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INDIAN OPINION

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SENSATIONAL NEW SERIAL 'THE PRODIGAL'

By

Simiso Ygwane

INSIDE

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NEED FOR SELF- INTROSPECTION

FATHER TREVOR HUDDLESTON, C.R., told the first luncheon meeting of the newly formed Progressive Association in Johannesburg recently: "I am morally sure that the greatest weakness in European South African society today is the failure of those who know the right, to bear witness as to what they know.

"We have reached the stage today when it is considered a good thing to conceal your profoundest convictions lest the revelation of them may create discomfort or even persecution. We are past masters in the art of rationalisation."

Unless and until White South Africa, in every detail of its daily life and most of all in its human relationships was prepared to be honest with itself about its own motives it would never find its way out of "the darkening twilight of this day."

"You cannot bear your witness to the principles of a just and free society unless you are ready to examine your own thoughts and actions in the fierce light of truth.

"I may not, alone, be able to change society. But I have no right to live in society and to pass judgment on its corruption and rottenness unless I alone, in the strength of my convictions and with the grace and power of God, meet the evils that are there as if they were my responsibility and nobody else's."

Father Huddleston gave examples of rationalisation. "Remove the Western Areas and call it slum clearance—then you can sleep the sleep of the just. Deprive thousands of men of the right to sell their labour in the best market and call it influx control.

"Cut out the school-feeding subsidy and tell the world that the African can now expand his own educational facilities to the utmost limit."

It was a good thing to ask, when new societies or associations or political parties emerged, why they were so necessary and what was their real purpose.

He believed that, whatever their aims, they must be an expression of three things which were essential to a healthy society—freedom of association, of opinion and of speech.

None of these three things had been achieved without much blood, sweat and tears. All of them could vanish from any society which forgot that the "price of liberty is eternal vigilance."—Sapa.

Today, of all days, the joy of giving is uppermost in every heart. The best thing to give to your enemy is forgiveness; to an opponent, tolerance; to a friend, your heart; to your child, a good example; to your father, deference; to your mother, conduct that will make her proud of you; to yourself, respect; to all men, charity; and to your loved ones?

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INDIAN OPINION

FRIDAY, 2ND MARCH, 1956

Two Nations Or One?

BOTH 'Die Burger' and the Prime Minister have been at pains in the recent months to emphasise that apartheid must not be viewed as hostile to the man of colour. 'Die Burger' has been urging the Nationalists to behave in a way which would convince the non-European and the foreigner that apartheid is friendly and is well-intentioned towards the man of colour.

Good South Africanism means a readiness to see good in the others when it shows up. If 'Die Burger' and the Prime Minister want us to believe that apartheid is good for us they must also be willing to answer one or two questions to allay our worst fears.

In the first place the man of colour has a personality created in the image of God like that of the Afrikaner. He has the duty to develop it to the best of his ability. To do that he needs to be free in mind, body and soul. This means that he must have an effective say in the making of the laws which influence his life; it means the recognition of the right of the non-European to determine his future.

In practical terms it means that creation in the image of God endows the human personality with an equal capacity to achieve. (If this is denied it could be argued that sometimes the personality reveals God in an inferior form—a proposition every Christian would

regard as absurd.) But recognition of the non-European's equal potential to achieve involves accepting to non-European as an equal. This is the acid test by which to determine whether or not apartheid or any other ideology is friendly or hostile.

Up to now apartheid has distinguished itself in the direction of breaking promises and solemn pledges made to the man of colour and placing stumbling-blocks to his progress and using gangster methods to trying to distort the free growth of the African's personality by giving his child an education fit only for a slave. Does 'Die Burger' and the Prime Minister really wish to be taken seriously against the background of these developments?

Then, there is the element of compulsion which is the cornerstone of apartheid. If apartheid means good by the non-European why does it think so overwhelmingly in terms of coercing the non-European to do this and that? It seems to us this will to coerce expresses the quality of the mind behind apartheid; it is a rejection of the truth that the man of colour has a sacred personality.

