

THE DHARMA VIREAUM.

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No. 22

THE AFGHAN WAR.

London, July 21.—Reuter's correspondent at Simla says that a correspondent at Chitral reports that 300 Afghan regulars and tribesmen reached Bumboret Valley, eight miles south of Chitral, but were driven off. It is reported that Afghan regulars have occupied passes between Kafirstan and Chitral.

Heavy fighting occurred on July 18 at all posts in the Khyber Pass, between Fort Kushta, near Aliunsjid, and Fort Madue. The attacks were repulsed, and the enemy suffered heavy casualties.

The attackers were composed chiefly of ex-Sepoy, deserters, and irresponsible tribesmen.—(Reuter's Special Service.)

London, July 22.—Reuter's correspondent at Simla telegraphs that a letter from the Ameer to the Viceroy dated July 18, states that the Afghan peace delegates will arrive at the British lines on July 24.—(Reuter's Special Service.)

London, July 23.—Reuter's correspondent at Simla, telegraphing yesterday, states that the Amir of Afghanistan has submitted to the Indian Government the names of prominent officials who will represent Afghanistan at the peace negotiations. The British delegation will leave to-morrow for Rawal Pindi, to meet the Afghan delegation. A satisfactory settlement is regarded as probable.—(Reuter's Special Service.)

Simla, July 25.—Reuter's special correspondent at Rawal Pindi, telegraphing to-day, says:—

"Sir Hamilton Grant (Foreign Secretary to the Government of India) made a state arrival yesterday.

"The Afghan delegates and party, which numbered about 65, also arrived from Dacca in the morning, without incident. The principal officials are dressed in grey uniforms, resembling those worn by the German infantry, with astrakhan headgear. They immediately proceeded in motors to the residences which they

will occupy during their stay in Rawal Pindi, escorted by political officers. The delegates expressed pleasure at the comfortable journey, and were surprised at the size of the British camps, guns, and transport they had seen en route. The whole party have a pleased look of people on a holiday jaunt.

"The Conference will formally open on Saturday morning."—(Reuter's Special Service.)

Bolsheviks and Afghanistan

A CENTRAL ASIAN ALLIANCE.

London, July 17.—Reuter's Copenhagen correspondent, telegraphing yesterday, says that newspapers from Moscow state that the Russian Soviet has recognised the independence of Afghanistan, and that an offensive alliance against British has been concluded on the Ashkabad front between the Government of Kkiva and the Bolsheviks.—(Reuter's Special Service.)

(Ashkabad is in Russian Turkestan, near the northern frontier of Persia.)

The Afghan Trouble

Peace Conference Opened.

STRONG WARNING To AMEER.

British Patience Not Inexhaustible.

Simla, July 24.—Reuter's correspondent at Rawalpindi, says that Sir Hamilton Grant formally opened the conference with the Afghan Peace delegates this morning.

He addressed the Afghan delegates in strong terms, stating that the British Government would be amply justified in continuing the war till the Ameer surrendered unconditionally. The Government was not prepared to consider counter claims or demands. The Afghans had flagrantly disregarded the armistice terms, and British patience was not inexhaus-

tible. If the war was renewed the terms would be very different.

The delegates listened without a murmur, but their demeanour was hard and unsmiling.—(Reuter's Special Service.)

The Afghan Conference

AFGHANS' BOLD REPLY.

Loosing the Bolshevik Flood.

London, July 27.—Reuter's Special Correspondent at Rawal Pindi states, that after the address by Sir Hamilton Grant at the conference for the conclusion of peace with the Afghans yesterday, Ali Ahmad, the President of the Afghan Delegation, in the course of a speech, urged forbearance on both sides, and denied that the Afghans first sought peace. He admitted that the British were superior in war material and manpower, but pointed out that the Germans held a similar position in the European war.

The Afghans were not a sleepy ignorant people, but were roused by the fresh aspirations of their people who participated in the European war.

He warned the British delegates that Afghanistan was a safe barrier to Bolshevism in India. If war were renewed and the British won, India would be flooded with Bolshevism which could only be checked by a just and honourable peace.

The conference sat in camera, but as the Afghans proved obstinate and unreasonable, the conference soon dissolved.—(Reuter's Special Service)

THE DHARMA VIR.

Friday, August 1 1919

SOUTH AFRICAN INDIAN CONFERENCE.

The question that is keenly discussed among Indians now, is, what will be the result of the forthcoming Conference? Considerable doubt exists in the minds of influential people as to anything tangible arising out of it. The entertainment of this doubt was the cause for the lack of enthusiasm exhibited by responsible members of our community when the question of the nomination of delegates arose recently. The manner in which the recent meeting was conducted, and the spirit of Bolshevism evinced there by a certain section of our people, have only served to deepen this conviction. This is to be considerably regretted. When a danger of unprecedented magnitude is threatening to overwhelm us, it behoves us to act in such a manner as to win the support of every section of our community. The Durban meeting has failed in this respect. The Conference, however, has the opportunity to remedy the evil done in Durban, and if it fails, the Conference can only be said to have failed in the main purpose it set itself to achieve. Our people must also conduct, if possible, their deliberations according to their own convictions and not be led by European sympathisers who have an axe to grind.

Indian Home Rule.

THE LEGISLATURES.

Electors, Franchise, and Powers.

Important additional material for Parliamentary consideration of the "Bill to make further provision with respect to the Government of India" is provided by the publication of dispatches (Cd. 176) embodying the detailed views of the Government of India upon the Southbrough Reports. The Governor-General in Council is severely critical of some features of the Reports, while recognizing the difficulties under which their authors laboured and the value of their work. Many important alterations in the schemes submitted are recommended.

The first substantial change proposed in relation to the Franchise Report is that the subjects of Indian States should not be entitled to vote for the Legislatures, and should not be eligible for election to such bodies. Government prefer to abide by the principle that, while such subjects

of India States, in relation to a Foreign Power, "can claim the protection of the paramount Power, in respect of the domestic affairs of British India they are aliens." Exception is also taken to the proposal to enfranchise all retired and pensioned officers of the Indian Army whether of commissioned or non-commissioned rank.

Government think the better plan is to adhere strictly to the property qualification, except for what they may be called the corporation electorates.

Analysing the interests which, in the committee's opinion, should be represented by non-official nomination, the Government find that the depressed classes, though constituting one-fifth of the entire population, will have only seven seats in the provincial legislatures out of an aggregate of 800. The Government consider that there should be in each Council enough representatives of these classes to save them from being entirely submerged, and at the same time to stimulate some capacity for collective action, and they propose a total of 24 seats.

University representation is condemned as not needed under the changed conditions; and the Government are inclined to think that its retention will result in adding to the representation of the professional classes in general, and do something to carry politics into academic circles.

COMMUNAL SEATS.

In respect to Mahomedan representation, the Committee scheme is held to be inadequate in the case of Bengal, and 44 instead of 34 seats are proposed. The Government find the greatest difficulty in accepting the proposal that the claim of non-Brahmins in Madras to communal representation should not be conceded. It is not sufficient to say to them, as in effect the Committee said, "Since you will not assist us to find a solution, we can do nothing for you." The Government feel it incumbent upon them to make every attempt to arrive at a settlement which will satisfy the reasonable claims of both parties before reforms are introduced. Numbers count for little in India at present against social, educational, and especially religious superiority, which has behind it sanction of centuries. The Government think that the constituencies might be arranged in such a way that 30 out of the 61 non-Mahomedan seats in the Presidency could be reserved for non-Brahmins, while both parties might contest the remaining seats without restriction.

Complaint is made that the Committee have not dealt with the question of the distribution of representation between town and country—"roughly the difference between the old India and the new"—

on any uniform system.

The composition of the Indian Legislature is discussed in detail, and the majority of the authors of the dispatch accept the Committee's conclusion that election thereto must be indirect. They do so with regret, and consider that it will be the clear duty of the Government of India to devise a direct electorate before the inquiry of the first statutory Commission. For the Council of State they recommend direct electorates, comprising in each electoral division of a province from 1,000 to 1,500 voters. Fuller investigation is suggested into the constitution of the Indian Legislature and the method of election to the Council of State.

DEMARCATON OF FUNCTIONS.

The dispatch on the report of the Peetham Committee lays stress on the view that the statutory withdrawal of the Government of India's authority from transferred subjects, except on specified grounds, must be definitely recognized as exempting them, except on such grounds, from any responsibility in respect of such matters to the Secretary of State and Parliament. "Transferred subjects in a word must henceforth be recognized as resting in the main upon a new source of power."

The Government of India feel some doubt about the propriety of the suggested arrangement which makes certain provincial subjects "subject to Indian legislation." They take the broad view that administrative and legislative power must really reside in the same authority; and they recommend that in the case of all the transferred subjects the qualifying provision, "subject to Indian legislation," should be omitted. On the other hand, they hold that the powers of the Government of India to control the administration of the reserved subjects, however the exercise of such powers in future is relaxed or modified, must remain legally unfettered if Parliament still acknowledges and requires the Government of India to discharge a responsibility for the general well-being of the country. They recommend that the instructions to the Governor should include a direction that in considering whether projected legislation on reserved subjects injuriously affect his responsibility for them he must pay regard to any general principles laid down for their administration by the government of India or the Secretary of State. They fully appreciate the advantages of restricting the cases where previous sanction will be required to provincial legislation; but as an alternative they propose that before a Bill is considered by a provincial legislature it shall be specially scrutinized to see that it is within the competence of the Council, and that this duty should be laid upon the Secretary of the Council. They

suggest the setting up of some kind of central drafting office, not under the orders of the Government of India, which all local Governments would co-operate in maintaining, to advise upon the drafting of provincial Bills.

THE TRANSFER TO MINISTERS.

The lists of All-India, provincial and transferred subjects set forth in the Report are subjected to close examination. The transferred list, regarded as a whole, is described as a good one, and calling for comparatively little criticism. But in some matters of first importance the Government of India differ from the Committee, and notably in respect to the proposal that education in all its branches should be transferred. Lord Chelmsford and his colleagues consider that there is a compelling case for the transfer of primary education; but that there is an equally compelling case for retaining secondary, technical, and university education in the hands of the official and more experienced half of the provincial Governments.

Again, the dispatch differs from the Report in holding that the development of industries should be concurrently undertaken by the local Governments and the Government of India, and that this subject should in the provincial sphere be reserved.

Sh Sankaran Nair, who has recently resigned the Education portfolio attaches a long minute dissenting from many conclusions of his colleagues. He is especially emphatic in support of the Committee recommendation for the transfer of education in all its branches.

