mayo plays the role of a drain inspector in India but we would certainly not wish an Oriental intellectual, who is supposed to be an interpreter of the best in the East to the West to become a Miss Mayo.

The conditions of women in India may not be ideal at present and much may be, and indeed is, required to attain an ideal condition. But we refuse to admit that the present conditions represent the ideals of our womanhood which are in no way inferior to any in the world.

It is a matter of great regret not only to us, but to many of our readers, that Kunwarani Lady Maharaj Singh, who spoke the other day on Indian women in Durban, should so much misrepresent India's womanhood. Speaking of Sita, the Kunwarani said: "Indian womanhood in those days took famous women heroines of Indian history as examples of perfection, such as Sita—whoop sweetness and self-sacrifice were almost too tender and heroic. Personally she felt that these heroines had caused such conditions as history had shown of misery and

the suppression of Indian women." It is absurd and blasphemous to say that the ideal of Sita has caused the misery of Indian women. Well, there are always two ideals before humanity—both men and women—namely, purity and impurity, selfishness and unselfishness, spirit of service and assertiveness, unbridled expression of lower emotions of men and women and self-restraint and transmutation of energy to higher idealism. Which should be the rule of life? India has always chosen the ideal and has thus coloured her social philosophy. To say that this choice of India is the cause of misery of Indian women is absurd on the very face of it. The cause of the degraded condition of Indian women to-day is due not to her devotion to the ideal of Sita but elsewhere in the aggressiveness of other people who without any sense of fundamental moral value of life, have been the cause of depriving India of her material resources and thus disturbed India's social philosophy which is based on high spiritual truth.

There are many other points in Kupwarani's speech which we would like to discuss. But neither space nor time will allow us to deal with the subject elaborately. We shall, however, deal as briefly as possible with some of the points raised by her namely,

- (1) Economic independence of women,
- (2) Joint family system,
- (3) Awakening of Indian women in India to-day is due to Christianity.

Now, is it very desirable that women should invade the economic field and thus add more hardship to the already depleted economic system of the world? We do not claim to be expert economists but from a common sense point of view we can say that this will only add to more unemployment, the

breaking up of modern economic system. It is better, as India says that women should rather concentrate on other spheres than economic. This can only be done if women develop an ideal of comradeship and fellowship with man, as Sita did with Shri Rama.

Coming to joint family system in regard to the second point, we would ask: is it not better to live jointly and amicably sharing the responsibilities and miseries and happiness together? Does not that add to real happiness? Or should everyone be for herself and himself? Individuality is not the last word of social philosophy. We have still to be convinced that joint family system is wrong fundamentally.

Next, the Kunwarani says the awakening of the Indian women to-day is due to Christianity. Well, we are not Christian theologians but we know the religion of Christ was a religion of renunciation, humility and service and to say that assertiveness, pugnacity, and claims of sex equality in every respect—of modern feminist movement is due to the teachings of Christ is, to say the least, to do great dishonour to the name of the Great Teacher. Does modern feminist movement in the West represent the true Christian spirit? We would ask the Kunwarani Sahiba: Had not India and has not the Kunwarani herself even to-day her own ideal of womanhood? There are many other points in Kunwarani's speech which we think misrepresent entirely the women of India. For example, the costume of a widow does not represent misery, on the contrary it is the symbol of the vow of purity, humility and service.

Let not the reader conclude from the foregoing observations we have been constrained to make that we are against educating our women. Our women need education but not on an ideal borrowed, imitated and superimposed. It must be in harmony with our best traditions. Nor do we say that our women should not do public service and help men towards our goal of freedom both in this country and in our Motherland. What we say is, Indian women should grow as Indian women and make real progress and not be misled by the erroneous idea of the West of false progress and false liberty which kill the very soul of both man and woman and which is decried even by eminent Western seers. Women of India—March on—follow the footsteps of Sita, Savitri, Durenpadi, Gargi, Abalya and Mira—and you will show to the world the best flowers of womanhood.

### Fountain Of Wisdom

"Affection cannot be manufactured or regulated by law. If one has no affection for a person or thing one should be free to give the fullest expression to his disaffection so long as he does not contemplate, promote or incite to violence.—MAHATMA GANDHI.

### THE THINGS WE'VE FORGOTTEN.

## Twenty Years Ago

EXTRACTS FROM "INDIAN OPINION,"  
MARCH 23, 1912.

