

INDIAN OPINION

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NOTES AND NEWS

Colonisation Inquiry Committee's Report

IN reply to a question asked in the Union House of Assembly the Minister of the Interior Mr. J. H. Hofmeyr is reported to have said:

As a result of the last conference between representatives of the Union and Indian Governments it had been decided to investigate the possibility of reducing the Asiatic population in South Africa by a joint colonisation scheme for India-born Indians who had migrated to South Africa. The departmental committee appointed to make a preliminary investigation in connection with this matter had presented its report to him and the question was now being discussed and considered by the Government of India.

Something New

THIS distinction between 'India-born' and 'South Africa born' seems to us to be altogether a new thing. It was known at the Round Table Conference that eighty per cent of the Indian population was South Africa born and it is surprising how both the Governments could have thought of any scheme to substantially reduce the Indian population by making it affect only the remaining twenty per cent. If this point were made clear at the time the Inquiry Committee was appointed we feel sure there would not have been the split that exist in the Indian community today.

Europeans Employed In Indian Shops

IN the House of Assembly on April 12 replying to Mr. S. F. Alberts, the Minister of Labour said he knew that Europeans of both sexes were employed in Indian-owned shops throughout the Union. Investigations had been made by officers of his Department, but no evidence of abuse had been found to exist. One cannot understand the mentality of the European when on the one hand he complains that the Indian sends his money away to India and on the other grumbles when the Indian actually allows his own brethren to starve and gives employment to Europeans.

Johannesburg City Slums

IN the latest municipal census of 1934 a summary of insanitary conditions is given as follows: Number of families living under insanitary conditions: Whites, 958; Natives, 1,854; Asiatics 177; Eurafrians, 461; total 3,450 families. These families are composed of: Adult males 6,741, adult females 5,201, children 4,875, total persons 16,817.

Premier's Departing Message

ON the eve of his departure for England, on April 12 to attend the Jubilee celebrations, the Prime Minister in the course of a special message to the people said, "The interest of the Union and its people as well as the desire so strongly entrenched in the Union that peace be maintained, will always be my guide, convinced as I am that mutual goodwill and a spirit of mutual trust and recognition of each others rights to existence, constitute the most reliable key to the solution of all the difficult problems now weighing on the world. Above all the will of the people will have to be the ultimate arbiter for weal or woe."

Provincial Barriers

TO be hustled over the frontier into another province savours more of a troubled European or Central American country than of South Africa, but this is what occurred here this week, says the Van Reenen correspondent of the *Sunday Times* (Johannesburg). The last instance is that of a prominent Durban man who set off with an Indian chaffeur to tour the Free State, Cape Province and the Transvaal. The first night's halt was made in Harrismith, where a kindly hotel proprietor warned the tourist that a permit was necessary before the Indian could pass through the Free State.

Nothing daunted, the two proceeded to the magistrate's office next morning to obtain it, but were astounded when the Indian was ordered out of the Free State and told that the required permit could only be issued by the immigration authorities in Durban. It was subsequently arranged to lodge a deposit on behalf of the Indian, and the permit be issued in Ladysmith.

Indian Christian Church

"I send my sincere congratulations and best wishes for the spiritual welfare of the Indian community." This message was sent by General Smuts on the occasion of the laying of the foundation stone of the first Christian Indian Church in the Transvaal, in Krause Street, Vrededorp, by Lady Dalrymple. Captain H. L. Seligson, M.C., chairman of the Building Committee, said the original idea was to build a beautiful church on eastern architectural lines. This plan had to be postponed because of the depression. The land was given by the municipality, and as there was a time limit for erection of the church, the committee felt it would be wiser to retain the land by having a small church built. The Bishop of Johannesburg, the Rt. Rev. G. H. Clayton, who conducted the service, remarked that although the church was primarily for the worship of Indian Christians, all Christians would be heartily welcomed.

The same liberal principle, however, is not applied to European Churches!

The Late Mr. Baboolal Maharaj

News of the death of Mr. Baboolal Maharaj, of Pretoria, which occurred late on Monday night will be received by all who knew him with profound regret. Mr. Maharaj was a well-known figure in the Indian public life of the Union. He will be best remembered as a sportsman, having represented Transvaal in a number of South African Football competitions. He was Vice-Captain of the Indian sports contingent in India in 1921-22. He took an active part in the Passive Resistance Movement in 1908. He was a vice-president of the Transvaal Indian Congress, Pretoria Branch, for a number of years. Our heartfelt sympathy goes out to the bereaved family.

The Late Mr. Sherwani

ONE of the tragedies of India is that in this time of her stress the best men are being called away one after another. The latest news we have received is that Mr. T. A. K. Sherwani who was suffering from meningitis, has suddenly died at Delhi at the early age of 47. The President of the Indian National Congress, Babu Rajendra Prasad, describes the late Mr. Sherwani as "a remarkable personality, a brave and indefatigable fighter for the country's freedom and a steadfast nationalist who put the country's interest above everything else." Indians in South Africa share the sorrows of India in the loss of another of her illustrious sons.

King's Jubilee Medal

THE problem of selecting some 200 South Africans to recommend for the King's Silver Jubilee Medal is giving the Prime Minister's Department something of a headache says the political correspondent of the *Natal Mercury* at Capetown. The prospective recipients have to be chosen from all walks of life, the principal title to the award being distinguished public service in South Africa. The Church, the Public Services, Parliament and the professions will all supply their quota of recipients, but as there are still many South Africans who look askance at anything smacking of a title, the department has to tread warily in approaching people. One or two of those already approached have, I am told, refused the distinction, which is merely an award of merit, involving no letters before or after the names of the recipients. The medal will be a silver one with appropriate inscription marking the occasion of the award. In each case the Prime Minister's department has to approach the prospective recipient to make quite sure that the honour will be "received." The names of all the recipients will be made known during the Jubilee, but there is to be no presentation ceremony. The medals will just come through the post.