The Times.

Appeasement of Germany.

General Smuts's Plea.

Republic Deserves Support.

Indian and Irish Question.

London, July 17.—General Smuts, on a valedictory statement on the eve of his return to South Africa, expressed the warmest thanks to the British people, and remarks that during the two and a half years he has been amongst them they have not visited to honour and trust one who was their former enemy.

He urges that he provides in himself an example for realising the necessity for practising moderation in the expression of feelings towards those who yesterday were our bitterest enemies. He declared that the protest he made against certain aspects of the Peace Treaty evoked a vast amount of correspondence, showing widespread agreement with his

view.

After showing that great ideals of progress have won through against the attacks of scientific materialism, General Smuts proceeds to plead for reconciliation. He describes the present condition of Europe as the most awful spectacle in history, and evocative of the deepest emotion. Europe, he contends, will be the greatest mission field for rescue work in which Britons and Americans can spend their energies during this generation. A stable Europe is, in his view, however, impossible without a stable Germany. The appeasement of Germany, therefore, is a matter of cardinal importance.

He maintains that the German Republic deserves British encouragement and support, as it has done unexpectedly well, having prevented both anarchy and military reaction. It has stood in the breach for months fighting the battle of European order against the growing forces of anarchy. That great issue will probably be decided in Germany for good and all.

He advocated that Russia should be left to work out her own salvation, that the blockade should be removed, and an attitude of all-round neutrality, benevolence, and impartiality be adopted.

After referring to the successful launching of the Dominions in a great career, which, he asserts, will ever rank as one of the most outstanding achievements of British political genius, General Smuts urges that there should be no delay in the realisation of the principles of freedom and of self-government for India and Egypt, which he regards as essential for the preservation of the Empire's existence. Obviously (he says) the solution which is effective in the case of the Dominions will not apply in their case, but he administers suggestions for replacing the present bureaucratic domination.

He contends that a pressing constitutional problem is that of Ireland. He dwells on the ill-effects exercised in the Empire and in America by the present Irish situation, and draws attention to the urgent need for a settlement.

Finally, he reviews the domestic situation, and pleads for the maintenance of the new, broader, and kinder spirit which emerged from the recent war.—(Reuter's Special Service.)

Departure of Mr. Bhawani Dayal.

Services Recognised.

On Thursday evening last the members of the Arya Yuvak Sabha, under the chairmanship of its president, Mr. S. D. Gerion, held a farewell gathering at the Hindu Tamil Institute, Cross Street, Dur-

ban, in honour of Pandit Bhawani Daya on his impending departure for India. There was a large gathering of members and friends, amongst whom were Messrs. B. A. Maghraj, M. Thungavelu, R. M. Naidoo, B. L. E. Sigamoney, A. Sookdeo, P. Ramluggan, M. K. Singh, J. S. Ramsaroop, and several others.

The function commenced with the reading of Sundiah (Prayer) and was followed by the performance of the Havan ceremony or the chanting of the Vedic Mantras and the singing of Arthy.

The chairman, in opening the proceedings, stated that they had met that evening for the purpose of honouring Pandit Bhawani Dayal for the great service he has rendered in the advancement of the Sabha and the duty he has performed to the community in general. Mr. Bhawani Dayal was leaving for India with his young son, Ram Dutt Varma, together with his nephew, Krishna Dutt Varma, with the object of leaving them at the Gurnukul University to receive tuition in Sanskrit and English and to study the Vedic Shastras. His absence, though of a short duration, will be greatly felt by the Sabha, he being a very staunch supporter, and mainly through his personal interest and efforts the Sabha has satisfactorily progressed. He also emphasised the fact that Pandit Bhawani Dayal had established several societies and Hindi Schools throughout Natal and Transvaal further it was through his personal efforts that several young men to-day had taken a keener pride in the study of the vernacular language.

Garlanded

The guest was then garlanded as a mark of respect and an illuminated address in Hindi was presented to him appreciating the valuable service rendered. At intervals songs composed for the occasion were rendered by Messrs. K. Ramsaroop, F. Gareeb, and N. Lalbahadur. Messrs. B. A. Maghraj, P. Ramluggan, M. Thungavelu, R. M. Naidoo, B. L. E. Sigamoney, A. Sookdeo, J. S. Ramsaroop, and others also eulogised the services rendered by Pandit Bhawani Dayal and hoped that his mission will be successful and that he will return to South Africa with renewed vigour to carry on the useful work of the community and the Vedic Dharma.

Pandit Bhawani Dayal suitably replied, and emphasised the fact that religious instructions were entirely indispensable that he was proud of the excellent work carried on by the Sabha, particularly the efforts of its president, Mr. S. D. Gerion. He very little deserved the honour they have conferred upon him and whatever he may have done he did as a duty. He

Continued on page 2

has taken a pride and love for the dissemination of the Vedic Doctrines and he was ever ready to follow the noble path of duty in course of Vedic Dharma and country. He hoped that during his sojourn he will do his utmost in whatever respect possible to elevate the conditions of their people. He concluded by appealing to his hearers, particularly the young men, not to discard their national traditions and take a keen interest in the study of the Vedic Dharma and the history of their country and emulate the footsteps of their forefathers which alone will make them noble men and raise them in the estimation and respect of the world.

The gathering then partook in light refreshments and the successful function was brought to a termination by the reading of Shanthi Mantras.

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मिलने का पता:—

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जनरल मरचेंट और शुगर केन फार्मर

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THE DHARMA VIK

PUBLISHED WEEKLY IN ENGLISH AND HINDI.

VOL. 4.

P.O.Box 1180, Durban. Friday 8 August 1919.

No. 23

THE AFGHAN WAR.

Ameer's Narrow Escape.

SHOT At by SOLDIERS.

Assailants Arrested.

London, July 29.—Reuter's Rawal Pindi correspondent, telegraphing yesterday, reports that two soldiers of the Kabul regiment fired on the Afghan Ameer, while the latter was riding with his staff. The Ameer had an exceedingly narrow escape, a bullet passing through his breeches. The assailants were arrested.—(Reuter's Special Service.)

London, Aug. 2.—Reuter's correspondent at Simla, telegraphing yesterday, stated that the President of the Afghan Peace Delegation at Rawal Pindi, replying to Sir Hamilton Grant, the head of the British Peace Mission, laid stress on Afghanistan's firm friendship. He protested against the British refusal to allow the tribes to be placed under Afghan rule. The delegation affirmed that Afghanistan cherished a spirit of freedom and liberty. Regarding the outbreak of the war there had been a misunderstanding on the part of thoughtless officers on both sides. The introduction of martial law and certain legislative measures caused disturbances at Peshawar, and on the border which excited the Afghan people, and resulted in the posting of detachments of troops at different places on the frontier, thus causing the apprehension of the British troops, which misunderstanding led to the war.

The spokesman of the delegation emphasised that Ameer Habibulla had been a faithful ally during 18 years' rule, particularly during the five years of the European war, and had demonstrated neutrality despite heavy expense and powerful foreign influences. Despite what had happened, the Ameer maintained a friendly attitude, agreed to the proposal for peace, and communicated orders for an armistice. The reason why blood-

shed prevailed among the tribes was the fact that each party considered its religion the true one. This caused the introduction of political principles which assumed a religious garb.

With the recent troubles in Egypt, Ireland, India, and international relations expanding on all sides, how (he asked) could Afghanistan remain content with limited freedom? In the recent war, the hearts of all Islamic people had gone out to Turkey, and the Jihad which the Ameer had proclaimed at Kabul had affected the hearts of all Afghans. If the European war had ended before the assassination of the late Ameer the disturbances would not have occurred, and the friendship of the two Governments would not have been interrupted. The feelings of Afghans had long been kept under restraint, but when voices in India were raised, the Afghans who always sympathised with the Indians, were not able to suppress their feelings. The Ameer had openly agreed with his people, but secretly tried to keep them quiet. He had intended to introduce reforms, but mistakes of officers on both sides, resulted in an unexpected state of affairs. The temporary check on the tribes depended upon the promise of the attainment of their national aspirations. The solution of the question to the frontier tribes was a problem for the Peace Conference.

Concluding, the Afghan spokesman assured the British Government of the anxiety of Afghanistan for a renewal of friendship of permanent endurance.—(Reuter's Special Service.)

Indian Troops in London.

King's Tribute to Services.

London, Aug. 2.—Much interest centred in to-day's march past by the Indian troops, who were not able to take part in the recent Victory Pageant.

They arrived in special trains from Hampton Court, and, headed by the combined bands of the Guards Brigades, pre-

sented a striking and picturesque appearance as they marched from Waterloo Station to Buckingham Place grounds, where they were received by the King. There were also present the Queen, the Prince of Wales, the Duke of Connaught, Field-Marshal Haig, and other notable personages.

The King addressed the troops, thanking them for their devotion to the throne and Empire, for their services in the war, and cheerful bearing of sufferings and sacrifices.—(Reuter's Special Service.)

NOTICE.

In term of sub-section (b) of section two of Act No. 1 of 1914 (Special Session), known as the Public Welfare and Moratorium Act, all holders of rice are hereby called upon to forthwith declare their stocks.

The information should be furnished in writing, and should be forwarded direct to the Chairman, Rice Committee, New Courthouse, Durban.

Any person wilfully failing to comply with the foregoing request shall be guilty of an offence under the Act referred to, and will be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding one hundred pounds or to imprisonment not exceeding six months, or to both such fine and imprisonment.

H. WARINGTON-SMYTH,

Controller of Imports and Exports.
Pretoria, 22nd July, 1919.

Indian Trading Act.

Queries in the Commons.

London, July 27.—In the House of Commons to-day Mr. Bonnet (Coalition Unionist for Sevenoaks) drew attention to the protests of Indians in South Africa against the Asiatics Trading Act, and asked if, in the event of the Union Government holding the promised new inquiry, the Government of India could assist Indians to present their case.

Mr. Amery (Under Secretary for the

Colonies) in reply, said he had no doubt that full opportunity would be given to Indians to present their case, though he had no information at present in regard to the details of the proposed arrangements.—(Reuter's Special Service.)

The Indian Army.

Inquiry into Administration.

London, July 26.—Mr. Montagu, Secretary for India, has appointed a committee, presided over by Lord Esler, and composed of seven army experts, to inquire into administration and organisation of the army in India.—(Reuter's Special Service.)

THE DHARMA VIR.