**M**R. John X. Merriam at a meeting held in Capetown said:

I should recommend people—if I might give them a little advice—to have as little to do with Governments as possible, because, if you want to deaden public interest in any particular thing and take all the life out of the movement, start it with Government money.

States INDIAN OPINION:

When a community of people, proudly boasting of their heritage, belonging to a nation which occupies the highest position gained by its sterling qualities of what are so often styled "British Justice and fair-play," comes to the conclusion that it is necessary to form a "White League" to uphold its "predominance" over so called "inferior" races, surely, something must have gone wrong with it. . . . . But nothing in the world can stop the moral advancement of a people which is determined to go on.

### POET'S CORNER.

#### Myself

*This only grant me, that my means may lie  
Too low for envy, for contempt too high.*

*Some honour I would have,*

*Not from great deeds, but good alone,*

*The unknown are better than ill known.*

*Rumour, can open the grave;*

*Acquaintance I would have, but when it depends  
Not on the number, but the choice of friends.*

*Books should, not business, entertain the light,  
And sleep, as undisturbed as death, the night.*

*My house a cottage, more*

*Than palace, and should fitting be*

*For all my use, no luxury.*

*My garden painted o'er*

*With Nature's hand, not Art's; and pleasures yield,  
Horace might envy in his Sabine field.*

*Thus would I double my life's fading space,*

*For he that runs it well twice runs his race.*

*And in this true delight,*

*These unbought sports, this happy state,*

*I would not fear, nor wish my fate,*

*But boldly say each night,*

*To-morrow let my sun his beams display*

*Or in clouds hide them—I have lived to-day.*

—ABRAHAM COWLEY.

## IMPERIAL INDIAN CITIZENSHIP ASSOCIATION

### ON COLONISATION INQUIRY COMMITTEE REPORT

**T**HE Council of the Imperial Indian Citizenship Association have conveyed to the Government of India their views on the report of the Indian Colonization Enquiry Committee appointed by the Government of the Union of South Africa, in a letter addressed to the Secretary, Government of India, Department of Education, Health and Lands.

The terms of reference to the Committee were, "To undertake a preliminary investigation in South Africa, in connection with the proposals set forth in paragraph 3 of the Agreement arrived at by the 1932 Round Table Conference for the exploration of the possibilities of a colonization scheme for settling Indians, both from India and from South Africa, in other countries; and to report as to the country or countries in which further investigation as to the successful operation of such a scheme might advantageously be made, having regard to the political, climatic and economic conditions in such country or countries, and the extent to which Indians in the Union would participate therein."

The idea underlying the investigation of reducing the Indian population of South Africa by a scheme of assisted emigration to *other countries* than India, when it first appeared in the Capetown Agreement of 1927, met with an emphatic protest from Mahatma Gandhi whose opinion on South African questions is entitled to great weight. Nevertheless the Capetown-Conference of 1932 recommended that the possibilities of a Colonization scheme for settling Indians both from India and from South Africa in other countries, should be explored and that the Government of India should co-operate in doing so. Accordingly, the present Committee was appointed by the Union Government of South Africa with the above terms of reference.

There was strong opposition from a considerable section of South African Indians to the very idea of expatriation to other lands. They broke away from the South African Indian Congress which had agreed to co-operate with the Committee, and formed another organization of their own to oppose any Colonization scheme. The South African Indian Congress was represented on the Committee by a respected Indian citizen, Mr. S. R. Naidu, who has signed its Report.

The Council of the Association regret the delay in submitting their views but the delay has been of great advantage as the Council have now before them the statements made by the Hon'ble Sir Fazl-i-Husain in the Council of State in reply to two motions relating to the Committee's recommendations. The Council note with satisfaction that the Government of India regard a scheme intended to confine Indian emigration to a part of the world which no other country cares to colonize, as tantamount to the segregation of Indians; to use the

felicitous words of Sir Fazl-i-Husain, in a Harijan Colony. They also note with equal satisfaction the Hon'ble Member's declaration, in speaking on Mr. P. N. Saprú's resolution, that the Government of India could not, owing to financial reasons, undertake any colonization scheme of the kind suggested in the Committee's Report. But the Council of the Association respectfully submit that even apart from financial considerations there are insuperable objections to dumping down any section of the Indian population in a wild and derelict country which the North British Borneo Charter Company, with its rescues in men and money, has utterly failed to develop and will be glad to get off its hands.