Union Minister At Mecca

The supplementary Estimates of Expenditure to be defrayed from Revenue Funds on various votes contains under the External Affairs Vote an extra £1,125 to establish a diplomatic office at Mecca for the purpose of having a representative to assist and advise Mohammedans from the Union when they visit Mecca.

A Job For Commissioners Of Oaths


According to the Census Amendment Act 1935 just passed by the Union Parliament sub-section (1) of section seven of the Census Act 1910 is amended by the insertion after the words "justice of the peace" of the words "or, a Commissioner of Oaths."

The sub-section as amended would now read: "Every enumerator shall make and subscribe before a justice of the peace or a commissioner of oaths a declaration in the prescribed form and shall deliver the declaration so made to the supervisor under whose supervision he is, when he returns to that supervisor the forms which under this Act or the regulations he is required so to return."

Indian Opinion

FRIDAY, APRIL 19TH, 1935

PLIGHT OF THE REPATRIATES

 OUR leading article on "A Much Neglected Question" which appeared in the issue of April 5 has again brought over us the wrath of *Indian Views* who dubbs the suggestion made by us on behalf of the repatriates as "sheer nonsense." We do not mind criticism. In fact we welcome it. But we are sorry our contemporary's criticism does not help us in any way to modify the remarks we have already made. We are sorry also to find that our contemporary has either hurriedly read our article or that it has allowed its personal bitterness to sway over reason. A great deal of misrepresentation has been made in the criticism offered by it and it is only for that reason that we have been obliged to refer to the question once again. We readily admit it would be sheer nonsense to suggest that all the thousands of Indians who have left this country under the repatriation or assisted emigration scheme should be brought back to this country and the question of returning the monies received from the Government should be waived. It would be sheer nonsense also to suggest that the Union Government has failed to carry out its part of the contract in regard to sending the repatriates from this country to their respective places in India. But we have made no such suggestions at all. Nor have we accused the Union Government in this connection of having failed in its duty in any way. We have not raised the question of those Indians who have gone to India and have settled down. Nor is there any need for doing so. We would not however throw the onus on them, as our contemporary does, of looking after their unfortunate brethren who are unable to get settled. We have referred only to those of the repatriates who are stranded in India

and are undergoing untold sufferings, reports of which have come to us from people who have made careful and thorough investigation into their conditions. In this connection we need not quote a better authority than the chosen representative of the South African Indian Congress itself, Swami Bhanu Dayal, who, together with Pandit Banarasidas Chaturvedi made a joint report on the question which resulted in the severe condemnation of the scheme by leaders in India and by the Congress in South Africa. We have raised a question of the South African-born Indians who have been repatriated, the importance of which has been appreciated by no less a person than the Rev. C. F. Andrews, that redoubtable champion of the poor. We have raised a technical question as to whether a person can be deprived of his birth-right, and we have only suggested that those of the repatriates who are born in this country *and have not been able to and cannot settle down in India* ought to be given an opportunity to return to the country of their birth and that the question of refunding what such people have received in the shape of bonuses from the Union Government might be waived in view of the fact that those monies were given out of the funds accumulated by amounts left since 1860 by the inestate Indian immigrants.

We do not think anyone is more entitled to these funds than these people. If at all an inquiry is to be made it is to be made into the condition of those who are actually in need and are suffering.

We cannot imagine anything more barbarous than to lightly say that "a bargain's a bargain" and that if these poor ignorant people have been victims to an unfair bargain the piece is theirs and not ours. A community that has such criminal disregard for its poorer section has no right to claim to be a civilized community.

WHITE MAN'S SUPERIORITY COMPLEX IN BLACK AFRICA

FEW white people have a good word to say for the educated African.

Here and there you may meet someone who defends the Native clergyman or doctor—not a soul who defends the lawyer. Their failings and absurdities are one of the stock subjects of conversations among white people in West Africa. Their European dress is considered a great joke, though I must confess (perhaps owing to my lack of a sense of humour) I could see nothing whatever that was funny about it. The clerk's white tropical suit (frequently now a quite pleasant straw colour or beige) or the shop assistant's shirts or shorts seemed to me among the most national of costumes, writes C. D. Roxton in *Spectator*.

Want of Proportion

I suggest that this way of looking at the educated African argues a rather dangerous want of proportion. The point seems to me worth insisting on. Take your mind back to India, in the fifties or sixties of the last century. The educated Indian—the Babu—was regarded with precisely the same mixture of contempt and jocularly as the educated African is to-day. Yet what has happened? In less than half a century these Babus, whom we thought we could ignore—who were so unimportant compared with the millions upon millions of primitive Indians—had become the statesmen of India. We had, whether we liked it or not, to speak with them in the gate. They were still a tiny minority, but they had become the people without whose consent and co-operation we would no longer carry on the Government of India at all.

I venture to prophesy, confidently that it will be the same in Africa, and that we neglect the intelligentsia at our peril. The time will come when our Colonial policy will have to deal with them as a factor of great moment and will be largely dictated by the state of opinion existing among them. It is mere common prudence that we should understand them to-day. But I hope something more than prudence is our aim. If we look to the real well-being of the Empire a century hence, then it is of the highest importance, in this comparatively early stage, to show sympathy and understanding towards those who are beginning to assimilate our culture.