Friday, August 8 1919

SPEECH OF GENERAL SMUTS.

The speech delivered by General Smuts at Cape Town, where he was accorded an enthusiastic welcome, is full of food for reflection, and forbodes, we hope, more magnanimous and humane treatment for the voiceless and unrepresented peoples within the Union. His sojourn of over two years in Europe, during which period he came into contact with statesmen from various parts of the world, appears to have left a very wholesome influence upon him, and to have created in him respect for the feelings and aspirations of other peoples who are not of his race. He has apparently risen above the selfish and narrow minded thoughts and actions of South Africans to which he had succumbed in the past, to a higher, broader and nobler conception of the rights of men in relation to each other both in the case of individuals and nations. In his speech, referring to the narrow outlook of South Africans, he says, "Moreover, those young men from this country who had gone to the end of the earth, had returned different men, with larger experience, and wider outlook, and resources which would be of benefit to South Africa in the future, especially as one of our faults was a rather narrow outlook, and narrow type of patriotism. With broader knowledge and a wider outlook South Africa would, he believed, play a greater and worthier part in the world than it had ever done." In another portion of his momentous speech, he illustrates this utterance in a more convincing and vivid manner. He says, "There was a great voice coming to South Africa from those thousands of graves all over the world, telling us they knew no more

bitterness towards each other. There was no hatred that spoke from the grave. English, Dutch, coloured, and black people everywhere stood together and done their duty, and they all appealed to us to stand together for the future of this great country in the spirit in which they fought, and in which they struggled. We have been comrades in arms, let us be brothers in peace." A more finer and nobler sentiment cannot be expressed. "We have been comrades in arms let us be brothers in peace"! If we take into consideration the valedictory statement of General Smuts, made before his departure from England, we can confidently say, that the utterances of General Smuts at Cape Town are no mere platform platitudes. They proceed from genuine convictions of a noble order engendered in his bosom by what he had seen and done during and after the great War. General Smuts will have ample scope to attain his aspirations in this country. The greatest question in the world is one of Colour, and, it has reached its acutest stage in South Africa. If his recent utterances, in England and here, are to be taken as an index, as they should be, then General Smuts is the man best fitted to solve this problem in a satisfactory manner. The Indian trouble that has arisen in the Transvaal, as the result of Mr. Gandhi's egregious blunders, calls for his sympathy and consideration. If comrades in arms are brothers in peace, let that be proved in the Transvaal where those who had helped loyally in the war are threatened with complete extinction.

Smuts and Indian Home Rule.

Criticising General Smut's Valedictory Statement, the *Natal Mercury* states *inter alia*—

It is, however, when General Smuts comes to the questions of India and Egypt that we fall foul of him. Does he really think that India is fit for self-government? Out of the 350,000,000 of the inhabitants of India there is not one-tenth who understand what the franchise means, or who would know how properly to use the privilege if they possessed it. The demand is made by the few who have had a European education, and who are to a large extent looking to the loaves and fishes which independent government would permit. The mighty masses of India are quite content to live under the protection of that Power which has saved them from depredation and has secured to them the fruits of their labours. As Lord Sydenham wrote in "The Times" some months ago, the vast majority of the Indian people do not want to be interfered with, and in any case they must first be apprenticed

to the principles of self-government through local boards, parish and district councils, and provincial parliaments. A people divided into a hundred cliques, castes, and religions cannot suddenly leap into the responsibilities of self-government, which have taken the Anglo-Saxon race some thousand years to evolve. General Smuts was ill-advised to mention the matter, since his own agreement with Mr. Gandhi is not working out too amicably or for the benefit of the country. Mr. Gandhi and his disciples will certainly fasten on to this portion of General Smuts's speech, and it will not conduce to the peace of South Africa. The Minister of Defence has learned much during his two and a half years in Europe, but we should have been glad had he restrained himself somewhat in his farewell address. There is still the repatriation and other difficult questions to be settled, and these will come under his purview. The public is expecting much from him, and his utterances in South Africa are being awaited with the keenest interest.

S.A. Indian Conference.

Emergency Convention.

Mayor's Welcome and Presidential Address.

Johannesburg, Aug. 3 (Reuter).—The South African Indian Congress was opened to-day by the Mayor, who, in welcoming the delegates, paid a tribute to the part they and their countrymen of India had taken in the war, and expressed the hope that as a result of the representations they would make to Ministers, many of their grievances would be done away with.

The President (Mr. Aswatt) expressed regret that the inauguration of peace in Europe had been selected for a resumption of hostilities against South African Indians, with the avowed object of extinguishing them. The peace they enjoyed while the war was being waged was seemingly but a respite, a tactical restraint prompted by considerations of expediency. He traced the history of Indians in South Africa from the time they were imported to prevent the industries of Natal from dying from inanition. While they recognised there was some reason in the opposition to unrestricted Indian immigration he ventured to say that South Africa would be none the worse if the immigration law was relaxed so as to encourage some of the cultured sons of India to make it their home. The Indians who had settled in the Transvaal and severed their domestic connections with India

found themselves confronted with the most serious difficulties in bringing their wives and children to join them, a policy which encouraged miscegenation and discouraged Indian settlers from regarding South Africa as their home.

He referred to various legal disabilities, and said their position had steadily descended from bad to worse. He called their treatment a betrayal of the Indians. Competition in business was to be restricted as far as possible, and as soon as possible be eliminated altogether. When that was accomplished they could remain on as menials or drag their weary bodies and sick souls back to India. They were confronted with a stern fight, and all their determination, resolve, and capacity for sacrifice may be needed if they were to recover their lost position, unless they were to lose once and for all the last shred and vestige of self-respect.

The Turkish Case.

Ferid Pasha's Statement.

ALLIES' DIGNIFIED REPLY.

EFFECT OF TURKISH RULE.

Diminution of Property Everywhere.

London, June 27.—Reuter's Paris correspondent states that the Turkish Grand Vizier Damad Ferid, presented the Turkish case to the Council of Ten on June 17, which disclaimed the responsibility of the Ottoman people for war, and did not attempt to palliate Turkish misdeeds, at which it would shudder for ever, but declared that the Committee of Union and Progress, who seized power in 1913 were solely responsible. They massacred Moslems equally with Christians, and condemned to death 3,000,000 of Moslems, of whom hundreds of thousands were still wandering without shelter in Asia Minor.

Damad Ferid claimed that the Ottoman people should be judged by its history, not by a single unfavourable person, and said that the trial of the members of the Committee of Union and Progress, at Constantinople proved the responsibility of the Courts and rehabilitated the Ottoman nation, which henceforth by intensive economic and intellectual culture would strive to become a useful factor in the League of Nations.

Damad Ferid requested the termination of the occupation of Ottoman territory and the maintenance of the status quo of the Ottoman Empire and a new frontier line in Thrace, securing the defence of Adrianople and Constantinople. He said

that a fresh dismemberment of the Ottoman Empire would entirely upset the balance of the East.

The Allied reply delivered on June 25 points out that Damad Ferid did not attempt to excuse or qualify Turkey's crimes, including the massacres, whose calculated atrocity was unprecedented in history. The Council did not doubt that the present Government of Turkey disapproved of the policy of its predecessors on the ground of both expediency and morality, but the nation must be judged by its rulers. The Turks, claim to complete territorial restoration, however, was also based on an appeal to Turkey's history, and the Council, while admiring the excellent qualities of the Turkish people, could not admit that these included a capacity to rule alien races. The experiment had been tried too long and too often. Nowhere in Europe, Asia, or Africa was there a case where the establishment of Turkish rule had not resulted in a diminution of prosperity and the lowering of culture. Nowhere was there a case where the withdrawal of Turkish rule had not resulted in the growth of prosperity and a rise in culture. Everywhere, among the Christians of Europe and the Moslems and Syria, Arabia, and Africa the Turk had destroyed wherever he conquered. The obvious conclusion was that since Turkey without the least excuse or provocation deliberately attacked the Entente Powers and had been defeated, she imposed on the victors the heavy duty of determining the destiny of the various populations of her heterogeneous Empire. This duty the Allies desired to carry out in accordance with the wishes and the permanent interests of the populations themselves.

The Council regretted the appeal by Damad Ferid to supposed religious rivalries. The whole course of the war, in which Protestant Germany, Catholic Austria, Orthodox Bulgaria, and Moslem Turkey banded together to plunder their neighbours exposed the hollowness of the plea. The only favour of deliberate fanaticism was the massacre of the Christian Armenians by order of the Turkish Government. Damad Ferid's statement with regard to Turkish slaughter of Moslems thus only served to show there was little evidence of sectarian animosity by any Government. There was, however, no evidence as far as the Entente Powers are concerned, and nothing has since occurred to modify the judgement that, as the result of the Allied occupation, every man's conscience had been respected and memorials had been carefully guarded, and the peoples who were Mohammedan before the war remained Mohammedan still. Nothing touching religion had been altered, except the security with which it might be practised, and things wherever

Allied control existed had certainly been altered for the better.

The reply proceeds: "If it be replied that the diminution of the territories of the historic Moslem State, must injure the Moslem cause in all lands, we respectfully suggest that in our opinion this is an error. To thinking Moslems throughout the world the modern history of the Government enthroned in Constantinople can be no source of pleasure or pride." The reply concludes by suggesting that the Turk in happier circumstances and less complicated and difficult conditions, with the evil conditions of corruption and intrigue severed and perhaps forgotten, should add lustre to his country and his religion by other qualities than the courage and discipline he has always so conspicuously displayed. If Damad Ferid is able to initiate the intensive and intellectual culture to which he referred he will deserve and certainly receive all the assistance the Allies are able to give.—(Reuter's Special Service.)

Asiatics (Land and Trading) Amendment Act

Following is the text of the Asiatics (Land and Trading) Amendment Act (Transvaal) 1919, as appearing in the *Union Gazette Extraordinary* of the 3rd inst. His Excellency the Governor General having given his assent:—

Be it enacted by the King's Most Excellent Majesty, the senate and the House of Assembly of the Union of South Africa, as follows:—

1. Those provisions of sections one hundred and thirty and one hundred and thirty-one of Act No. 35 of 1908 (Transvaal) which relate to the residence on or occupation of ground held under a stand licence on proclaimed land by coloured persons and any provisions similar thereto contained in the conditions of any deed of grant or freehold title in a Government Township (as defined in Act No. 34 of 1908, Transvaal) issued under the last-mentioned Act shall not apply:—

- (a) to any British Indian who on the first day of May, 1919, was, under the authority of trading licence lawfully issued, carrying on business on proclaimed ground or on any stand or lot in such township, or to the lawful successor in title of any such Indian in respect of such business; or
- (b) to any person *bona fide* in the employment of such a British Indian or his successor in title, so long as British Indian or successor in title continues so to carry on business on the same ground or stand or lot on which or on any other ground or stand or lot in the same town-

Continued on page 8

ship in which it was being carried on on the first day of May 1919:

Provided that nothing in the section shall be construed as abrogating any exceptions contained in the said sections one hundred and thirty and one hundred and thirty-one or in the conditions aforesaid.