The Colonization Committee itself admits that the other two possible areas of Colonization, namely, British Guiana and New Guinea, are not available for various reasons. While on this point, the Council wish to call the attention of the Government of India to the illegality of the action of the Australian Commonwealth Government in extending its White Australian policy to the mandated territory of British New Guinea. The Council request that the Indian delegation to the next session of the League of Nations Assembly may be instructed to bring this matter to the notice of the League. The Council also protest against the assumption in the Colonization Report that Indians should not under any circumstances look forward to have the same opportunities as other nations to emigrate, settle and carry on cultural and commercial intercourse in all parts of the world including those from which they are now kept out by the arbitrary and unjust action of certain Western powers. The Council in conclusion wish to place on record their emphatic opinion that the only honourable means of relieving Indian congestion in Natal is to abolish the barriers to their free movement in the different provinces of the Union and to allow Indians equal opportunities with the rest of the population to raise themselves in the economic, social and educational scale so as to become worthy citizens of the South African Union in which full 80 per cent of them were born. The undertaking given in the Cape Agreement of 1927 to treat the Indian population as integral part of the South African Union and to assist them to advance to the level of the white population, should be carried out. The Council of the Association respectfully suggest that the Government of India should take every opportunity of bringing home to the Union Government, their plain duty to do so.

The Council of the Imperial Indian Citizenship Association gladly endorse the statement of the Hon'ble Sir Fazl-i-Husain in the Council of State that there is no difference of opinion between the Government and the people of India on this question. The Council further submit that any further

investigations into the possibility of Indian Colonization will be a waste of time and money in view of the consensus of opinion against it in this country and in South Africa.

## Great Town Hall Reception

In Honour of  
Maulana Mahommed Abdul Aleem

**M**AULANA Mohammed Abdul Aleem who arrived in Natal from the East last week was accorded a great welcome in the Durban Town Hall on Monday night under the auspices of the newly formed Moslem Youth League.

A party numbering about 90 of the Malay Boys' Brigade and Malay Girl Guides were summoned specially to Durban from Johannesburg in honour of the Maulana.

There was a large gathering present at the Town Hall representing every section of the community including a few Europeans.

In the unavoidable absence of the chairman Mr. E. M. Paruk, Mr. C. Anglia delivered the presidential speech welcoming the Maulana who was subsequently garlanded by Molvi Abdul Careem and a bouquet was presented to his secretary.

A member of every faith was then called upon to speak. Mr. V. Lawrence speaking on behalf of the Christians, Mr. B. M. Patel on behalf of the Gujarati Hindus, Mr. V. S. O. Pather on behalf of the Tamil Hindus, and Messrs. Satya Dev and Suchitt Maharaj and Leo Gopaul on behalf of the Hindustani section, welcomed the Maulana and wished him every success in his mission. Speeches were then made by prominent Moslems and Malays. The Maulana on rising to reply was greeted with vociferous cheers.

The Maulana explained at the outset that he had devoted all his life to the service of humanity. He had left behind him all worldly possessions and set out to give service as set out in the Islam faith. It was the oldest, preaching the fundamentals underlying all religions.

The Koran was a combination of all the divine books and of all the different messages brought by all the apostles and prophets of God.

After having dwelt on the greatness of Islam the Maulana referred to the racial discrimination by Europeans against Indians and said that to earn the respect of the European community Indians must raise their educational and moral standard. If Indians fitted themselves by their high moral character to be respected no one could deny it to them. They who have before them the ideal of Jesus Christ who was not white but coloured, will one day recognise them as children of the same God.

In conclusion the Maulana expressed his thanks for the great number of welcome messages he had already received and was still receiving and for the great welcome accorded him that evening.

The enthusiastic meeting terminated with prayers at 10-30 p.m.

## Original Correspondence

To The Editor, INDIAN OPINION.

### Mr. P. R. Pather's Report

Sir,—In fairness to myself I wish you to publish the following in connection with your report about the meeting in Johannesburg convened by the Tamil Benefit Society. There is a slight discrepancy in your report.