Numerous Charges

The charges made against the educated African are many. Perhaps the most serious and the most difficult to meet are (a) that where he finds himself with money in his hands which belongs to others, the temptation to dishonesty is overwhelmingly strong; (b) that when he obtains a position of power over others of his own race, he exploits that position for his own advantage. While admitting that these charges are largely true, we must always bear in mind that situations such as these are wholly new to African life. Less than half a century ago practically no African had ever had the experience of holding trust moneys, or of being an official with the power of European Government behind him. In our country we have become accustomed to these situations by centuries of tradition, and we have gradually learned the terrible consequences of dishonesty in the one case and oppression on the other case. The African has not yet had time to learn these things.

African Intelligentsia

Apart from the defects referred to, I noticed very little about the African intelligentsia that was not favourable. I took a transient part in all kinds of social activities, gathering at clubs, committee meetings, church services, concerts and so forth. Most valuable of all, I had the opportunity of staying as a guest for many days in the houses of Africans, apart from shorter visits—in Nigeria, in the Gold Coasts, and in Sierra Leone. On every occasion I was treated with a hospitality that was not merely lavish, but sympathetic as well. It is easy to say that my hosts were exceptional; I am quite certain that there are many houses in which I might have stayed with equal pleasure, if I had the time and opportunity. I soon felt completely at home; I did not feel (as I thought I might do) that I had to mind my p's and q's, and be careful not to offend. I found that I could discuss things with utmost freedom, and reply upon being understood. Nor was the range of subjects unduly limited. All my hosts were cultured people.

One of them a business man, delighted me by apposite quotations from Goldsmith's "Traveller," of which he knew a considerable part by heart. Another, at whose house I spent my afternoon siesta, left me entirely alone in a comfortable bedroom, only sending in by his servant two agreeable things—a pot of tea and a copy of Sir Will Rothen-

stein's "Memoirs" to amuse my leisure. I need hardly add, that in outward matters, food, sanitation and so forth, the standard was as good as I could desire.

Simple Principle

As to our own relation with the educated African, it seems to me that the underlying principle is simple. The ideal of "keeping the African in his natural surroundings"—leaving the man who escapes from those surroundings to look after himself as best he can—is impossible of realisation. Nor does the idea of "making him a good African" seem to me to provide any clearer guidance, if only for the reason that no one has yet defined what exactly a "good African," as distinct from a "good European," in fact is. Some new intellectual and spiritual environment must be and will be created. As to one part in the matter, we cannot teach what we do not know. If we are to teach anything effectively, it must be something that we can teach *con amore*, because we believe in it and understand it. And this leads me to the conclusion that we must offer to the African the type of education and culture that we believe to be the best for ourselves—that education and culture being European and Christian.

That is what constitutes, to me, the unique importance of Achimota College, in the Gold Coast. Achimota is a new institution, not having been in full working order for more than six years. It was founded by Sir Gordon Guggisberg, then Governor, a man who had the imagination to conceive, and put into practice, a bigger step in African education than had ever been dreamed of either by African or European.

The idea of Achimota is to do what we should do ourselves, if we are trying to provide the best kind of education for our own children; to give to both boys and girls the advantages of fine buildings, ample space, good equipment, and above all, a first-class staff, both African and European; to offer the possibility of a general culture and not merely a superior technical training; and to provide an institution which may eventually become a University for Africans from every part of Africa.

INDIA LETTER

MILITARY OPEN FIRE IN KARACHI

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.]

GRAVE events have happened in Karachi. A few months ago, one Nathuram displeased some Muslims in Sindh—by alleged attack on the Prophet in a book he wrote. The authorities promptly took action and prosecuted him. While the trial was proceeding in the court a Muslim fanatic stabbed the accused to death. The murderer was tried and sentenced to death. The Muslims made a martyr of him. They seem to have arranged for a big procession with the dead body. The police apprehending trouble insisted on a simple burial and actually deposited the body in a cemetery. It is alleged that the Muslims removed the dead body from the cemetery and started a procession. In the scuffle the Military opened fire resulting in forty deaths and over a hundred injured.

PRINCES WHITE PAPER

The text of the White Paper presented by Samuel Hoare to the Parliament has been published in India. The princes demand definition of Paramountcy as a condition precedent to their entry into the Federation. They also wanted a drastic amendment of Clause 6 of the India Bill in order to enable them to accept such portions of the Act as seem to them suitable. Both these demands have been turned down by the Secretary of State. He has decided on a discussion between legal representatives of the States and Parliamentary draftsmen which it is hoped will lead to an agreement. Meanwhile Parliament is proceeding merrily with the consideration of the remaining clauses of the India Bill.

TRAVANCORE MORATORIUM

As a temporary relief to those hit hard by the trade depression the Government of Travancore have declared a three months moratorium. All decrees by civil courts charged on immovable properties or against agriculturists will be suspended for three months.

ALL INDIA CONGRESS COMMITTEE TO MEET IN JUBBALPORE

The first meeting of the new A.I.C.C. constituted under the new constitution of the Congress adopted at its Bombay session will be held at Jubbalpore on April 24 and 25.

RESERVE BANK

The reserve bank of India has started functioning with a capital of five crores of rupees divided into shares of Rs. 100 each.

SPIRITUAL FREEDOM IN HINDUISM

A religious gathering assembled in Delhi to celebrate the hundredth birthday anniversary of Shri Ramakrishna

Passing Away Of T. A. K. Sherwani

LOSS TO ASSEMBLY CONGRESS AND COUNTRY

(A LATER MESSAGE)

MR. T. A. K. SHERWANI is no more. He was a fearless fighter in the cause of the country's Freedom. Though he was a member of the landed aristocracy he warmly supported the no-rent campaign. Leaders of all parties make feeling references to his death at the early age of 47.