2. Those provisions of Law No. 3 of 1885 (Transvaal), and any amendments thereof heretofore enacted which prohibit a person belonging to any of the native races of Asia from being an owner of fixed property in the Transvaal subject to certain exceptions specified in such amendments shall, subject to the same exceptions, be construed also as prohibiting any registration of a mortgage over fixed property in favour of a person belonging to any of the native races of Asia, otherwise than as security for a *bona fide* loan or investment in the ordinary course of business and also prohibiting the ownership of fixed property in the Transvaal by any company or other corporate body in which one or more persons belonging to any of those races have a controlling interest and the registration of such a mortgage in favour of such a company or corporate body otherwise than as security as aforesaid:

The provisions of this section shall apply as from the first day of May, 1919, provided that in respect of any fixed property acquired by any such company or corporate body before the first day of May, 1919, the aforesaid provisions of Law No. 3 of 1885 (Transvaal) shall be construed as if this Act had not been passed. Any such company or other corporate body which may have acquired the ownership of fixed property since the first day of May, 1919, shall dispose thereof within a period of two years from the commencement of this Act, or within such further period as any superior court having jurisdiction where the property is situate on application may allow, and on the failure of such company or other corporate body so to dispose of such property then and in that case such property shall on the petition of any member of the public be sold by order of such a court.

3. This Act may cited for all purposes as the Asiatics (Land and Trading) Amendment Act (Transvaal), 1919,

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DURBAN:

THE DHARMA VIK

PUBLISHED WEEKLY IN ENGLISH AND HINDI.

VOL 4.

P.O.Box 1180, Durban. Friday 15 August 1919.

No. 24

HOME RULE FOR INDIA

The Government of India Bill was the subject of discussion in the House of Lords. It was agreed to concur in the resolution communicated by the Commons—"That it is expedient that the Bill be committed to a Joint Committee of Lords and Commons."

LORD CURZON, who moved the motion, said that as the reports and other Parliamentary papers dealing with the subject already extended to over 1,000 pages of print, there was no ground for a complaint of lack of information. Indeed, he thought it might almost be open to a hostile critic of the Secretary of State for India—if such existed—to apply to him the epitaph pronounced on the architect of Castle Howard and Blenheim, Sir John Vanbrugh—

Lie heavy on him, Earth, for he

Laid many heavy loads on thee.

The guiding principle of the Bill, which was "the progressive realization of responsible government in India," he described as a binding declaration on the British nation, and in the nature of a compact between ourselves and the people of India. The Bill in its present form embodied the scheme by which the Secretary for India proposed to give effect to that principle. The Bill as it would leave the Joint Committee might vary the scheme, but it must not destroy or undermine the principle.

GREAT CHANGES IN INDIA

"Things are moving very fast in India," Lord Curzon declared. India is spinning very fast and very far down the

ringing grooves of change." It was a subject upon which no man who had had any connexion with the country would ever dogmatize. For his part, looking back over the 14 years since he was Viceroy of India, he hesitated almost to express an opinion. But he went on to say:—"My idea was that India was a great, a supreme, a magnificent trust. I saw India under a Government, as I believe, just, efficient, and humane. I saw it moving steadily forward in the direction of self-realization. I was content to watch, and, to the best of my ability, to assist in that progress. I was not, in my time, in favour of making leaps in the dark. Rather did I prefer to march steadily forward in the light of day."

Lord Curzon added that he supposed his ideas would now be regarded as rather old-fashioned, and that his pace in India would be voted both pedestrian and slow. He recognized that great changes had come in the interval over the temper and attitude of the people and over their aspirations also. Greater acceleration had been given to this moment by the momentous events of the past five years. "India has grown in stature," he said. "She feels that she is no longer in a state of tutelage. One may almost say, paraphrasing the words that were used by the Prince of Wales in another connexion a little while ago, that during the war she has found her manhood." It would be the task of the Joint Committee to find the channel in which the legitimate aspirations of the Indian people could flow and

to place dams where they might be required across impetuous or dangerous currents.

The Afghan Trouble

Peace Treaty Signed.

ARMS and MUNITIONS PROHIBITED.

Further Demarcations Agreed.

Simla, Aug. 8.—The Peace Treaty signed with Afghanistan this morning prohibits all importation of arms and munitions into Afghanistan through India, and confiscates the arrears in the subsidy granted to the late Ameer and the subsidy of the present Ameer. The Treaty provides that another Afghan mission will be received in six months' time to discuss the settlement of various matters. The Afghan Government accept the frontier, between India and Afghanistan as accepted by the late Ameer, and agree to an early demarcation by the British Commission of the undemarcated portion of the line west of the Khyber, where the recent aggression on the part of the Afghans occurred. The Afghan Government bind themselves to accept such boundary as the British Commission lay down. The British troops will remain in their present positions until demarcation is effected.—(Reuter's Special Service.)

THE DHARMA VIR.

Friday, August 15 1919

S.A. INDIAN CONFERENCE.

Though we have a copy of the presidential address delivered before the Second South African Indian Conference before us, we have been unable to give publicity to same, owing to the fact of its not being the address which was intended to be read. Though, for outward semblance, the Conference has been held out as a success, in reality it has proved an abnormal failure. The main purpose for which it was called was practically, to all intents and purposes, shelved. The proceedings at the Conference was throughout of a rowdy nature. The Secretaries of the Conference, who are members of the Transvaal British Indian Association, acted in a manner which was not calculated to foster Indian unity and solidarity. They had a presidential address drawn up ready for Mr. Rustonji of Durban. This address was rejected and another was framed instead by a small committee. When the Conference assembled, the secretaries coolly handed the rejected address to be read. Can it be said that this action will be approved of by men, who have respect for the constitutional procedure of meetings? Does it not savour of petty notions and ideas? In the election of the president also, the meeting was very rowdy and it is affirmed, no one could be heard. Above all the din and noise of the meeting, Mr. Sorabji Rustonji shouted the name of Mr. Aswat. Delegates and non-delegates participated in the voting, and it was declared that Mr. Aswat was nominated. These actions resulted in dividing the community, and a number of people disassociated themselves from the movement and were on the point of communicating with the Government. The action of some of the Natal and Cape delegates saved the situation and the parties were again brought together, though their differences were not sunk. Apart from passing resolutions,

most of which were already passed by the Cape Conference, nothing tangible was done. The old divisions between the community still exist and no endeavour was made to come to some understanding. In our issue before last, we warned the promoters of the Conference not to repeat the attitude of its Durban supporters. Our wholesome advice was disregarded and the result is most unhappy. We are afraid the success of the Conference movement has been undermined. The good work initiated by the Cape Conference has been handled in a most inconsiderate and unwise manner. The result is not worth the amount of public money expended.

Second S. A. Indian Conference

A Resolution Conference

Johannesburg, Aug. 8 (Reuter).—The South African Indian Congress concluded last evening.

Its labours are reflected in 21 resolutions which have been submitted for publication, and which embrace expressions of opinion on the legal disabilities enforced in the different Provinces. The resolutions ask for just and sympathetic administration of the laws, with due regard to vested rights, and claim right of entry of sons and daughters of resident Indians up to the age of 21, as well as children claiming guardianship. The proclamation declaring Asiatics, for the purposes of the Immigrants Regulation Act, to be prohibited immigrants, is characterised as insulting and degrading, and its withdrawal is called for.

The Provincial barriers restricting the movements of resident Indians are stated to be inconsistent with the idea of Union, and until amending legislation can be introduced to make the Union a real one the Congress asks that visiting permits should be granted without thumb impressions to Indians who can sign the application in English.

The franchise is demanded as the

prerogative of British citizens, and as a corollary accepts all the responsibilities of citizenship, including the defence of the country against enemies of the King-Emperor.

Facilities are asked to enable Indian farmers and store-keepers to possess firearms for self-protection.

The regulations on the South African Railways were calculated to injure the susceptibilities of Indians, and their removal was asked for.

Another resolution presses for the appointment of fully qualified Indian interpreters in the Courts, and that witness fees should be based on the status of a witness, and not on racial grounds.

The right of appeal to the Supreme Court in case of the refusal of the local authority to grant of a new trading licence is sought, and obstacles in the way of Indian students being admitted to university and affiliated colleges are requested to be removed. Relief is also sought in respect of trading and acquisition of lands in Zululand, Utrecht, and Vryheid. The Congress asked for the extension to Indian children of the principle of primary free and compulsory education, that Indian teachers should have the same qualifications and grading as Europeans, and that opportunities be afforded Indian children to acquire technical and industrial training in the Provincial colleges.

The Congress recorded a strong protest against "racial and discriminating" legislation in the Transvaal, and urged upon Government the imperative necessity of repealing or amending laws to which exception is taken.

Other protests were against the system of investigation by police and immigration authorities as being derogatory to the self-respect of the Indian community, against the licensing authorities in the Cape being empowered to refuse licences to Indians without assigning any reason, a policy which, it is stated, tends to engender the spirit of distrust and suspicion. Protest was also made against the prevention of Indians from trading in Native reserves and against the number of educated

entrants to Natal or the Cape being fixed.

Congress also asked for the recognition of the wives and minor children of marriages recognised by the tenets or religion of Indians.