There are only two real solutions to the race problem: complete territorial separation and complete integration of the races in one society.

Complete territorial separation entails the creation

of a sovereign independent state for the man of colour, free to enter into diplomatic relations with foreign powers. It entails, in the end, the complete withdrawal of African labour from the Union's industries, agriculture and homes. But, above everything, it entails rejecting the African as a partner and involves driving him straight to the hands of those who would see the world divided into two racial camps.

We must not deceive ourselves here. If such a state were ever to be set up, quite naturally by its very selfish nature apartheid would give the man of colour a smaller portion of the land. The White majority would remain with all that is good. Such a state can be founded only on an injustice since the man of colour would not choose what is to belong to him. This injustice would give the African or non-White state a vested interest in dedicating itself to finally declaring war on White South Africa to right the wrong on which the non-White state would have been founded.

There are very many people outside South Africa and inside who would like to see war declared on a colour-conscious South Africa. For our part, quite frankly we think the world would be a better place minus those who hate their fellowmen because of their colour. But the Afrikaner is only a tiny minority in South Africa and stands alone in the world. Why should he, as a human being, be allowed to destroy himself and deprive the world of the good he could contribute if he found his proper place in a multi-racial society?

The other solution is complete integration of the

racess in a common society with no colour bar. This would mean that sovereign independence would be shared. The Whiteman would no longer be the ruler. By the very fact of his numbers he would be a minority group. In a colour-conscious society this would be a distinct disadvantage. But in a completely integrated society, colour would no longer be consideration. Merit would be the important thing.

In such a society policies would be determined not by the majority of the like-coloured but by the majority of the like-minded regardless of race or colour.

The really important thing is what would happen during the period of transition to an integrated society: how the races could live and work together in a way not to endanger each other's future. But that is a problem for mutual agreement; for discussion in a convention of the races.

In our view the risks taken with the ideal of an integrated society based on equality are less than those entailed in the apartheidist approach. Apartheid, whether positive or practical is the straight road to civil strife and war. The African will not remain the Whiteman's economic slave forever. He is in revolt already. The State spends millions of pounds every year to build up a stronger and stronger Police force. The Police are no longer merely an arm of the law; in so far as the African is concerned they are an army of occupation. No race of men has ever remained contented with being dictated to by an army of occupation.

This fact brings us to our main point. Whether we like it or not apartheid places us in the position where we are developing in

the direction of becoming two nations. If we were to be two nations although friendly disposed towards each other, that would be bad enough. But Black and White march side by side to ultimate war with each other. That is tragic. It makes both the Prime Minister's and 'Die Burger's' talk of friendship altogether meaningless.

On the other hand we must not regard as unimportant the significant fact that both "Die Burger" and the Prime Minister now tell

MR. MANILAL GANDHI

THERE is nothing to elaborate on Mr. Manilal Gandhi's health, except to say as usual that he is making a fine progress. He is more cheerful and is able to talk a little better than before. The Doctor has commended to give electric treatment to Loth the paralysed limbs.

We are once more thankful to all those who have sent us messages of good wishes.

their followers that it is important for them to be friendly-disposed towards the non-European. This does not mean that they now see apartheid for the wicked thing that it is. But it is significant that they are beginning to see the truth in slightly better light. If they go farther, in the direction taken by Professor Keet in his pamphlet, by Dr. J. Reyneke and by Dr. Ben Marais, there is every reason to look the future with confidence.

The Afrikaner has every right to revere what is his own and to insist on preserving his identity. But he has no right whatsoever to impose his will on the others or to tell them what their preferences should be

in life. To do that is an act of hostility. Up to now apartheid has been remarkable for the way in which it

has attempted to lay down the law for everybody and not for its generous regard for the rights of the others.

If it is regarded by the non-European as an enemy-ideology, it has only itself to blame.