Gandhiji's Tribute

Mahatma Gandhi sent the following message to Dr. Ansari:

In Sherwani, the nation loses a great good man and patriot. He has gone when he was most needed. Pray convey to his family our deep and sincere condolence."

Congress President's Grief

Babu Rajendra Prasad, interviewed said:

The death of Mr. Sherwani has removed from the public life of the country a remarkable personality, a brave and indefatigable fighter for the country's freedom and a steadfast nationalist who put the country's interest always above everything else. Those who were closely associated with him and the Congress, it is a personal loss and a calamity. I met him at Delhi when he was lying ill and even from his sickbed he was not only making enquiries about the progress of negotiations between Mr. Jinnah and myself but also was making suggestions to me. Little did I dream that when I left Delhi, I would not meet him again. I can but offer my heartfelt sympathy to his aged parents, his widow and brother and assure them that their sorrow is shared by us all.

Paramahansa Deva. Dr. Rajan, M.L.A., a principal speaker on the occasion dwelling on the ancient glory of Hinduism said:

Faith has grown with political power associated with physical force and established with arms and military force. But Hinduism has borne the brunt of onslaughts and fights, and still today 27 crores of human beings stand solidly to say—weak as we may be powerless as we may be, the spirit that stands for Hinduism is unconquerable, and as long as that spirit is there, Hinduism will live, live not as a mere dead faith but as a faith that will even enlighten the dead. The grand conception of Hinduism is spiritual freedom, Hinduism has survived political serfdom, simply because it has recognised the fundamental principles on which human life is based, that is, freedom to develop according to one's own light. The world is as diverse as humanity, and no religion would suit the human mind which does not go the length that human mind craves to go. Hinduism is an universal religion that can find a place for all humanity of all climes and of all ages.

MR SHERWANI SINKING

I am grieved to inform that Mr. T. A. K. Sherwani, the well-known leader of U.P. and a colleague of Pt. Jawaharlal is suffering from meningitis. Doctors have lost all hope of recovery. At the call of the country, this patriot entered the Assembly and contested the presidency and lost only by a narrow margin. Profound sympathy is felt for him.

FATAL EXPLOSION IN BOMBAY

Twelve persons were killed and six seriously injured by a terrific explosion at a factory on the outskirts of Bombay, where fireworks were being made for the Jubilee celebrations.

ONE MONTH'S SILENCE

Mahatma Gandhi had taken the rather unusual step of going into silence for four weeks beginning from March 22 and ending on the morning of April 19. The silence had no other end in view save that of overtaking the heavy arrears of correspondence and revision of important manuscript which have been awaiting disposal for months.

MOB TERRORISM IN INDIA

Eleven persons, including three children were burned to death as the result of the mob setting fire to a doctor's house at Ferozabad. Two police officers were injured.

THE COLOUR PROBLEM OF S. AFRICA

THE pernicious and corrosive colour or racial prejudice forms one of the supreme topics of discussion of the present day in South Africa. Racial prejudice is so acute that thinkers are trying to devise ways and means to lessen that prejudice so that the country may be in a more peaceful state. But daily, people either write in the columns of the papers or speak words that help to exasperate the feelings of others. South Africa is divided into two distinct classes, of people, namely the black race and the white. The brown and the yellow peoples come under the same category as the blacks. Yet although an understanding exists between the two classes, the white considers the black as inferior morally and intellectually, and as a result this understanding is being slowly destroyed. The blackman has now come to a full realization of his importance in South Africa, which hitherto was only a kind of illusion. He is clamouring daily for equality, and that cry will continue until the whiteman gives him a better treatment.

Many people, not only in South Africa but in other parts of the world, have false opinions and ideas about the mental capabilities and intellect of the

By
HORACE F. C. COCHRANE

blackman! Recently, one of South Africa's most noted and eminent politicians said, "the blackman's brains are not equal to that of the whiteman." I do not know whether the speaker meant that the blackman's brains were not equal intellectually or in the actual amount of grey matter which it contains. In either case he is wrong.

Dr. T. R. Garth, head of the Institute of Race Psychology at the University of Denver, after fourteen years of scientific research summed up his tests in the following words, "If opportunity is equalised, no difference will be found in the intelligent quotient of the different races." Surely Dr. Garth's words can repudiate that declaration made by the South African politician. Apart from Dr. Garth's words, there is concrete evidence to prove that the former is wrong.

There is a coloured student in the University of Cape Town who, at the age of twenty-one, passed his Master of Science Examination obtaining first class honours in Physics. A Native graduate has just been appointed to the staff of the Witwatersrand University as

assistant in Bantu Studies. What is astonishing is the fact that the man is black and the Institution European. Here indeed is food for thought! Once the Rev. John Dube, a native, astonished some well educated American tourists by his clear, fluent English. The day Dr. Malan stepped out from the University of Columbia a degreed man, a blackman stepped out with him. More astonishing perhaps and evident proof of the blackman's intellect, is the acceptance into the United States Congress of a blackman. Hitherto no coloured man was deemed eligible for the Congress.

It is thus obvious that a man's colour is no bar to the highest intellectual attainments. The black race is slowly but surely becoming a force which will one day have to be reckoned with, and it is needless to say that the whiteman is conscious of this impending force. But as national quarrels and disputes can be settled at Geneva, then this impending force can be checked by meting out better treatment and also by co-operation. But as long as the white people continue to monopolise all posts and to harass the blackman, the latter will strive to overtake the whiteman, and that bitter feeling will still continue to smoulder.