The following comments upon the resolutions of the Conference appeared in the Natal Mercury:—

It is scarcely possible that the Government will be able to carry out half of the resolutions passed at the Indian Congress, held in Johannesburg on Thursday, as so many of them conflict with European feeling. This journal has always been and remains a firm supporter of granting to the Indians all the civil rights possible, but it cannot fail to discern that absolute equality is impossible. If the Indians were to maintain the same standard of living, pay similar wages and salaries, in short, spend as much as the white man, merchant, or mechanic, then a case could be made out for equal privileges, but they do not, and the fight would not be fair. It is scarcely likely that the Provincial barriers will be removed, particularly in the Free State, and the Congress was not very happy in the wording of its resolution. The Union does not take away or supersede all the laws of the old Colonies, and we do not think that the visiting permits are possible. It is impracticable that the franchise should be extended to all Indians, as there are thousands who do not understand its use, but how might be swayed by others to the detriment of the country. The Congress also demanded the possession of firearms, and, if properly registered, this concession might be made to those resident in country districts. The question of licences will always remain a big problem, for the European, who stood all the hardships of the occupation of the land, feels that he should have a fair chance, and he does not get this in competition with the Asiatic. We do not believe that it would be wise legislation to grant powers for trading in Native reserves. White men are

especially necessary there. There are disabilities which might be removed, but we cannot say that the Indian Congress has assisted towards their abolition.

Moslems in Goal.

Propaganda in Favour of the Afghans.

SIMLA, JUNE 8 (delayed.)

The Government announce that the restrictions imposed under the Defence Act on the brothers Mohammed and Shaukat Ali having been insufficient to prevent them from carrying on their disloyal propaganda, it has consequently decided to order their detention in gaol under Regulation 3 of 1818.

The brothers recently addressed a memorial to the Viceroy expressing themselves intemperately and inaccurately on the attitude of the British Government towards Moslem questions, stating that in the event of non-compliance with their demands there would remain no choice for good Moslems in India between migration and a *Jihad*. The document was proscribed. Attempts, nevertheless, were made to circulate it and publish it in the Press, but no newspaper gave it publicity.

The brothers also announced publicly in the mosque their intention of disobeying the orders under which they were interned, and the Government hold proofs that they were making every effort to induce Moslems in India actively to assist the Ameer against the King-Emperor. Recently Mohammed Ali, in a speech at the mosque, abused leading Moslems for condemning the Ameer's action, and asserted that no Moslem without detriment to his soul could participate in the war against Afghanistan.

Tea Party Ambition.

To the Editor of the Dharma Vir

Sir,

I learn the so-called Durban and District Indian Education Advisory Board, or whatever else its name is, is again try-

ing to establish itself as a very useful public body in our midst. I was under the impression that the Education Department declined to recognise this institution and as a result of that it should have died a natural death.

I believe, Sir, that the Higher Education Class at the Higher Grade Indian School is a continuation class, i. e. that when students have passed the sixth standard they will as a matter of routine step into the next class which is the Higher Education class. In the same manner, a student who passes the 2nd, 3rd, or 4th standards will step in the usual course of his studies into the next standard. Will anyone therefore be justified in announcing himself a hero, for appearing before a headmaster to formally hand over children who have successfully passed one standard for the purpose of continuing their studies in another standard? Yet this is what happened recently. Children who passed the sixth standard were got together in Field Street and fed with some tea. Two eminent gentlemen addressed some words to the boys which the boys did not relish as much as the tea and then they were marched and formally handed by Mr. Suchitt over to the head master as if they were a herd of cattle. Why this great feat was not rendered greater by doing the same thing to the children of other standards as well.

Mr. Suchitt might have done better if he had made some arrangement with the department to provide the new boys with a teacher. The new boys cannot be mixed up with the old boys who have already had a year's tuition. The gentleman undertaking the tuition cannot attend to the new comers without neglecting the old boys. Perhaps, this is too much to expect from those who are content with the providing of tea for boys.

I am etc.
Swaraj walla

THE ALHARMA BEE

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No. 25

INDIAN NEWS.

His Excellency, the Governor-General has been pleased to commute the sentence of rigorous imprisonment passed on Mr. Kalinath Roy, late Editor of the "Tribune" from two years to three months.

The Lieutenant-Governor of the Punjab has commuted to transportation for life, the sentences of death passed on Lala Amar Nath and Mohan Lal by the Martial Law Commission in the Gujarawala Case.

Judgment was delivered by the Martial Law Commission presided over by Mr. Justice Leslie Jones, in the Lahore case, in which Lala Harkishen Lal, Lala Dunichand, Rambhuj Dutt and others were charged with offences under sections 121, 124 A, etc., I. P.O. Lala Harkishen Lal, Barrister-at-Law, Lala Dunichand, Barrister-at-Law, Pandit Rambhuj Dutt Chowdhury, pleader, Moulvi Alla Din, and Mota Singh, were each sentenced to transportation for life with forfeiture of property.

Dr. Muhammad Busheir, Dr. Saifuddin Kitchlew Barrister-at-Law, and Dr. Satyapal M. B. were sentenced to transportation for life, without forfeiture of property.

Swami Anubhayanand, Messrs Dinanath, Gurbaksh Rai, Ghulam Muhammad and Abdul Aziz each sentenced to transportation for life.

Messrs Kotumal and Narian Das were sentenced to three years' rigorous imprisonment and three months' solitary confinement.

The "Kesari" has calculated that out of a total of 596 persons tried before the Martial Law Commission in the Punjab, 214 have been discharged; out of the 382 persons convicted, 77 are sentenced to be hanged, 147 to be transported for

life and 182 to imprisonment of varying terms.

Of these 8 sentences of death have been commuted by Government into transportation for life, 15 transportations into 7 years' rigorous imprisonment and 27 others to various extents.

Mr H. S. L. Polak is forming in England a Committee to protect the interests of Indians in the colonies and Dominions, and it is progressing well. Already besides Sir Mancherji Bhavnagri, Lord Carmichael, Lord Clwyde (Sir Herbert Roberts), Mr. Charles Roberts, Mr. T. I. Bennett, M. P., Capt. Ormsby-Gore, M. P., and Col. Wedgwood, M. P. have joined. The Committee will take up all questions affecting Indians in the Crown Colonies and Dominions, as well as the mandate territories.

We have pleasure to note that Mrs. Sachchidananda Sinha, whose properties are valued at from five to six lakhs of Rupees, has bequeathed half of them in equal shares to the University of the Punjab, the Kayastha Path Shala at Allahabad, and to the people of Patna for a public hall and library.

Persia and England.

London, Aug. 15.—Reuter issues details of the new agreement between the British Government and Persia, the general result of which, it is hoped, will contribute largely to future peace in the East, as well as end foreign intrigues and jealous competition of rival Powers, and give the best chance to Persia to recuperate that she has had for a century.

After giving a pledge to respect the absolute independence of the country, the agreement undertakes to supply, at the cost of Persia, such expert advisers as are considered necessary for administration; also to lend officers for a new and uniform military and police force, which it is pro-

posed to establish; while the British Treasury will advance £2,000,000, to be shared equally by the Indian Government and to be secured upon Customs revenues, in order to permit of the initiation of necessary reforms.—(Reuter's Special Service.)

London, Aug. 15.—According to "Le Temps," says Reuter's correspondent at Paris, an agreement is being concluded between Britain and Persia. This recognises the independence and integrity of Persia, but the terms appear to indicate that British influence will be paramount. The paper adds that the Shah has started for England in connection with the agreement.—Reuter's Special Service.)

London, Aug. 16.—The agreement between Britain and Persia in nowise means that Britain is assuming fresh and costly obligations nor that Persia has given up any part of her liberties.

Persia took the initiative in requesting Britain to help in rehabilitating the fortunes of Persia, because she realised Britain was the only great neighbour closely interested in her future, and able and willing to furnish help.

The Agreement also includes an undertaking that Britain will co-operate with Persia for the encouragement of combined British and Persian enterprise to improve the means of communication by railway construction.

A Committee of British and Persian experts will be appointed to revise the Customs tariff, with a view to re-modelling it to promote the prosperity of the country.—(Reuter's Special Service.)

Afghan War.

London, Aug. 14.—Although Peace has been signed with Afghanistan, trouble on the north-west frontier is not ended.

It is officially reported that Baluchi tribesmen have attacked the outposts of a British convoy. We suffered fairly heavy losses in hand-to-hand fighting.—(Reuter's Special Service.)

THE DHARMA VIR.

Friday, August 22 1919

WHITE SOUTH AFRICA.

While the statement of Generals Botha and Smuts, that the South African Nation includes all whites is reverberating in our ears, it is well that we should turn to the presidential address of the recent South African Indian Conference to see, if it breathes a different spirit. To our profound amazement, we discover, that the utterances of these leaders of South Africa find full concurrence in the presidential address. The president said: "Lest there be any misunderstanding, I may, I think, say that we all recognise that there is some reason in the opposition to unrestricted Indian immigration. We realize that this is a big land containing a sparse and scattered white population with a natural objection to be swamped by Indian immigrants in addition to being outnumbered as it is by its aboriginal peoples." Thus, while the leaders of the white peoples are endeavouring their utmost to make South Africa a white man's land, we find, our leaders assisting the whites to the best of their ability. Mr. Asvat, the president of the South African Indian Conference, we are sure, recognises no reason in the unrestricted immigration of Indians. At the most, he was a dummy president, as completely ignorant as the brick in the street, that he was being made use of to give expression to sentences that were giving away our whole ease in this country. Once this point is conceded, it will be utterly illogical on our part to object to colour legislation. Racial discrimination in legislation is the necessary corollary of this admission of white superiority in this land. Whoever drafted this address must of certainty have taken leave of his senses, and, it is a thousand pities that all those intellectual worthies, who took a free ride to Johannesburg from here, were unable to pay sufficient attention to the address. They were perhaps more obsessed with their superior intelligence than the welfare of our people. They were so conceited as to say that the delegates from the other provinces were not a match for them and they carried everything before them. On behalf of those for whom we have a claim to speak we repudiate the mischievous utterances quoted above. Indians can see no reason in the objection to unlimited immigration. If Europeans could exploit the entire coloured world without condition or limitation they do not realize why they should agree to the imposition of such conditions or limitation in South Africa which after all is said and done is not a white man's land.

London and South African Indians.

LONDON, July 17.

Much interest is being taken by people in this country in the differences between India and the Transvaal over the South African Land and Trading Bill.

The Times frequently quotes its Bombay correspondent, whose most recent observation is that the measure is regarded in India as definitely opposed to Indian interests. He adds:—Mr. Gandhi writes that the first section of the Bill means the gradual extinction of Indian traders, while the second section is nothing short of the usurpation of their legal rights. He suggests a sustained agitation throughout India against this iniquitous measure. The Times of India regards the spirit which marks the introduction of the Bill as more important than its actual provisions. The debate on the Bill, it declares shows that the Union Government has made a considerable departure from the spirit of generosity in which the settlement of 1914 was made. It therefore regards the Bill as the initiation of an anti-Indian policy which is part of a general South African movement to make the Dominions "white."