As it is stated I came late to the meeting and found pandemonium ruling supreme. During that period somebody sent for the police. *I did not seek police assistance; neither did I send for the police.* After closing the meeting I left the hall and was in the street on my way home. The solitary policeman arrived and questioned those who were leaving the hall as to who telephoned for the police. I pleaded ignorance. He asked us for information. As secretary I told him that the meeting was convened by the Tamil Benefit Society and because of the rowdy element he declared the meeting closed. The policeman suggested that I should go upstairs with him. There was a large number of Tamilians in the street who desired to go upstairs. The policeman and I prevented the crowd accompanying us for we feared a clash. The crowd obeyed implicitly and the policeman and I went upstairs and spoke to Mr. Nana, the secretary of the Congress. The crowd in the hall began shouting at the top of their voices. The policeman got afraid and bolted. I was left alone. The hooligan type in the meeting carried on their "manly duty" of assaulting me. They were all over me, but I thank God that He gave me sufficient courage not to hit back a single individual but to have borne my Cross meekly and humbly.

The policeman who left the hall went to Marshall Square and brought about a dozen more. They demanded I should charge the leader but I stoutly refused to do so. I know most of those who assaulted me. I went home a joyful man for I was able to control the brute in me and when I said my prayers that night, I said with a peaceful and joyful heart: "Father forgive them for they know not what they do." The police did not rescue me but friends did. I was in the street when more police arrived.

BERNARD L. E. SIGAMONEY.

[Note:—Irrelevant passages from the above have been deleted.—Ed. I.O.]

### Mr. S. M. Nana's Denial

In the course of a letter Mr. S. M. Nana emphatically denies the charge laid against him, in Mr. P. R. Pather's report of the meeting of the Tamil Benefit Society, of using the words "Kolohas" and "Coolies." This is the gist of his letter which we have not published owing to other irrelevant matters contained therein.—Ed. I.O.

### Manor Gardens Hindu Association A HUMANITARIAN CAUSE

Sir,—The Gyaan Prachaar Natak Mandal, a dramatic branch of the above Association will be presenting "Poonmashi" in Garib Parivar of Depressed Family, on Saturday October 6, at the Victoria Picture Palace, commencing immediately after the Bio.

Almost all the reserve tickets have been sold out. A packed house is anticipated.

One cannot leave unnoticed the very good work this association is doing. An Indian school in Manor Gardens to impart both vernacular and English education is the fruit of the previous efforts of this institution mainly through dramas. What good and noble work this association has been and is doing could be seen from the fact that as an outcome of the last drama staged it was able to subscribe the sum of £61 towards the Bihar Earthquake Fund. This week's play which is the result of many months strenuous preparation is for the sole purpose of an extension to the present school building. Will the public kindly give its generous support to this deserving cause?

OBSERVER.

### Mahatma Gandhi Recalls Trappist Monastery

#### Harijan Workers Like Trappist Monks Advice to Harijan Seva Sangha

The following advice was given by Mahatma Gandhi recently to Harijan workers:

**I BELIEVE** in the ideal of life-service. I want servants whose sole ambition is to devote themselves body, mind and soul to the Harijan cause. If we had ten thousand of such workers—I make bold to say, even if we had a thousand—we should have startling results. I would welcome a training institution for such workers. In Pinetown near Durban in South Africa there is a Trappist Monastery. The rigour observed at this time, now more than thirty years ago when I visited the place, was very great. They had nothing like privacy for themselves; they had one long hall in which they stretched themselves; they had to get up at 2-30 a.m.; they had purely vegetarian food; they strictly observed the vow of silence. Only two or three, who had to go to the market or to speak to visitors, could speak. All others had to work in silence. They were giving instruction to the Zulus. Their prodelytisation consisted in working among the Zulus and giving them the best of their life. They were workers for life. They were all learned Sannyasins. They added to their learning a calling. They were carpenters, smiths, potters, shoe-makers. They made all sorts of experiments. Their monastery was a model of beauty, a veritable garden, with not a particle of dust anywhere and there was a sweet silence pervading the whole atmosphere. Zulu students were taken as raw youths, and discharged as accomplished artisans. My idea is to have a training institution of this type. If anything I would do better. But we are to-day fallen from grace. We used to have this rigorous discipline in

our country, but we have not progressed, while they have progressed. They have made researches and increased their heritage. If we can make anything like an approach to them I should be satisfied. If we can get even five persons who are prepared to forget father, mother and children, and to devote themselves to Harijan service, I would have them. They would form the nucleus.

### A German Journalist Coming from Mahatma Gandhi Deeply Impressed

**HERR** Kurt Butow, a young German journalist from South West Africa, arrived in Durban last week from India, where he accompanied Mahatma Gandhi on his recent all-India Harijan tour of six months.