ALLEN GARDINER

By
Dr. F. G. CAWSTON

SIR, It is fitting that 1935, which is the jubilee year of His Majesty's reign, should turn our thoughts to what is perhaps the greatest of the Victorian age. General Gordon's death has just been celebrated, and the fifth anniversary of the death of Allen Gardiner R. N. who sailed for Natal after a strenuous journey from the Cape on January 29th

Gardiner had been courageously received by the Wesleyan missionaries of the Transkei on his way through the Cape Province towards the end of 1834. He reached Natal with his family and his great family of oxen through the bushes which grow so thickly along the river banks than is common today. His journals would seem to suggest that most of the Natal rivers held a larger rush of water than is experienced now and he often faced the risk of death from drowning whilst visiting Natal and Zululand. He also relates how he was nearly stranded in his endeavour to reach the coast on his visit to these parts.

After resting with Mr. Collins, a trader, Gardiner proceeded to Zululand and after some difficulty in crossing the Umgeni made his way to Dingaan in order to persuade him to accept the Christian faith. During his stay in Zululand he was forced to witness many acts of cruelty and found the Zulu king little interested in either the Bible Gardiner had brought for him or the

offerings he gave. It was at this time that Gardiner returned to Port Natal where he found a fresh response to the Christian faith. He stayed on the island of Natal for some time and then sailed for the Cape.

He remained in the Cape for some time and then sailed for the Cape. He was appointed to the post of Surgeon in the Cape and on June 23rd 1835 he was appointed to the post of Surgeon in the Cape. He was appointed to the post of Surgeon in the Cape and on June 23rd 1835 he was appointed to the post of Surgeon in the Cape. He was appointed to the post of Surgeon in the Cape and on June 23rd 1835 he was appointed to the post of Surgeon in the Cape.

Church Missionary Society in which he placed his confidence. He was quite clear as to the type of man he would favour. In bequeathing a vast sum of money to the Church of England in South Africa a few years later a Baroness explicitly stated that her wish was to further the work of that Protestant church which has for so many centuries characterised British Colonisation, and Gardiner realised that the principles on which the Church Missionary Society had been founded were well applicable to the furtherance of Christian missions among the Zulu race.

The centenary of the establishment of the Christian Church at Durban on June 23rd 1835 after occasional services had been held during the previous 3 months, serves as a reminder of what the Empire owes to the services of this great mis-

sionary society. It is only recently that the Jubilee of its work in Uganda has been celebrated.

There is a story that among the tombstones in the Cape of Good Hope cemetery on Surge Road is that of the daughter of Captain Gardiner who as indicated by the inscription lived long enough merely to see the living stream.

After a long and arduous journey through the mountains of the Andes, the Chilean ship "The Christian" messenger ship became stranded in Spanish waters in Terra Del Fuego. The natives made it impossible to land and where food supplies were available, and scurvy and starvation faced the stranded crew. One by one they fell until Gardiner was left alone, too weak to raise himself at the side of the rowing boat where the boats which went out in search of him subsequently discovered his body and the journals he had kept to the very end.

A writer has fittingly likened his sacrificial service to that of General Gordon whose rescuers likewise arrived a few days too late. It is regrettable that biographies of Allen Gardiner are not more widely known. The present year affords a special opportunity for the people of Durban to re-consider the reasons why many familiar names were given to the borough and to refresh their memory of one of England's greatest missionary heroes.

ASIATICS IN THE TRANSVAAL

THE Minister of the Interior moved the second reading of the Transvaal Asiatic Land Tenure Amendment Bill on Friday April 12. He explained that the Bill was limited in scope and as far as most of its provisions were concerned it was transitional in duration. It would be found, he thought, to be of a noncontentious character.

One of the objects of the Transvaal Asiatic Land Tenure Act of 1932, which this Bill sought to amend, was to clear up the position in regard to the occupation of proclaimed land by Coloured persons and Asiatics. That Act, however, had not finally cleared up the position and it was still necessary to follow up the work along certain lines. This 1932 Act had defined more closely and in certain respects limited the legal rights of occupation of proclaimed land by Coloured persons.

When once that definition and limitation had taken place, however, it was still necessary to determine in individual cases specifically how that law was to operate. It was quite clear that it was not enough to pass an Act laying down general principles. It was also necessary to institute machinery to indicate how those principles were to be applied in individual cases. Failing the existence of such machinery, it would certainly have been most unreasonable to interfere with the occupation of land by

Coloured persons at the time of the passing of the 1932 Act and it had therefore been laid down that Coloured persons occupying proclaimed land might retain their occupation up to the end of April, 1935.

The former Minister of the Interior (Dr Malan) had instituted the required machinery by appointing the Asiatic Land Tenure Commission, but owing to the illness of the members of the Commission and other causes the hope that the Commission would have finished its work by the end of the present month had not been realised. The first two sections of the report were ready, but it was obvious that they could not publish the first two portions without the third. It would merely lead to confusion and the Government accordingly proposed to wait for the third portion of the report and to publish the three portions together. They would not, however, wait for the fourth portion, which would stand on its own and could be published later.

It followed that they would not be ready to act by May 1 this year and the Bill accordingly proposed to extend for a further two years the period of protection originally given up to April 30, 1935. By that time they would have cleared up the matter.

In the second place the Bill dealt with certain points of difficulty that had

arisen during the period of transition owing to the makeshift arrangement made in consequence of the terms of the Law of 1932 and sought to regularise the position existing at present in practice up to April 30, 1937.

Another purpose of the Bill was to close a loophole which had revealed itself in the 1932 Act, under which it appeared that the effect of the Act could be got over quite easily by an individual transferring his rights to a limited liability company.