It is suggested that General Smuts, is capable of reviving the Imperial spirit in South Africa, and states that his hands will be immensely strengthened in dealing with Indian policy if the Indian Government acts promptly in denouncing the Bill and asking the Imperial Government to obtain the continuance of a just and generous recognition of Indian rights in the Transvaal. The Indian Government, it is maintained, should be represented on the Commission of Inquiry into Asiatic conditions of which Mr. Malan, the Acting Prime Minister of the Union of South Africa recently announced the appointment.

A Pregnant Question

The following question was asked of the Editor of "Young India" by Mr. B. F. Bharucha:—

If the open door policy was not compromised, pray what was the net result of Satyagraha in South Africa, and why was it stopped without securing open door for Indian immigrants? And, Sir, if Mr. Gokhale had not erred in this matter, how was it that at the Town Hall Reception given to Mr. Gokhale on his return to Bombay, Sir Mehta, Wacha & Co., were conspicuous by their absence, whereas Europeans mustered strong to do honour to Mr. Gokhale? And, Sir, what was the net result of Mr. Gokhale's visit to South Africa?

World Labour Conference.

Position of India.

London, Aug. 15.—In the House of Commons to-day, replying to Commander Kenworthy (Liberal, Hull Central), Mr. Barnes, Minister without Portfolio, said that the extent to which non-European countries, including Japan, and possessions not fully self-governing, including India, could adopt the principle laid down in Article 427 of the League of Nations covenant, governing the conditions of labour, would be worked out of an International Labour Conference.

As regards an eight hours' day or a 48 hours' week, the Organising Committee, which was preparing for the first conference at Washington in October, had invited the States mentioned to indicate the equivalent limitation of the working hours considered suitable in the special circumstances of their countries.

India was not in the same category as the colonies which, as yet, were not fully self-governing, because she was a full member of the League of Nations, and of the labour organisations. The representatives of Indian organised labour if such an organisation existed, would be invited to attend the Conference. Otherwise the Indian Government would select the representatives.

Japanese organised labour would be similarly invited or represented by the Government.—(Reuter's Special Service.)

Price of Rice.

The Government Gazette of August 15 contains a notice as regards the wholesale and retail selling prices of rice. The notice states that the Governor-General has made the following order:—

1. No importer, wholesaler, or retailer, as the case may be, shall, on and after the publication of this notice, sell any rice at prices exceeding those shown in the following schedule:—

By the wholesaler: Brown rice (of all kinds except Madagascar), sixty shillings per bag of 164 lbs.; white rice (of all kinds), seventy-two shillings per bag of 164 lbs.; Madagascar rice, forty-seven shillings and sixpence per bag of 164 lbs.

The above wholesale prices shall be for rice free on rail, Durban. Persons selling wholesale, elsewhere than in Durban, shall be entitled to add the cost of transport to such wholesale price.

By the retailer: Brown rice (of all kinds except Madagascar), fivepence per pound; white rice (of all kinds), sixpence per pound; Madagascar rice, fourpence per pound. For the purpose of this notice a wholesale transaction shall be held to be the sale of one or more bags of 164 lbs.

each, and a retail transaction the sale of any quantity less than one bag of 164 lbs.

2. The notice of all concerned is directed to the provisions of sub-section (1) (c) of section two of the Public Welfare and Moratorium Act, 1914 [No. 1 of 1914 (Special Session)], which confers upon the Governor-General the power to expropriate the whole or any portion of any foodstuffs or other necessities which, in the opinion of the Governor-General, are being unreasonably withheld from the market, upon payment to the owner thereof of such prices as may, in default of agreement, be decided to be reasonable; having regard to all the circumstances of each case, by a Judge of the Supreme Court selected by the Chief Justice of South Africa.

3. Any person who is in possession of reliable information that the above mentioned orders are being evaded by any persons or firms is required to give information thereof without delay to the Collector of Customs, or to the nearest Magistrate in those places where there is no Customs Office.

4. Attention is drawn to the provisions of section two (2) of the Public Welfare and Moratorium Act, 1914 [No. 1 of 1914 (Special Session)], whereby any person wilfully failing to comply with any orders or instructions issued under section two of the said Act, or refusing to allow the exercise of any powers conferred by this section, shall be guilty of an offence and liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding 100, or to imprisonment not exceeding six months, or to both such fine and imprisonment.

Blowing Hot and Cold.

The problem (Native) has become particularly difficult in Natal, because it has become complicated with the Indian question. The Union Government, under the Smuts-Gandhi agreement, made certain concessions, but these conditions have never been recognised by either party. Each has tried to import into the pact alterations which were never agreed upon by the two chief negotiators. General Smuts has already repudiated some of the ideas, and Mr. Gandhi has likewise stated that many of the promises have not been carried out. What the Union Parliament will have to do is to make the position of the Indians plain, not only to themselves, but to the European population. To put it shortly, are we going to accept the Asiatic population as equals or not? A *via media* can, perhaps, be found, but our Parliamentary correspondent does not seem particularly hopeful. What we should like to see is some solution of the Indian status. We invited him here, 50 or more years ago, and we left our gates

open to the immigration of others. Then we should create such legislation as would make it practical to ensure that the Indians should be raised in his standing. If we remember aright, Sir George Grey promised this more than half a century ago. This is one of the problems that the Union Government will have to deal with. They will have the resolutions of the Indian Congress before them, and they are far-reaching. They request the full exercise of the franchise, and that demand will never be accepted by the Dutch portion of the electorate, and we do not believe that it would be in the interests of South Africa, or even in the interests of the Indians themselves. So far, we do not consider that they have much cause to complain of their treatment in Natal, particularly at the hands of the mercantile community, and the Union Government has no desire to create a new difficulty. What we surmise has happened is that the Imperial Government have asked Generals Botha and Smuts to see if some more pleasant arrangement cannot be come to with the local Asiatic population. The late Sir Marshall Campbell adumbrated a scheme whereby the Indians should have a decision in the legislation which affected them just the same as Mr. Maurice Evans has always advocated that the Natives should have a more important part in the administration of their own affairs. This development is bound to come.

Natal Mercury

Mr. Ramprasad Dookie, eldest son of Mr. Dookie Raudhani Shah, is leaving for England on Tuesday, 26, August 1919 for the purpose of studying for medicine. We wish him 'bon voyage' and hope he will speedily return as a full fledged Doctor in our midst. Mr. Shah deserves the congratulations of the Hindu community for the step he has taken.

NOTICE.

TO CONSUMERS OF RICE

The Rice Committee as the result of investigation into the quantity of Rice available for general consumption, desire most earnestly to impress upon consumers, of rice the urgent necessity of making existing stocks go as far as possible, by decreasing their ordinary consumption of rice and by making up with maize meal and other commodities.

The existing stocks of rice, with the addition of the restricted quantities allowed to be exported by the Government of India, till the end of the year, will fall much below the normal requirements.

Householders who have been accustomed to give supplies of rice to their Natives are requested to suspend this

practice in order that a greater supply may be available for Indian consumers.

Holders of rice are requested to confer with the Committee before negotiating wholesale transactions, as such procedure will facilitate equitable distribution.

PERCY BINNS.

Chief Magistrate and Chairman Rice Committee Durban.

Activity in England.

Deputations From India.

Evidence For the Joint Select Committee.

A deputation of the Moderate Party of India has arrived in London to press the views of that body before the British people and Parliament in connexion with the Government of India Bill. The Moderate Party represents the better mind and the saner elements of the Indian public mind; and is really the Progressive Liberal wing of the Nationalists of India.

The deputation generally approves of the main principles of the Government of India Bill, but it is anxious to press forward some further claims in regard to the Central Government and the Budgets of transferred departments of the Provincial Governments.

Among those who have come on this deputation are the following:—Mr. Surendranath Banerjee, Member of the Imperial Legislative Council; Hon. Mr. Srinivasa Sastri, Member of the Imperial Legislative Council; Mr. K. C. Roy, of the Associated Press of India; Mr. Prithwis Chandra Roy, Joint-Editor of the *Ben-galee*, Calcutta; Mr. H. N. Kunzru, of the "Servants of India" Society; Sir Binod Mitra, Kt., late Advocate-General, Bengal; Mr. N. M. Sanmuth, of Bombay; and Sir K. G. Gupta, K.C.S.I., lately a Member of the India Council.

Among others who are expected are Mr. C. Y. Chintamani, Editor of the *Leader*, Allahabad; Mr. Ram-Chandra Rao, of the Madras Council; and Mr. Kamath, of the Bombay Legislative Council.

The deputation representing the Indian National Congress, and selected at the special session held at Delhi in December, includes Mr. B. G. Tilak, who was already in this country, the Hon. Mr. V. J. Patel, a Bombay member of the Viceregal Legislature, Mr. V.P. Madhavarao, a former Prime Minister of the Baroda, Mysore, and Travancore States, and Mr. N. C. Kelkar, chairman of the Poona Municipality. They advocate the Congress-Moslem League scheme, which was discussed and rejected in the Montagu-Chelmsford Report published a year ago.

The only representative of the All-

Continued on page 8

India Moslem League now here is the Hon. Mr. Yacoob Hasan, a member of the Madras Legislature, but his views are generally those of the Congress deputation.

Mrs. Besant is here as representing the recently formed National Home Rule League, having resigned the leadership of the Home Rule League she started three years ago. She asks for Indian Ministers in the Government of India as well as in the Provincial Governments, and for other radical changes in the reform scheme, including fiscal autonomy for India. Associated with her is Mr. B. P. Wadia, president of the Madras Labour Union, who is also taking the opportunity to bring the claims of Indian labour before the Labour Party and the Trades Union Congress.

The non-Brahmans of Madras are represented by their leader, Dr. T. M. Nair, who claims communal representation for them. Their organizations declined to give evidence before the Southborough Franchise Committee, on the ground that the Indian members were declared opponents of communal representation.

Mr. T. Earle Welby, late editor of the Madras Mail, is here to represent the European Association of India, of which he is secretary. He states that one of the main objections of the association to the Montagu-Chelmsford scheme arises "out of its reasoned conviction that for 90 per cent. of Indians it means the very reverse of self-government."

The Times.

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विन्स और तम्बाकू आदि हमेशा हमारे गोदाम में मौजूब रहती हैं ! और डीक दाम से लॉट बिक्री की जाती हैं ।

मिलने का पता:-

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१८ कुप्पर स्ट्रीट स्टंगर

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The Dharma View

PUBLISHED WEEKLY IN ENGLISH AND HINDI.