Another Blow Against Freedom

THERE is a sort of law of geometrical progression by which one law arbitrarily interfering with civic liberties leads to an unending and multiplying stream of further laws extending or amending itself. "Loopholes" in the original law have to be plugged; intended victims "try to circumvent the law" (i.e. they exercise all legal opportunities at their disposal in defence of their rights); or, more simply, the legislator thinks up some new way of making the arbitrary powers more convenient for his administrative officials to operate.

Dr. Verwoerd's proposed Natives' (Prohibition of Interdicts) Bill exactly illustrates this process. The Native Administration Act, under which "agitators" can be deported from one locality to another if the Minister considers it necessary, was a pre-Nationalist measure. As with so many Nationalist laws, virtually no appeal lies to the courts from an order under the deportation clause.

The clause has been operated by the present Government more extensively and more callously than ever before. In many cases the deportation has seemed concerned with punishing a political opponent rather than with any real apprehension of a breach of the peace.

But it now appears that some prospective African victims of purely administrative orders of deportation or ejection from premises have been able to delay their removal by obtaining interdicts from the courts. This has enabled them to delay proceedings until they could contest what they considered a wrongful invasion of their rights. And, indeed, the courts only grant temporary interdicts where there is *prima facie* evidence of such wrongful invasion.

In the opinion of the Minister of Native Affairs, however, this procedure merely enables an "agitator" to remain in the "trouble spot" pending the courts' final order. The new Bill, therefore, proposes that all Africans shall

be prohibited from obtaining a court interdict "when required by a competent authority under any law to vacate or be ejected from any land, premises, building, place, area, location, Native hostel or Native village."

Thus, in order to stop up a particular "loophole" applying to (even under this "strong" Government) quite a small number of people, all Africans everywhere are to be totally deprived of a fundamental and elementary civic right—that of preventing instant removal under an order which

By
C. W. M. GELL

may later be proved illegal, improper or ill conceived. It is true that, if a court later finds the original order invalid, the Bill provides for the victim's return and compensation for financial loss incurred. But a court order may only be obtainable months after the order was served and injury inflicted. In the meantime, the man will have lost his job and probably his house or room, his family will have been put to serious inconvenience and possibly destitution, and they or he may have been forced to break periods of residence or service which may disqualify them for continued residence in the towns under the Section 10 of the Urban Areas Act. For these and other disabilities that this new Bill will inevitably impose no financial restitution can compensate.

It is obviously useless at this late stage to expect the Government to be deflected from its course by the argument that the European community of South Africa would never acquiesce in the passage of such a Bill, if it affected whites. Government policy is openly based on the imposition of one law for Europeans and another for Africans, at least in the "white areas." But, even a Government dedicated to such a deplorably one-sided policy, may legitimately be cri-

ticised—and criticised severely by both opponents and supporters within its own limited terms of reference—for such an apparently limitless removal of rights from all sections of the African people in order to prevent so small a temporary "nuisance" being committed by so few individuals.

Finally, it may be noted that this is a glaring but not isolated example of the process described in the opening paragraph above. Everyone will remember Mr. Srijdom's defence of the Suppression of Communism Act to an overseas journalist just after he became Premier, on the grounds that it was only applied to genuine Communists. Yet only the other day in the Assembly, the Minister of Justice told Mr. Hepple that, although 604 people have been "named" under the Act, 71 people (8 Europeans, 9 Indians and 54 Africans), who have not been "named," have been banned or proscribed in terms of the Act.

Thus, even on Mr. Swart's own comprehensive definition of who is or is not a "Communist," 71 non-Communists have been penalised by the Act. How many more of the 604 "named" persons are nothing more than what one learned judge called "statutory Communists" can only be surmised from the Government's known tendency to label any forthright opponent of the Government's racial policies as "communist."