Herr Butow has brought with him a number of snaps he has taken of Mahatma Gandhi during his tour and is very much struck by Mahatma Gandhi's great personality, his hold on the masses, his simplicity and his self-sacrifice in the cause of the freedom of India.

"Mahatma Gandhi," he said to a representative of the *Natal Mercury*, "is not by nature an enemy, but a co-worker and it is nothing short of a tragedy for India that he and the Government still find themselves in opposition."

Herr Butow calculates that Mahatma Gandhi must have addressed something like 200,000,000 people and collected over 800,000 rupees during the Harijan tour which commenced on Nov. 7, and lasted until Aug. 1, of this year. The money is to be devoted to sinking wells, village reconstruction and general social uplift among the depressed classes.

"As to what Mahatma Gandhi himself will do next," said Herr Butow, "that is not easy to predict. He has sent his followers to do village reconstruction work, and he may do the same, probably in Bengal. If he does go to Bengal, he is likely to institute a spiritual campaign against terrorism, to which he is heart and soul opposed.

Even apart from his association with Mahatma Gandhi, Herr Butow found his trip to India one of absorbing interest. He had had first hand experience of the great earthquake in North Bihar last January, a catastrophe which he describes as even more terrible than that which befell Japan in 1923. More than 15,000 people were killed, towns and villages destroyed, crops ruined and roads and railways obliterated.

Herr Butow left on Wednesday for South West Africa where he will spend a few weeks with his parents at Rehoboth and then proceed to Germany to publish a book on his Indian experiences. Later on he hopes to return to the East.

## Indian Girl Guides in Bulawayo

(From A Correspondent)

The Indian Girl Guides of the Baroda Arya Kanya Vidyalaya arrived here on September 13, being accompanied by Mr. P. B. Singh and Mr. and Mrs. Kapitan. On their arrival here on Wednesday at 7-30 a.m. they were greeted by a large number of prominent Indians of Bulawayo, among whom were Mr. Vashee (chairman of the British Indian Association), Mr. V. B. Nagrani (secretary), Messrs. V. N. Das, M. V. Naik, P. Vaghmaria, J. Rampotal, Rava Bros., Ramabhai and Parshotam Bros. The District Commissioner of the Girl Guides, (Mrs. Livingstone) was also present to meet them. From the railway station they were driven to the residence of Mr. K. K. Vashee where their boarding and lodging was arranged. In the afternoon they were given a welcome reception by the Arya Mitra Mandal at the Bulawayo Indian School.

On Thursday September 14th they were given a civic welcome at the Jewish Guild Hall where the Mayor, Councillor Harris, presided. There was a large attendance of both Europeans and Indians, among whom were Dr. Huggins, Prime Minister of S. Rhodesia, Major Brandell, Chief Immigration Officer, and Mrs. Brandell the Mayoress, Mr. Deane Simmons, Civil Commissioner, Major Gordon, Mr. Allen, Inspector of Schools, and other prominent Europeans of Bulawayo.

The Mayor in his opening speech stated that it was an honour to preside over such a function.

He thanked the Indian community for same and welcomed the Girl Guides to Bulawayo. The Mayor was then garlanded by one of the girls who did so by severing the thread from which the garland hung, with a crossbow.

Hon. Huggins then spoke and welcomed the Girl Guides to S. Rhodesia and paid a tribute to the Indians here saying that they formed excellent citizens. Other speakers were Messrs. Vashee, P. B. Singh, Nagrani, Pundit Anandpriyaji and a few of the Girl Guides.

### Display at Princess Theatre

On Friday Sept. 15, the Girl Guides performed some wonderful feats of strength, self-defence and self-control at the Princess Theatre. There was a large crowd of both Indians and Europeans and the audience was really pleased with the evening's entertainment. The skill in the use of sword, dagger and lathi won the admiration of all.

On Saturday a free show was given to the Indian community at the Jewish Guild Hall where about a hundred pounds were collected by generous donations.

Sunday the 16th was spent on a trip to the Matopos, returning at about 1-30 p.m. After lunch the Indian women were addressed by the Girl Guides.

The party left for the Victoria Falls on Monday, Sept. 17, by the 12 p.m. train. They returned to Bulawayo on Wednesday the 19th and proceeded to Salisbury. After a short stay there, they returned on Monday and left in the afternoon for Capetown.