Mr. R. H. Henderson (U.N.P., Hospital) asked why the period should be extended from 1935 to 1937 when the Asiatic Commission was at present at work and expected to report immediately. The Minister said there was no doubt that they would be able to clear up the position in regard to Johannesburg in one year, but there was the question of the outside municipalities and it was not certain how long the task would take the Commission, especially as the Chairman of the Commission could no longer be spared from his work on the Natal Bench. They could not act immediately the report was published and therefore it was better to give a margin of two years.

The Bill was read a second time, went through Committee and was reported without amendment. The third reading was set down for Monday.

SOUTH AFRICAN NEWS IN BRIEF

New Union Acts

THE following are some of the Acts passed by the Union Parliament and promulgated.

1. Census Amendment Act 1935 where in the commissioners of oaths are ranked with Justice of peace to attest their signatures to the declarations made by the enumerators.
2. Higher Education Amendment Act.
3. Aviation Health Act is to enable effect to be given to the international convention for the sanitary control of aerial navigation and to make further provision for safeguarding the public health in the Union.
4. Marriage law Amendment Act. After 30th day of June 1935, no boy under the age of 18 years and no girl under the age of 16 years shall be capable of contracting a valid marriage.
5. John Dunn (Distribution of Land) Act.
6. Wage Determination Validation Act. This Act amplifies the powers of the Wage Board and of the Minister of Labour in regard to the fixing of a minimum remuneration for piece work and to validate and amplify certain

wage determinations made under the wage Act 1925.

7. Tobacco Control Amendment Act is to establish a tobacco industry control board and to define its functions; to provide for the imposition of a levy on tobacco and for the issue of regulations for the control of the tobacco industry; and to Amend the Tobacco Control Act 1932.

8. Trade Coupons Act is to restrict the giving or offering of benefits in connection with the sale of goods and to restrict the use of trade coupons.

9. National Parks amendment Act.

10. Sea-shore Act is to declare the Governor-General to be the owner of the sea-shore and to be entitled to exercise control over the sea-shore and of the sea and the bed of the sea within the three miles limit; and to provide for the grant of rights in respect of the sea-shore and of the bed of the sea within the three miles limit, and for the alienation of portions of the sea-shore and for matters incidental there to.

11. The Malmesburg Board of Executors and trust and Fire Assurance Company (Amendment) Private) Act.

Appointment Of Vilakazi

The University of the Witwatersrand has issued the following statement through Reuter:— In order to remove various misunderstandings which have been voiced in the press concerning the appointment of a language assistant in the Department of Bantu Studies (B. W. Vilakazi, B. A.), the University, wishing to inform the public concerning the social and academic status of the holder of the new post, hereby points out that the appointment was, from the very first, subject to the following conditions:—

- (a) In regard to status: That this post of language assistant, decided upon by way of experiment, is not equivalent to the position of a lecturer, either in status and privileges or in emolument. (b) In regard to authority and discipline: That all formal instruction in regular classes in which the Language Assistant is called upon to demonstrate, will be conducted by the Head of the Department. While the Language Assistant will also be available for giving informal assistance to students in the use of Zulus and Xosa no student will be compelled to avail

himself of such assistance; nor will the Language Assistant have any disciplinary authority in virtue of his position over students who make use of this informal help.

Sanatan Dharma Pracharak Mandal

The third anniversary celebration of the South African Shri Sanatan Dharma Pracharak Mandal and Hindi Pathashala will be held at 86 Blink Bonnie Road, Mayville, Durban, on Saturday, April 20, at 7 p.m. Mr. R. Ramswaroop will deliver a lecture on Sanatan Dharma. Hawan ceremony will commence at 6-30 p.m. Dancing will be performed by K. Ramdeen's party and R. Jainath's party. Special seating accommodation will be arranged for ladies. A cordial invitation is issued by the secretary to all Hindu brethren to attend.

Tamil New Year

M. K. Gandhi Library, Queen Street, Durban, was the venue of a large gathering of Tamilians and others including a large number of ladies, under the auspices of the Young Men's Vedio Society to celebrate the Tamil New Year. This year is known as Yuva year being the ninth year of the Hindu Cycle and 5037th year of the Kali Yuga. Mr. A. M. Padayachee presided. The gathering was provided with delightful music by Youngmen's Vedio Society Orchestra under the directorship of Messrs. M. S. Reddy assisted by R. Moorthy. The proceedings commenced with prayer and an eloquent address delivered by Mr. G. B. Chetty. The programme was interspersed with appropriate songs by young Tamil girls trained by Misses. R. S. and R. M. Moody. A presentation of a set of Law Books was made to Mr. S. R. Pather (Bar-at-Law) a foundation member and Hon. vice-president of the Society who is shortly commencing practice in Durban. Amongst the speakers were Messrs. S. R. Pather, T. M. Naicker, R. S. Nadar, and N. Manickum, who urged that the Community should extend whole-hearted support to the Building Scheme inaugurated by the Society.

The Sawott Hindu Sabha

The celebration of the birth of Shri Rama and the opening of the Hindu Sabha Hall and Temple at Sawott (Umziuto) took place on Friday April 12. There was a gathering of about 500 people. The Hall and the Temple was opened by Paudit Mahabeer Maharaj who thanked the Sabha for the honour they had done him.

An Anonymous Gift

A pleasing episode took place at the Indian School, Greytown, on Thursday, April 11, when Or. Mrs. Hesse Allanson presented to the school, on behalf of an anonymous donor, an all-wave radio set. The donor had made the gift as a recog-

nition of the services given by Mrs. Hesse Allanson to the pupils of the school.