The action already taken under the Suppression Act and now proposed under Dr. Verwoerd's new Bill also illustrate vividly how very much more lightly the Government regards non-European rights than European—at present. But since freedom is indivisible, it cannot possibly end there and "loophole plugging" etc. must increasingly affect Europeans too. We have been warned! Meanwhile, critics abroad are furnished with irrefutable evidence in this new Bill entirely justifying accusations of totalitarianism.

Pakistan Letter

(From Our Own Correspondent)

Karachi, February, 1956.

THE Constituent Assembly is now deeply involved in consideration of the Constitution Bill and the Prime Minister has, on more than one occasion, announced his determination to secure passage of the Bill before the end of February. There are reasons which make this desirable to say the least of it. In the first place, the present Government is committed, as its first duty, to provide the country with a Constitution. This is essential since on this issue any Government stands or falls. But there are two further considerations of special significance at the present moment.

In the early part of next month there will be a high level SEATO conference at which, by all accounts, Pakistan intends to do some plain speaking. Recently there has been evidence of dissatisfaction on the part of Pakistan towards its friends and allies and there has been increasing public glamour that the Government should not allow Pakistan to be taken for granted. It is suggested that at the SEATO meeting, Pakistan might stress the unsatisfactory position of the Kashmir dispute and the inadequacy of the economic assistance which Pakistan has so far received. It is evident that if the Pakistan delegates speak with the backing of an agreed Constitution, their words will carry more weight than if there still remain undecided internal differences. Furthermore, delegates from other countries will be interested to know how much strength the Central Government will be able to exert over the two units which make up Pakistan.

The second reason is that in March, the national Budget comes up for consideration. This is a matter which cannot be deferred and if the Constitution has not been approved by the time the Budget is due to be announced, then consideration of the Bill must be deferred until the Budget is disposed of. This, in itself, will be a source of delay and it also seems that in the present temper of the Opposition, principally represented by the Awami League members from East Pakistan, there might be protracted debates on the Budget proposals.

The Opposition has already given clear indication of its intention to oppose the passage of the Constitution Bill to the best of its strength and at the beginning of the present month, progress threatened to be extremely slow. However, the Government Coalition has been able to do a great deal by leaving aside consideration of controversial topics and proceeding to clauses on which there is agreement within the Government Coalition. The point is that on some of the constitutional proposals there has hitherto been disagreement between the Muslim League component of the Coalition and the United Front component and, quite apart from the views of the Opposition, this disagreement has made it impossible to secure approval of certain fundamental points as, for example, the provision as to the nature of the electorate, joint or separate, and whether Karachi shall be merged into the Western Unit or remain outside it.

It remains to be seen whether the internal differences within the Coalition can be resolved quickly enough to make it possible to secure approval of the Bill before the end of the month. There is no doubt that the Prime Minister is doing all he can to achieve this without, at the same time, suffering any defection from the ranks of the Coalition and there are indications that he will succeed. He has succeeded in bringing Hindu Ministers to the Centre as well as to the East Pakistan Provincial Government and he is anxious not to lose them. On the other hand, the proposals intended to satisfy Muslim aspirations and sentiments are uncongenial to the Hindu community and there have been reports of resignation.

The election of Sardar Abdur Rab Nishtar to the presidency of the Pakistan Muslim League has aroused a measure of enthusiasm and the expression of hope that the League can be restored to its former vigour and stature. The Sardar commands respect as a close collaborator of Mr. Jinnah and as one of the Muslim League leaders who negotiated the partition settlement with the Congress and Lord Mountbatten. No doubt, Sardar Abdur Rab Nishtar would like to see the fortunes of

the League restored, but whether his health will enable him to achieve this is perhaps doubtful.

He has appealed to the old colleagues who left the Muslim League to return and Mr. Fazlur Rahman has accepted the invitation. Mr. Rahman was a Central Minister for several years and he left the Government when Mr. Ghulam Mohamed dismissed Khwaja Nazimuddin's Government. Mr. Rahman became an independent and as such was elected to the present Constituent Assembly. His return to the Muslim League is not without importance inasmuch as he provides representation in the Constituent Assembly for the Muslim League from East Pakistan and an important gap is thereby filled.