## SOUTH AFRICA

### New Licensing Officer

Mr. B. R. LAGERWALL has been appointed as Borough Licensing Officer. Mr. Lagerwall was formerly chief assistant to Col. G. M. J. Molyneux, who some months ago retired from the post of Licensing Officer. In making their recommendation councillors, it is learned, were guided by Mr. Lagerwall's long experience in the Licensing Department, his proved capacity and the fact that he has on several occasions acted as Licensing Officer in the absence of the former departmental head. The post carries a salary of £720/£900.

### Agent's New Secretary

Mr. O. F. WILLIAMS, the new secretary of the Agent of the Government of India, and Mrs. Williams arrived by the Indian mailboat Karanja last week. Before he left India Mr. Williams was deputy secretary to the Government of India in the Home Department. For many years he was Under Secretary to the Government of Madras.

### Frank Utterance On Public Health

Sir Edward Thornton, Secretary for Public Health, in his presidential address at the opening of the congress of the Medical Association of S. A. said:—

"As a nation our people do not yet understand the necessity of practising the rules of health, and I attribute this to defects in our educational system, which provides qualified teachers with little or no knowledge of the laws of health. The school curri-

cula do not allow sufficient time for health teaching. Hygiene is not as it should be—an examination subject. The result is that young men and women are leaving the schools ill-equipped to protect themselves from disease that is preventable." The future health of the nation depended far less upon housing or medical services than it did upon an educated people. Many doctors were to-day becoming seriously alarmed at the poor physique and poor resistance to disease of many children, but failed to realise that it might be partly due to legislative enactments, which, by artificially raising the price of primary products for the benefit of the few, were making the purchase of essential foodstuffs almost impossible in sufficient quantities by the poor. In this doctors had a duty to the State in voicing their opinions on economic questions likely to effect the health of the community.

### General Smuts Goes To London

General J. O. Smuts, Minister of Justice, left last week by air from the Rand Airport, Germiston, for England and Scotland to fulfil a long-standing promise to deliver an address at St. Andrew's University, Scotland.

### Baroda Girl Guides Thank's

Pandit Anandpriyaji, the manager of the Baroda Girl Guides, wishes to express his thanks for the rousing reception and generous help they received from the various institutions and individuals both

European and Indian and the European Press during their recent visit to the Transvaal.

### Union's Status

The political correspondent of the *Natal Mercury* quotes two significant statements made in the back-veld by the Prime Minister, General Hertzog, as the head of the Fusion Government, which would give some idea as to what in the minds of the Fusion Government the Union's status is to be. Here are the two statements:

(1) In reply to a questioner at a public meeting in Wepener, who desired to know whether South Africa would have the right to sell goods to any nation with whom Britain was at war, General Hertzog declared: "Yes, there is no doubt that we shall have the fullest right to do so."

(2) That South Africa was so free and independent that she could select the King of the Belgians as her King.

### Indian Girl Guides

We are informed that the Indian Girl Guides will arrive in Ladysmith on Saturday, October 13, and a public reception will be accorded to them in the Town Hall on Monday October 15. Their visit will be staged in the Town Hall on Tuesday October 16.

### Industrial Convention

The annual convention of the South African Federated Chambers of Industry will this year be held in Durban, and will open at the Marine Hotel on October 8. The convention will mainly consider certain questions which have a special importance to the manufacturing community, among which the following are outstanding:—

The operation of the Workmen's Compensation Act.  
The Government's European labour policy, having reference to particular aspects: (a) misuse of industrial legislation; (b) administration of the Department of Labour; (c) advisability of a conference between the Departments of Labour, Commerce, and Industries, and the Federated Chambers of Industry, for the establishment of Factories Licensing Board of reference of the Industrial Legislation Commission.  
Railway rates.

### Annamalai Physical Culture Club

The principle instructor of the above Club asks the officials and members of the club to communicate in regard to matters concerning the club with Mr. L. Kisten Moodley at 127, Railway Barracks, Sontson Road, Durban.