VOL. 4.

P.O.Box 1180, Durban. Friday 29 August 1919.

No. 26

THE NEW REFORM BILL.

A *communiqué* issued with this Bill states that the following text represents what the Government of India believe to be the language of the Bill, but that its absolute accuracy cannot be guaranteed owing to the difficulty of conveying by telegraph all the textual changes made in earlier versions.

(9 Geo. 5.) Government of India

A
Bill
TO

Make further provision with respect to the Government of India

A. D. 1919.

Whereas, with a view to the progressive realisation of responsible Government in British India as an integral part of the Empire it is expedient gradually to develop self-governing institutions in that country.

And whereas concurrently with the gradual development of such institutions in the Provinces of India it is expedient to give to those Provinces in provincial matters the largest measure of independence of the Government of India which is compatible with the due discharge by the latter of its responsibilities.

Be it therefore enacted by the King's most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Lords, Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:—

PART I.

Local Governments.

Classification of Central and Provincial subjects.

1.—(1) Provision may be made by rules under the Government of India Act, 1915, as amended by the Government of India (Amendment) Act, 1916 (which Act, as so amended, is in this Act referred to as "the principal Act")—

(a) for the classification of subjects, in relation to the functions of Government, as central and provincial subjects, for the purpose of distinguishing the functions of local Governments and legislatures from

the functions of the Governor-General in Council, and the Indian Legislature;

(b) for the devolution of authority in respect of provincial subjects and for the allocation of sources of revenue to local Governments;

(c) for use, under the authority of the Governor-General in Council, of the agency of local Governments in relation to central subjects in so far as such agency may be found convenient; and

(d) for the transfer from among the provincial subjects of subjects (in this Act referred to as "transferred subjects") to the administration of the governor acting with the minister in charge of the subject, and for the allocation of provincial funds for the purpose of such administration.

(2) Rules made for the above-mentioned purposes may—

(i) regulate the extent and conditions of such devolution, allocation, and transfer;

(ii) provide for fixing the contributions payable by local Governments to the Governor-General in Council and making such contributions a first charge on provincial revenue;

(iii) provide for constituting a finance department in any province and regulating the functions of that department;

(iv) provide for regulating the exercise of the authority vested in the local Government of a province over members of the public service therein;

(v) provide for the settlement of doubts arising as to whether any matter does or does not belong to a provincial subject or a transferred subject, and for the treatment of matters which affect both a transferred subject and a subject which is not transferred; and

(vi) make such consequential and supplemental provisions as appear necessary or expedient.

Provide that without prejudice to any general power of revoking or altering rules under the principal Act, the rules shall not authorise the revocation of the transfer of any subject except with the sanction of or suspension the Secretary of

State in Council.

Provision as to powers of control of Governor-General in Council.

(3) The powers of superintendence, direction and control over local Governments vested in the Governor-General in Council under the principal Act shall, in relation to transferred subjects, be exercised only for such purposes as may be specified in rules made under that Act, but the Governor-General in Council shall be the sole judge as to whether the purpose of the exercise of such powers in any particular case comes within the purposes so specified.

(4) The expressions "central subjects" and "provincial subjects" as used in this Act mean subjects so classified under the rules.

Provincial subjects, other than transferred subjects, are in this Act referred to as "reserved subjects."

Revised System of Local Government in certain provinces (Ref. 214, 218; Act of 1915, ss. 46 and foll.)

2. (1) The presidencies of Fort William in Bengal, Fort St. George, and Bombay, and the provinces known as the United Provinces, the Punjab, Bihar and Orissa, the Central Provinces, and Assam, shall be governed in relation to reserved subjects by a Governor-in-council and, in relation to any transferred subject, save as otherwise provided by this Act, by a governor acting with the minister appointed under this Act and in charge of the subject.

The said presidencies and provinces are in this Act referred to as "governor's provinces" and the two first-named presidencies are in this Act referred to as the presidencies of Bengal and Madras.

(2) The provisions of sections forty-six to fifty-one of the provincial Act, as amended by this Act, shall apply to the United Provinces, the Punjab, Bihar and Orissa, the Central Provinces and Assam, as they apply to the presidencies of Bengal, Madras, and Bombay.

(To be Continued.)

THE DHARMA VIR.

Friday, August 29 1919

GENERAL SMUTS AND INDIANS.

We publish elsewhere the speech of General Smuts made in reply to the address of welcome presented to him by the Indian community of Durban. The omission of any reference to Indian questions hitherto in the numerous speeches delivered by him, since his return, was the subject of adverse criticisms by the thoughtful members of the Indian community. The Indians of Durban will doubtless feel particularly honoured, since the gallant General had selected Durban as the venue where his silence on one of the Empire's most difficult and intricate problem was to be broken. General Smuts speaks very, very highly of the great part played by Indian troops in the war, which he asserts contributed greatly to its success. So great was the effort put forth by India that it has succeeded in completely revolutionising the feelings and the attitude of Englishmen towards her. It is a source of unlimited gladness for Indians to realize the part, great as it is, taken by General Smuts, as a member of the War Cabinet, in the direction of giving Indians a very large share in the administration of their own country. For this work, General Smuts may feel assured, the Indians will ever harbour, in their bosom, feeling of undying gratitude. The speech of General Smuts is teeming with information for Indian politicians, and, we therefore request our readers to carefully peruse it. We hope that the generous spirit which pervades the greater part of his speech betokens the inauguration of a policy of just, fair and human treatment towards Indians in future. We welcome the announcement made by him to the effect that representatives of India would be represented on the Commission of inquiry promised by the acting Prime Minister. We hope that such representatives will be Indians having the confidence of the people of India. Otherwise the commission will prove to be a source of greater irritation than the recent Parliamentary select Committee has been. We feel we cannot conclude this article without referring to the fact that in the speech there lies hidden a desire for the conversion of the Union into a White man's preserve, as also a profound intention to confine the native of Asia, particularly Indians, within the confines of that continent. We do not see the reason why, Indians, though members of the British commonwealth of Nations, though they have to use the

words of the General, "to live and grow together" as members of the same family, should not find fields for enterprise and expansion in all parts of the Empire. The inhumane doctrine of self-preservation has given place as a result of the Great War to a nobler, higher and diviner conception of the rights of men, and its assertion does not harmonize with the lofty and selfless ideals and principles which instigated the General to fight for the establishment of the League of Nations. We hope the South African air will not rustify the noble conception of human freedom and brotherhood which the wholesome air of Europe generated and enthroned in his heart.

Durban Indians' Address.

General Smuts's Reply.

Indian's war Effort and Aspirations

POSITION IN SOUTH AFRICA.

There was a large and representative gathering of Indians in the Mayor's Parlour yesterday morning, where an address of welcome to the Right Hon. J. C. Smuts by the Durban Indian community was presented. The address, which was beautifully illuminated, was the work of Mr. Singleton, of this town, and was enclosed in a silver casket, which bore the inscription: "To General Smuts from the Durban Indian community." The gallant General was accompanied by his private secretary and Sir Thomas Watt. Mr. E. M. Paruk introduced the Indian representatives to General Smuts, and, Mr. V. Lawrence having read and handed over the address to the General, Mr. Paruk then garlanded the General, according to the time honoured custom of the East.

The following was the wording of the address, which was signed by 25 of the leading members of the local Indian community: "On behalf of the Indian community of Durban, Natal, we, the undersigned, desire to tender our hearty and sincere welcome to you on your visit to the chief port of the Union of South Africa. With deep interest we have watched your great and self-sacrificing efforts on the field of battle and at the Peace Conference, in the interests of freedom and humanity, and we are proud of what you have done for South Africa. It is a matter of keen disappointment to us to find that General Botha was not able to come to Durban, but we wish to convey to him, through you, our united admiration and esteem of him. It is a matter of gratification to us that members of our communi-

ty were privileged to take part in the Great War under your command. Wishing you, Mrs. Smuts, and family much happiness and long life and a long career of useful service for yourself." &c.

General Smuts replied as follows: I thank you for the beautiful address with which you have presented me, and for the sentiments expressed therein. I am glad to note that in the address you have made mention of the fact of your countrymen having served under my command in this Great War. As I have said on previous occasions, I have been proud of the privilege of having had under me in East Africa so large a number of your countrymen. Some of them came from the independent Native States of India, Imperial Service Contingents, and others who did great and glorious work in this war. I had written from East Africa to the princes of India of the splendid part played by their troops, and what there were few better than they. Your countrymen fought not only in East Africa, but took part in other theatres of war. The conquering of the Turkish Empire was in the main the work of the Indian Army. The burden of the work in Mesopotamia, Turkestan, and the Indian Frontier fell almost entirely upon the Indian Army. If the war had continued until this year the Indian Empire would have had over a million men in the field. The stupendous part Indians had played in this great struggle had considerable effect on the result of the war. Owing to her magnificent efforts, India had won for herself a place among the nations of the world. As a member of the War Cabinet, I have had great opportunities of knowing more about the feelings of the Indians and their desire for a larger share in the apportionment of commissions in the Army, and I am glad I was able to do something for them in the Cabinet. I have worked in public and a good deal in private for the recognition of India and her services to the Empire. I strongly supported the proposals of granting commissions to Indians, and when it was pointed out that this might create an anomalous position, and that there might be the possibility of Europeans being placed under Indians, I replied: "Why not? I would be proud to serve under an Indian officer if he were able." In the Peace Conference, India was represented by the Maharajah of Bikanir, Lord Sinha and Mr. Montagu. The Maharajah is a personal friend of mine, and Lord Sinha is a man of considerable ability and training. He is one of the cleverest men I have met, and I was able to learn much from him on India's problems. As a result of the war there was an emotional feeling throughout the world, which did not leave India unaffected. She desires to govern herself.