Arya Sahithya Mandal

A decisive step towards the building of a school for indigent Indian children, has been taken by the Arya Sahithya Mandal. This organisation has now purchased a property for £160 in the Sydenham area. Of this sum £100 has been raised by the staging of the drama "Paagal Pramee" at the Victoria Picture Palace. It is the aim of the organisation to build a school for teaching in both English and vernacular languages.

Johannesburg's Statistics

In the report of the Johannesburg M. O. H., Dr. A. J. Milne, we find in 1933 the birthrate in England and Wales was 14.4, in Pretoria 22.58, in Capetown 17.73, and in Durban 16.8 for 1933-34. Illegitimate births (white) numbered 131, or 2.99 per cent., as against 4.5 in England and Wales in 1933, and 5.31 in Capetown and 3.94 in Pretoria in 1933-34.

Jubilee Letter Telegrams

During the jubilee celebrations in May a special class of plain language letter telegram between the Union and Great Britain at the rate of 4/- for 10 words, or less, and 5d for each word above 10, will be in operation. These special letter telegrams will each have to bear the chargeable indication 'J. L. T.' as the first word of the address, and will be subject in all other respects to the same general conditions of acceptance and delivery as obtain with daily letter telegrams. They may be handed in for transmission from May 4 to 11, both days inclusive.

South Africa Act Amendment

In the House of Assembly last Tuesday Mr. J. H. Hofmeyer, Minister of the Interior, gave notice that he would introduce a Bill to amend the South Africa Act in its relation to the Provincial Councils. The Bill will extend the lives of Provincial Councils from three to five years, and will also extend the leave privileges of members of Provincial Councils from 15 days to 20 days. The Bill will not affect Provincial Councils during their present lives. It is a sequel to the conference held at Capetown during the first few days of the present session.

Moonlighters Tennis Club

The Moonlighters Tennis Club has sent a representative team of nine players to play series of a matches in Transvaal

during the Easter Holidays. They will be the guests of Messrs Willie Ernest and Himdad Khan. An elaborate programme has been arranged for the visitors who will be meeting the best of Randites from the Indian, Bantu, Coloured and Europeans. The following are probable fixtures. 20th Indian Coloured combined vs. Moonlighters, 21st Bantu vs. Moonlighters, 22nd Bantu Men Social Centre Club vs. Moonlighters, 23rd Oriental vs. Moonlighters, (J'hasby's Team) 24th Transvaal Coloured Teachers Union vs. Moonlighters. The following players will represent the Moonlighters Club. Messrs.— M. I. Yusuf, G. H. E. Paruk, G. Narain, R. Mahabeer, A. E. Shaik (Capt) S. Roopnarain, J. S. Jugnath, M. K. Naidoo, and S. Rajpaul.

Social And Personal

The Governor of Nyasaland, Sir Harold Kittermaster, is going to Salisbury to attend a conference with the Governors of Southern and Northern Rhodesia convened to discuss matters of common interest.

Dr. C. C. P. Anning, Medical Officer of Health for Maritzburg, has been awarded a Carnegie visiting grant in the United States of America and Canada to study the administration and practice of tuberculosis control and also to study the training of non-Europeans in practical and theoretical hygiene and sanitation. Dr. Anning will probably leave in June.

WEDDINGS

MOONSAMY—PATTANI

Mr. K. Moonsamy (Frank) eldest son of Mr. and Mrs. V. Kandasamy of Wood Place, Bayside, was married to Miss Pattani Ammal eldest daughter of the late Puckree of Manning Place on March 29 at the bridegroom's residence. There were many presents for the couple and the guests were entertained with music during the night.

TALWANTSINGH—BHOLA SINGH

The Tilak ceremony of Jaidev Singh eldest son of Mr. and Mrs. Ravikrishna Singh and grandson of Mr. and Mrs. Talwant Singh of Greytown with the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Bhoola Singh of Villa Road, Mayville, took place on April 14. There was a large gathering at Verulam to celebrate the occasion.

SRI RAMAKISHNA CENTENARY

AN APPEAL

NINETY-NINE years ago India, the motherland of a galaxy of saints and sages of the first magnitude, in keeping with her ancient tradition, presented to the world one of the fairest flowers of the human race in the person of the poor Brahmin boy of Kamarpukur, the saint of Dakshineswar, known to different quarters of the globe as Sri Ramakrishna. We need scarcely say much about this Prophet of the Harmony of all Religions, who in the estimation of many of the greatest savants of the East and the West was a Superman of unique personality. In the words of one of the greatest thinkers of the modern world, he was the "consummation of two thousand years of the spiritual life of three hundred million people"—a great symphony "composed of the thousand voices and the thousand faiths of mankind."

With a view to propagating the soul-stirring teachings of this great World-Teacher to the farthest corners of the earth, it has been decided that the birth Centenary of Sri Ramakrishna, which falls in the year 1936, should be celebrated in all places in a befitting manner. A comprehensive Scheme for the Centenary celebrations all over India, Burma, Ceylon, Federated Malay States and

other places in Asia as also in Europe, Africa and America has been adopted in a public meeting held at the Belur Math on the 25th November 1934. It includes, among other things, a proposal to start under the Ramakrishna Mission a nucleus of a Central Fund to help forward humanitarian activities in times of flood, famine, pestilence, etc., and Mass Education on vocational and industrial lines, as also an Institute of Cultural Fellowship.

To work out the Scheme a strong Working Committee, an Executive Committee and a number of Sub-Committees have been formed.