## INGS IN GENERAL

### Significance Of The Falficance of Mahatma

Explaining the deeper significance of Mahatma Gandhi's recent fast, Mr. Kalelkar said: "The great and immediate whole world is ailing and healthy check on the reformers. Various remedies are proving to be worse than the disease. War, class struggle and industrial revolution are becoming the order of the day. The ignorant man thinks that somehow he can direct the course of events by wading through violence. Gandhi and the many voice that repeats not merely through word but through continuous self-sacrifice the ancient words of the Prince of Peace, Lord Buddha, that violence can never overcome violence. Only non-enmity will overcome hatred and enmity. The great religions of the world have all been tainted with evil by short-sightedness and lack of faith of generations. The religions have therefore to be purged of all these irreligious accretions. Our methods therefore must be highly religious. A religion that prevades all religions has to be revived. That can be done only by truth and non-violence. Well did the poet say:

"So many sects, so many creeds  
So many faiths that wind and wind  
But just the heart of being kind  
Is all the sad world needs."

This art of being-kind demands daily sacrifice of oneself. It is not mere goody-goody pious sentiment.

### While Congress Lives Slavery Dies

"If you would give an adequate answer, a silencing answer to those who say, whether at home or abroad, that the Indian National Congress is dead you will return, through the polls, the living representatives of the immortal Congress and so silence once and for ever the doubt of the doubter the lie of the liar and all those who are afraid that while the Congress lives, foreign dominations become more and more a dying thing day by day." In these stirring words, Mrs. Sarojini Naidu made her parting public appeal to the citizens of Madras assembled in huge numbers near the Andikeava Perumal temple, Chintadripet.

### Death Of Manmohandas Ramji

Death occurred of Sir Manmohandas Ramji, at the age 78, at his residence in Bombay. He had been ailing for the last three months but was mentally alert right till the end. Sir Manmohandas was the father of the Indian Merchants' Chamber and a pioneer of Indian Insurance. He started the Indian Mercantile Insurance Company, to cater for the insurance needs of cloth importers, over 25 years ago.

### Germany Cannot Be Starved

"Germany cannot be starved out by any enemy in the event of war," declared the Minister of Agriculture, speaking at a harvest thanks giving which was attended by 700,000 peasants. Herr Hitler foreshadowed the early introduction of a forced labour system organised to overcome class differences and create real national brotherhood.



**Flogging Natives**

Mrs. Selwyn a white woman in Nairobi was found guilty of manslaughter and sentenced to one year's imprisonment. Her five native servants were each sentenced to one month's imprisonment. Six natives were flogged by Mrs. Selwyn's servants under her direction one of whom subsequently died. Major Selwyn, a former Indian army officer, who suffered severely from war wounds, was also charged but died in a nursing home before the trial came on.

**Worst Wives Are American College Girls!**

"Girls' school and colleges provide the world's worst wives." This is the considered opinion of Dr. D. P. Wilson, the head of the Los Angeles Institute of Family Relations. "A college woman, when she becomes a wife," he told the Western Psychological Association, "makes more trouble than all the other classes of wives put together. A college woman is too ambitious, too full of ideals for any man to get on with." But there is one thing worse than a college girl as wife—and that is a girl who has been to a girl's school. She, Dr. Wilson asserts, "suffers from the spinsterial environment in which she has lived during impressionable years." But for those who have already married a college girl Dr. Wilson added a word of

advice: "Don't make the mistake of treating your wife as a pal," he concluded, "treat her as a woman."

**Reconstruction Work In Japan**

Japan is rapidly repairing the damage caused by the recent typhoon. Already 765 damaged factories have resumed operations, while 807 more will be open in a week's time. The remaining nine are expected to resume at the end of the month.

**Terrible Drought In Ceylon**

Ceylon is suffering from one of the most serious droughts in living memory. Coconuts, tea and rice cultivation has been seriously affected, and in the northern districts monkeys driven mad by thirst, are attacking humans. Deer are also invading the villages in search of water.

**Poland's New Decree**

By a new decree, Marshal Pilsudski has enrolled Poland's entire adult population in the army and has changed the country into a military training camp. The decree affects 10,000,000 men and women and enables the Cabinet to mobilise the force at any time. The conscription of the new force is Poland's reply to the German secret police, the Storm Troopers and the militarisation of the general public.

**HERE AND THERE IN SPORTS**

By CASUAL

**Soccer****Chakaskraal School F. C. vs. Fair Breeze School F. C.**

Some of the scholars of the Chakaskraal Indian School, accompanied by Mr. B. Bhagirathar, one of the teachers on the staff, travelled to Fair Breeze on Saturday afternoon September 29, when a game of soccer was played at the Fair Breeze Sports ground. In spite of the many ex-scholars who played for the Fair Breeze Club, in order to complete a team of eleven, the travelling team won by three goals to nil. The whistle was in the hands of Mr. O. M. Khan.