Other Asiatics have been ruling and misruling, and India, after having been under the British for over a hundred years, should be given a large measure of self-government. I have been a party to the Hon. Mr. Montagu going to India to study the question there, which has resulted in some far-reaching concrete proposals being submitted to the British Parliament. The British are a very highly imaginative people though they do not appear to be so. There was a great feeling in England in favour of India's aspirations. With the improvement of the status of India the position of the Indians in other places will be better. Before my return I found that the Asiatic Trading Act had been passed in the Union, and there had been a great deal of irritation among the Indians here, and which had also caused a great deal of feeling in India. But the Government had decided to appoint a Commission to go into the whole matter. India would be represented by members on the Commission to watch over the interests of Indians, so that no stigma might attach to them. Some of you think I look down upon Indians, but that is not so. I look up to them. They come from a very old civilisation—much older than ours. They are able to hold their own. We have our difficulties in South Africa, and we, as a small white community, cannot withstand a great influx of Indians. We would be crushed and overwhelmed if we had an open door. India, if she is in need of emigration for her surplus population, has the fertile fields of Mesopotamia, Euphrates, Tigris, and Turkestan, which can hold 30 millions of people. But now that the Indians are here I hold they should have fair treatment in all parts of the Union. We have to live side by side in conciliation, and we must endeavour to understand each other's standpoint, so that we may live together and grow together. We are members of the one family and belong to the same Empire. I thank you again for the beautiful address and silver casket in which to put the address. Mrs. Smuts will be glad to hear of the kindly reference made to her. I thank you all once more.

London, July 17.

LORD SINHA ON THE SOUTH AFRICAN SITUATION

In the course of a speech at the annual meeting of the National Indian Association held in London on June 10, Lord Carmichael in the Chair, Lord Sinha, the Under Secretary of State for India, said:—

"We are no longer content to think of India as the one country to which we belong; we have begun to think in terms

of Empire. But if this is to remain a genuine feeling you must also continue to believe—I will not say continue to believe, but you must begin to believe—that India has an equal part in the Empire. When I came here to-day I came fresh from the perusal in the papers of a telegram from South Africa; perhaps some of you have seen it already. The position of Indians there, which I hoped was, as a result of the War Conference, going to be considerably improved, is now far worse than it was before the war. That is the kind of thing which, if permitted, will estrange Indians. I will not suggest to you for a moment that the fault is that of England or of any Englishman; but if South Africa is to be part of the Empire and if India is to be part of the Empire the same as South Africa is, then I look, to other parts of the Empire to see that South Africa does not impose such humiliating restrictions upon us, and in fact, prevent us, and particularly those already there, from earning our livelihoods in that country."

DEATH OF GEN. BOTHA

The fears aroused on the receipt late last night of the news of the critical condition of General Botha have unhappily been only too well founded, as a message received about half-past 1 o'clock this morning, just before going to press with this edition, conveyed the lamentable news that the great soldier-statesman had passed away at midnight.

S. Africa's great man

PASSED PEACEFULLY AWAY AT MIDNIGHT

Mrs. Botha and Son Present

DEATH DUE TO HEART FAILURE

Illness Result of Chill which settled in Throat.

Johannesburg, Aug. 27 (Reuter).—General Botha passed peacefully away at midnight, Mrs. Botha and Capt. Louis Botha were at the bedside. Other relatives had been telegraphed for, but owing to the sudden turn for the worse they were unable to get here in time.

When the Premier went to his farm last week he was apparently in good health, but while there he caught a chill which settled in the throat. On his return to Pretoria on Monday, he complained of his throat, and as he had a slight temperature he was put to bed on Mon-

day, and on Tuesday he was attended by Dr. Veale and Dr. MacNab, a specialist from Johannesburg, and to-day four other doctors were called in.

Death was due to heart failure.

The late hour at which the news was received renders it possible only to give in this issue a very brief sketch of the career of the great South African whom death has removed from our midst at a comparatively early age. General the Right Hon. Louis Botha was born at Greytown, Natal, in 1862, but when quite young he went with his parents to the Orange Free State, and afterwards to Vryheid, then a portion of the late South African Republic. He held various posts under the Government of that Republic, and on the outbreak of the South African War in 1899, joined General Lucas Meyer's commando. When General Joubert died early in that war, he was made Commandant General of the Transvaal forces, which he continued to lead until the conclusion of peace by the Treaty of Vereeniging, that momentous compact by which he so loyally and nobly, in the face of immense difficulties, stood to to the last hour of his life. When Responsible Government was granted the Transvaal, and the Het Volk Party, of which he was leader, had a majority in the first Parliament elected in 1907 under that Constitution, General Botha became the first Prime Minister of that Colony, a post which he held until Union in 1910, when he became the first Premier of the Union. His invaluable services during the Great War, now ended, his suppression of the rebellion, defeat of the Germans, and conquest of German South-West Africa, and his recent great services to the Empire and the Union at the Peace Conference are matters of to-day's history. South Africa now mourns the loss of one of her greatest sons at a time when her need of such gift of leadership as was his is most acute, while the Empire, whose loyal son he was by adoption, will from one end to the other, join in the mourning at the bereavement sustained in the untimely closing of such a splendid career. To the sorrowing widow and family world-wide sympathy will be extended.

OBITUARY

Mr. HAJEE DAWAD MAHOMED

We regret to announce the death of Hajee Dawad Mahomed, leader of the Indian community in South Africa, and a well-known resident of Durban for the past 34 years. The sad event occurred at his residence at Umbilo on Wednesday morning, and the funeral took place from his residence, which was followed by a

huge concourse of people, to the Grey Street Mosque, whence it proceeded to the Brook Street Cemetery. Along the route the picturesque but sad custom of Islam in which every Moslem becomes in turn the pall-bearer, was a touching sight. Europeans and members of every section of the community were present to pay their last respects to the deceased. Numerous floral tributes and message of sympathy from various parts of South Africa were received. All the Indian places of business in town and district, as also the Indian Market, were closed for the afternoon, to mark the feeling of the Indian community for their leader.

S. A. Indian Conference.

The Presidential Address which Should Have Been Read.

Gentlemen,

I desire to express my heartfelt thanks and appreciations for the honour you have conferred upon me by unanimously electing me to be the President of this conference and to preside over its deliberations. It is a sign of healthy activity that delegate from all parts of the Union representing all shades of opinion have gathered together in order to act unitedly and to present a solid front to Anti-Asiatic legislation that seem to be emanating from the Union Government. At a time like this it is right and proper that we should act unitedly so that we may procure the maximum benefit for our community.

Gentlemen. I have accepted your nomination as President in the full hope and assurance that I can at all times confidently rely upon your assistance in the discharge of my duties. There are a great many and grave difficulties which confront and threaten the very life of our community; and it behoves us calmly but firmly to consider these difficulties. We must make practical and moderate suggestions for relief of same. We must continuously and insistently impress upon the Union Government or the Provincial Governments that the suggestions so made through or by this conference should be acceded to on principles of right of justice.

In such a gathering of this kind as we have today there is bound to be a good deal of discussion which will be for or against any proposals or resolutions made, and it is only when the applications of different minds to a common problem and a full and free discussion has been given that we can come to any matured or considered decision. Holding these views, I, therefore, warmly welcome any reasoned discussion of all questions or matters affecting our wellbeing and progress; when

any such decision has been arrived at we should accept the same without demur, and honestly, zealously and loyally work on the lines so laid down.

All our discussions should be conducted on non-party and non-personal grounds, and delegates finding themselves in a minority should quietly and calmly accept the clearly ascertained decision of the majority, and in a spirit of friendliness co-operate to make the work a success. Unless we observe this spirit our progress will be considerably retarded, and we will have gained nothing at the end of our discussions. Gentlemen, today marks one of the greatest events in the history of the world. Today we celebrate the Peace after this long and cruel war, and we are grateful to our Almighty God for the Peace that He has now sent to us. We should, if all things were equal, be out upon the streets loudly shouting our joy at this great event and celebrating it in the spirit which is today permeating and pervading over the whole of the Empire. But, Gentlemen, what are we doing? We are gathered here together to consider the best means at our disposal in order that we may gird up our loins and get ourselves ready for a great and tremendous political battle in which our life and our honour are at stake. Gentlemen, life and honour both grow in one. Take honour from me and my life is done. So we feel that for us this Peace is very largely nominal. It is proper now that we should remember the part that India has played in responding to the call of duty in this great war. We know how our Mother Land lavishly and unstintingly sent both men and money in order that the Cause of right, justice and freedom should prevail over brute force and militarism. As a single country India has contributed in men money and materials almost equal, if not more than the other self governing colonies have done collectively. We in South Africa also responded to the call of duty and the Indian Bearer Corps has made a record of which we are proud. They have done their duty and have done it well. Many of them have returned home permanently disabled and many have made the supreme sacrifice. To them we in remembrance tender our heartfelt thanks. Leading Imperial Statesmen and even South African Statesmen and the Press have unanimously admitted that our Mother land has played a great and important part in this Great War; and she has done her duty to the satisfaction and admiration of the civilised world. Responsible Statesmen have declared their matured and deliberate opinion that India should not be forgotten in the future realm of progress and Peace. So much has India come forward that she has carved for herself an honourable place in the League

of Nations. Gentlemen, we are proud to belong to India notwithstanding our position in South Africa; and we confidently hope that the status which our mother land is securing in the World's affairs will also entitle us to claim a recognition of our status in this land of South Africa consistent with the honour and fame of our mother land.

Gentlemen. We are labouring under a number of difficulties and grievances which affect all the Provinces in like manner. Class legislation is not permissible, but we find that legislation is passed ostensibly general in its effects but by regulations and practice wholly, if not solely against members of our community. The Immigration Regulation Act is a clear instance. We know at the various ports of entries special machinery is provided for the examination, detention and prohibition of our countrymen, and I can say without the least hesitation or fear of contradiction that the slightest mis-statement made, however innocently or inadvertently is seized upon as sufficient justification for jeopardising the right of entry. We have by bitter experience learnt that even the possession of Certificates of registration or domicile does not ensure one's entry. There are other difficulties which emanate from this Act but it will be a matter for this Conference to discuss same and make sensible recommendations in regard thereto. On the question of domicile we require some definite pronouncement because under the existing laws our domicile means nothing except which an Immigration Officer may assign it to be. We also require freedom of inter-colonial movement without being subject to the present harassing, degrading and unnecessary procedure which holds. We have attained a status in this country which entitles us to treatment consistent with our honour and dignity. Natives of South Africa move about freely from Province to Province, hand in hand with our late enemies, but we, loyal British subjects may not do so. This is a condition of things, which is neither creditable to the Union Government nor to ourselves as Indians. It is our duty to exert every nerve in order to obtain this degree of equality not only in the matter of inter-provincial movement but upon our Railways, which are conducted in a manner very unsatisfactory to the wishes of our countrymen. Considerable improvement is badly necessary and we must press to see that our convenience and requirements are met. Exactly what is required will be discussed during the Conference; and I have no doubt we shall be able to present some suggestions to the proper quarters, which, if carried out, will tend to remove a considerable amount of irritation, which now prevails. (To be Continued)