The membership of the General Committee of the Centenary, carrying important privileges, is open to all, irrespective of caste, creed or nationality, who will sympathise with the objects of the Centenary and pay the minimum fee of Rs. 5/- (Rs. 3/- for students) in India, Burma and Ceylon, and £1 or \$5-00 in foreign countries. To materialise the Scheme in full, it has been estimated that about ten lacs of rupees will be required.

We appeal to the generous public of all sections and communities in India and abroad to enlist themselves as members and also to contribute liberally to

the funds of the Centenary, so that we may be able to carry out the Scheme in all its details and thus pay our respectful homage to the great World-Teacher, Sri Ramakrishna.

All contributions sent to any of the following addresses will be most thankfully received and acknowledged:

1. The Treasurer, Sri Ramakrishna Centenary, P. O. Belur Math, Dist. Howrah.
2. The Manager, Advaita Ashrama, 4, Wellington Lane, Calcutta.
3. The manager, Udbodhan Office, 1, Mukherjee Lane, Baghbazar, Calcutta.
4. The Central Bank of India, Ltd., A/c Sri Ramakrishna Centenary, 100, Clive Street, Calcutta.
5. The Bengal Central Bank, Ltd., A/c Sri Ramakrishna Centenary, 86, Clive Street, Calcutta.

RABINDRA NATH TAGORE, M. R. JAYAKAR, MANMATHA NATH MUKHERJEE, S. RADHAKRISHNAN, M. N. ROY CHOUDHURY, P. O. ROY, U. SET, SHYAMA PRASAD MUKHERJEE, SWAMI SUDDHANANDA, BA YIN, K. NATARAJAN, BADRIDAS GOENKA, HAZARIMAL DOODWALA, F. J. GINWALA, HARI SANKAR PAUL.

SPORTS.

BOXING

BENNY SINGH IN NEW ROLE

The boxing fans throughout the country will be interested to note the popular "idol" Benny Singh who has retired from active participation in the ring, is promoting a boxing tournament in collaboration with R. H. Persadh, on May 25, at the Town Hall. For the main contest they are bringing together Bud Gengau and Mannie Williams, the latter being a brother of Arvie Williams who was seen in action against Willie Smith recently. Mannie Dixon is being pitted against Kid Khan, who put up a good show against Joe Aron, and is now under the cue of Benny Singh. Young Pottier and F. Smith will provide the third bout, while L. Veeran and Seaman Chetty will complete the bill. From the above programme it will be seen that the best talent has been got together.

SOCCKER

Sunday League

The annual meeting of the Durban Sunday League was held on last Monday week at the Indian Sports Grounds, when the following clubs were represented: Silverton, Swifts, Royals, Sons of India, Clare Estate and Orientals. After the adoption of the report and financial statement the following officers were elected:—Paton: Mr. A. Christopher, President; Mr. O. N. M. Khan, Vice-Presidents; Messrs. S. N.

Moodley, K. A. Chin and S. L. Singh; Hon. Secretary: Mr. N. Sullaphen, Hon. Treasurer: Mr. M. Cunden, Record Clerk: Mr. R. Bijou, Auditor: Mr. N. Sullaphen, Councillors to Natal Indian Association, Messrs. S. N. Moodley and M. Cunden, Nominee on the Executive: Mr. P. Narandas.

CRICKET

Europeans vs. Indians

A match took place at the Indian Sports Grounds last Sunday between W. G. Brown's XI., winners of the Commercial League knock-out tournament (Tattersalls Cup), and the Young Muslim C.C., winners of the Natal Challenge Shield and Peters Bowl. The teams were: W. G. Brown's XI.—O. J. Lowell (captain), P. Cook, J. Andrews, E. A. Proctor, J. Banks, Cairns, Witherston, A. Wood, Jones, M. Scott and M. H. Morley. Young Muslim C. C.—V. E. Asmal (captain), D. E. Parak, M. I. Yusuf, S. A. Ansary, O. Joona, M. I. Jogie, E. V. Mahomed, O. V. Mahomed, G. Mahomed and I. E. Akoojee. Among those present were Dr. Lowell, Messrs. Newton, Coalson and others. It resulted in a win for the Europeans by 2 runs on the first innings.

At Port Shepstone

The Indian Recreation Grounds, Port Shepstone, was the venue, on Sunday April 7, of the first cricket match between European and Indian teams in this dis-

trict, when a team of Europeans captained by Mr. J. Metcalf, played an Indian eleven, captained by Mr. B. W. Charles. The match was one of varying fortunes and kept interest keyed to fever pitch, finally resulting in a win for Indians by 23 runs. As the scores indicate, there was very little between the two teams. The Europeans were the guests of their opponents to an alfresco luncheon on the grounds and a very enjoyable day was spent. There is no doubt that both from a sporting and goodwill point of view, the match was an unqualified success says the *South Coast Revenites*. The following were the teams, Charles XI:—M. K. Reddy, J. John, A. Kareem, R. Powys, B. Singh, B. W. Charles, E. Dindar, I. Rawat, M. K. Desai, O. Mnsallah, and S. Gunal. Metcalf's XI:—R. Perry, J. Metcalf, V. Perry, W. Perry, G. Ash, O. McParson, V. Munnery, J. Lombard, O. McKenzie, O. Fauld, and W. Willmont. The promoters desire to thank Messrs. M. E. Desai, E. M. Ally, M. K. Desai and L. Somanndram for their kind co-operation in donating towards the refreshments.

At Stanger

The Stanger Schools Cricket Club entertained the Umhlali Cricket Club in a friendly return match last Sunday week at Stanger. This was the last match of the season. Umhlali reversed the decision as they defeated the Stangerites by 32 runs. The Umhlali innings realised 75.