As the months pass signs of social awakening in Pakistan multiply. But recently the All-Pakistan Women's Association effectively interfered to prevent a most inappropriate marriage between a Pir, well into middle-age and the orphan niece of one of his followers. The girl was said in some reports to be sixteen years old and in others, eighteen, but whatever the facts as to the girl's age there can be no doubt that she was a senior student at a girls' school from which she was to be removed in order that she should be married to the Pir who, it may in fairness be added and so far as it goes, had no other wife living.

Lady officials of APWA upon hearing of this affair hastened to intervene. It was ascertained that the girl was an orphan, living with an aunt and uncle and between her and the aunt there was ill-feeling. For this reason, and as the child had no fortune of her own, the uncle thought this marriage was a suitable opportunity, but he was not averse to the suggestion of APWA that the marriage should not take place and that APWA should undertake responsibility for completing the girl's education and subsequent marriage. The girl has, as it were, become the ward of APWA, has been made a pupil at the APWA school and a most unsuitable marriage, leading almost certainly to the unhappiness of one of the parties, if not of both, has been averted.

Those who know the subcontinent will have no difficulty in imagining what measure of social progress is marked by this obscure happening to which, it may be added, a great deal of sympathetic publicity was given by the Pakistan Press.

These changes in social outlook are the accompaniment—perhaps the inevitable accompaniment—of the changes which are gradually overtaking the country. It is extraordinary to think, especially for those who remember Karachi before World War II as a quiet provincial city, that in the course of a year or so, the Federal Capital will have its own domestic gas supply piped from Sui. The industrial supply is already available and is being used by factories on the outskirts of Karachi as well as by the Karachi Electric Supply Company for the purpose of thermal generation. The growth of an immense suburbia between Karachi and the Airport is perhaps too well-known to call for comment.

But what escapes notice is the list of articles of daily consumption that are now being produced in Pakistan. These articles are not merely assembled or repacked from materials imported from foreign countries, but are the actual produce of the country, now processed locally. A wide variety of good quality preserved foods, breakfast cereals, biscuits and canned soups are now being manufactured. Footwear of all sorts, tyres and tubes, surgical instruments, medicines, toilet articles including high quality cosmetics; a range of textiles including reasonably good woollen textiles has for some time been available. It cannot be said that Pakistan has not made a determined effort towards self-sufficiency.

SPECIAL NOTICE

RE: SHREE MAYAWANT ASSOCIATION

Please take note that the above Association upon dissolution has distributed a part of its shares to Districts.

We the undersigned Committee Members of the Surat District have received the part of Shares due to Surat District and hereby notify that a Special General Meeting of the Mayawant Members of the Surat District will be held at the Surat Hall, Victoria Street, Durban, on Sunday 11th March, 1956, at 10 a.m. sharp.

AGENDA:

To discuss regarding the Shares received and decisions on same.

All Surat District Mayawant Association Members are requested to attend.

Yours faithfully,
 AMBARAM MITHA,
 D. I. DICESIA,
 NARSIBHAI BHAGWAN,
 DULLABHBHAI GOVIN,
 Surat District Committee Members.

Short Story

The Prodigal—I

SOPHIATOWN had rarely known such a storm before. It raged with a fury which could snap nerves of steel. A streak of lightning flashed through the large window of Zacharias Memela's sitting room with the glare of a million candles—then a deafening crash. It was as if the whole house had been shaken to the ground. In another second, it was all over.

Memela rose from the floor and rubbed the parts of his body bruised by the wall by the side of which he had fallen. His eyes were blinded for a while by the lightning. He groped about the room until he tumbled on a sofa.

"That was a bad one..." said a voice from the direction of the door. It was a very familiar voice; but it sounded terribly frightened.