On Saturday last the Newcastle United F. C. met the Schools F. C. of Ladysmith in the Semi-Final Proper for the Gandhi's Memorial Natal Cup. Mr. S. Francis of Maritzburg officiated as referee. The game itself proved, what they may term a first class football, but both sides missed chances front of the goal. The visitors were one ahead when the interval arrived. On resuming the game was in a ding dong nature and in the last few minutes Ismail sent in the equaliser for the Schools. The visitors pressed making spasmodic moves but failed in front of the goal, and the local team were in the same rank as the visitors. When the final whistle blew there was no addition to the score. An extra half was played, still the score remained level. A further extra half was played, still there was no addition to the score. On the whole D. Kallideen, Jaokdeo, Rasool, and Ismail played a grand game for the schools. On the visitors side the goalie Ramkissoon played a game that promised him to be

of next Natal man. The Schools played with ten men in the closing stages of the game. The replay will take place at Ladysmith, according to the Natal Rules.

**Semi-Final**

In all probability the Semi-Final for the Natal Cup will take place at Ladysmith this week-end.

**Tennis****Siegetown Tennis Meeting**

The Annual General Meeting of the Siegetown Indian Tennis Club, was held on Sunday last and after transacting the usual business the following officials were elected: Patron: Mr. O. S. Asmal, President: Mr. S. Kallioharun, Vice-Presidents: Messrs. K. Khan and S. P. Hayes, Hon. Secretary and Treas: Mr. E. M. Moolia, Hon. Assistant Secretary: Mr. S. O. Mudaliar. Delegates to Northern Natal Indian Tennis Union: Messrs. M. I. Seedat and Percy Frank. It was decided to hold monthly meetings on Saturday in every month and no circulars will be issued. The meeting terminated at 12 p.m.

**Northern Natal Indian Tennis Union Meeting**

The Northern Natal Indian Tennis Union's special general meeting was held on Sunday last at the School Hall at 3.30 p.m. The following representatives were present: Dannhauser, Estcourt, Sports Association and Siegetown, Dundee was not represented. The business on the agenda was transacted. Mr. S. P. Hayes was unanimously elected to the Record Clerk's post of the Union. The Meeting terminated at 6 p.m.

## Obituary

On Saturday last there passed away at the age of 74 Mr. Cassim Mahomed of Ladysmith. The deceased was 40 years residence in Ladysmith. Relatives were summoned from far and near. The funeral took place on Sunday at 3 p. m. when a large crowd was present at the grave side. The chief mourners were the sons, Noor Mahomed, Jessop, Hoosen and Ismail. Brothers, Suliman Mahomed (Ladysmith), Jeewa Mahomed (Pretoria) Brother-in-law, Suliman Mahomed Soombar, (Pretoria,) and Moosa Ismail, (Durban), and other members of the family. Heartfelt sympathy is extended to the bereaved family.

On Monday last there passed away after being ill for one month the nine year old son Ratheelall of Mr. Lalbehari Maharaj, of Ladysmith. The funeral took place at 2 p. m. and was largely attended. Mr. and Mrs. Lalbehari wish to thank all who assisted them not forgetting the teachers of the local school.

## BOOKS FOR SALE

NOTE. Remittance should accompany the order. V. P. ORDERS will not receive attention. Postal Orders to be made payable to "INDIAN OPINION" at Phoenix Postage free on all books.

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### EMINENT MUSSULMANS

CONTENTS: Sir Syed Ahmed, Sir Salar Jung, Nawab Mohsin-ul-Mulk, Badreddin Tyabji, Rahimtulla Muhamed Sayani, Syed Mahmood, Syed Amir Ali, The Aga Khan, Sir Muhammad Staffi, Sir Ali Imam, Syed Hasan Imam, Ajmal Khan, Sir Ibrahim Rahimtoolla, Aftab Ahmad Khan, Syed Hasain Bilgrami, Justice Shah Din, Sir Mahomed Iqbal, Sir Muhammad Habibullah, Sir Abbas Ali Baig, Jinnah, Sir Abdur Rahim, M. Hydari and the All Brothers. 5s.

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With appreciations by the Rt. Hon. Sastri, Tagore, Romain Roland, Rev. Holmes, Sarojini Naidu, Mr. Andrews, Mr. Polak, Lord Irwin. 2s.

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