"Were you hurt, Mr. Memela?"

"No, doctor." His instincts told him to rise to his feet. That was the correct thing to do when spoken to by a Whiteman. "I was at the window reading the afternoon paper. I saw a dazzling light over my shoulder. I heard a peal of thunder. All I remember after that is that I was hurled against the wall as though I had been blown by a gust of wind."

The effects of the flash cleared from his eyes. "I was frightened," he confessed, trying to smile. "Pray take a seat, doctor." He collected the scattered pages of the "Courier" as he spoke.

"I thought I'd be first with the news..." cried the Whiteman. "I see you already have the paper."

"Which news, doctor?"

"Haven't you seen the examination results. They're in the paper you were reading."

Memela was sceptical. His large and sad eyes, trained not to look a Whiteman in the face, stared into space. Dr. Sherlock Chalmers laughed. Memela did not laugh. For some time he had gone about with a long face—it had been as if he was depressed by a sense of impending disaster. Dr. Sherlock Chalmers, head of the American-owned mission hospital, had sensed the trouble coming over Memela and had decided to go out of his way to create an atmosphere where the worst would not turn into the very worst. Whenever he had the time, he called on Memela—to cheer him up.

"Sihe has passed!" he exclaimed. "I came in to congratulate her."

"She has not returned as yet from town, doctor. How did I miss her name? I went through the list of passes line by line."

"I am sure it is there."

The American missionary picked up the paper and spread it before Memela.

By

SIMISO NGWANE

"St. Monica's.....St. Monica's Secondary School. There you are. First Class. There.....there. Sihe Memela with distinctions in Zulu, English, History and Music. She did exceptionally well."

Memela's face brightened.

"She did well. Now I know how I missed her name. I looked for it among the third class passes."

"You were not fair to her Sihe did not deserve a third class."

"I have grown to expect anything from bad to worse from the younger generation. Things are so different. In my younger days little boys did not go about with knives robbing their own mothers and sisters. You never heard of the ghastly crimes reported in the papers every day to-day. There was peace in the land. True, we were not paid well. But things were not so bad."

"Of course you should not expect society to stand still. The human personality is a strange thing. When a child is born you cannot predict precisely what it will be. I do not think anybody can. That goes for each generation of the human species. All that can be said is that both the child and the new generation adapt themselves to conditions as they are when they are born. Perhaps living conditions in your time were quite different and they produced decent men and women. I am not sure though that the generation to which you and I belonged had a monopoly of virtue. We plunged the world in two horrible wars and wiped out Hiroshima—possibly because it was not a White town..."

"You are speaking of the White races. We Africans had nothing to do with all that."

"True. But human behaviour follows similar lines no matter what your colour is. If you had been free people I have no doubt in my mind that you would have behaved as other human beings did in your time."

"But your boys and girls do not roam the streets as ours do."

"Oh! That's because we have decent homes, Mr. Memela."

"I don't think the younger generation cares much for decent homes. My experience is teaching me that if you give your child a decent home you invite disappointment. The child lets you down; turns against you or stabs you in the back. Who are the worst rogues in Sophiatown? And the worst drunkards? The sons of well-to-do fathers, of course. The sons of persons who worked themselves to the bone to give their children security and comfort. The sons and the daughters of the poor distinguish themselves everywhere—in the professions, in the Church, in business, in politics; everywhere they are at the top. Our sons are in the shebeens."

"By decent I don't mean material comfort only. I mean that the mere possession of a White skin is a passport to privilege and entitles one to the best things in life. That is why our children do not roam the streets. The day you are free men like the Whiteman your boys and girls will not roam the streets. The environment in which they will grow then will incline them in the direction of responsible citizenship."

"I have lost hope, Mfundisi. What sort of citizen will a fellow like my son make? You know the story. He quarrelled with his headmaster and refused to be called Chalmers Memela. I droop my head in shame when I think of it. Chalmers, he protested, was a Whiteman's name and he would not have it because he was an African. How it made me sick. Then, he said, he would not go to a school where lies and perfidy were taught. Dingane was being mirrored as the incarnation of all that is base in the human nature while Piet Retief epitomised shining virtue. He was not going to stand that nonsense anymore, he said. Who is he to say that? I wanted him to qualify as a surveyor; the first African to be so qualified. I wanted him to go to the university. I was willing to see him through everything. He insisted on having things his own way. Today he belongs to the streets. I long to see what will come of it all."

"He might still become a surveyor."

"Not if he follows his present ways. Mind you surveying was not my choice. It was his. I merely wanted to help him along. Naturally, since I was to pay, I had to lay down the conditions..."

"Give Sihe a chance. She's entitled to it."

"I thought she would realise how much pain her brother's behaviour gave us. I thought she would try to do something to please us. Now she comes along and says she wants to train as a singer. A singer! What future is there for an African singer? In this South Africa? When wolves and cads prowl around every music hall? It is madness. Who ever lived on singing? How many singers have stable homes? Don't we read of many of them involved in nasty situations? But then, if she wants to go to the streets like her brother, let her please herself. After all they are twins"

Memela sank back into his chair. The dark cloud of gloom descended on him again. For a while he was silent, depressed by the sense of impending disaster which haunted him.

The rain had stopped falling outside. Sihe and her brother, Fanyana, jumped out of a taxi near the gate and ran up to the house.

"Hello, doctor," she exclaimed.

"Hello, Sihe! You were lucky to escape the storm on the way... and, hearty congratulations!"

"Oh...er...are the results out?"

"You did very well. A first class pass and some distinctions. You don't get very many White girls doing so well."

"Oh! doctor! Thank you for the congratulations. Fanyana! Where's he? I thought he was following me? Have you heard how I passed Fanyana?"

Her brother's voice came in a low rumble up the passage from the direction of the kitchen. He clearly was not talking to her. She made for the door.

"I must tell this to mother myself! Excuse me doctor!"

She ran down the passage into the kitchen. Fanyana and his mother were engaged in a violent exchange of words—in muffled tones. She stopped suddenly at the door. The noise she had heard while in the lounge—she knew now what it had all been about. Her heart beat faster, not because of the things her mother and her brother were saying to each other but because she wondered what would happen if Dr. Chalmers left the house at that moment and thus freed her father to join in the drama going on in the kitchen. There was a lot of trouble in the Memela household those days. The central figure in all this was her brother. He had clashed violently with his father. The spectacle had made her tremble. She dreaded to think what would happen this time if father and son collided again. Her heart beat faster and faster until she started trembling....

(To be continued)

African Viewpoint

Congress And Its Difficulties—II

THE Sisulu wing, on the other hand, would most probably decline an invitation from the West. It is quite possible too, that they would turn down an invitation to visit India—particularly if it came from the government. But if they got the chance, I think they would go to Bucharest, Moscow and Peking.

That shows how divided Congress is at the moment. And this division explains the paralysis. But the paralysis is being used by the Left wing not only to destroy the Centre but to convert the African National Congress into a branch of the Congress of the People.

This is a very important development. The Congress of the People is not as yet a living organisation. It is an idea to which the millions of Africans are being familiarised. The technique here is to issue statements in the name of the Congresses. By slow degrees the ANC, in this situation, loses its specific identity. When African opinion has been softened sufficiently, the idea of speaking of the Congresses will be dropped and the dominant influence will be the Congress of the People.

Farsseeing Africans have seen in this move a trick to create an organisation in which the ANC will be a member. It will be based on the ANC, the South African Indian Congress, the Congress of Democrats (White) and another organisation representing the Coloureds. The idea here is that the three minority groups will use their majority in the controlling councils of the co-ordinating Congress of the People to overrule the African National Congress.

No matter what Congress does, it would be in the minority if it accepts the principle of equal representation in the co-ordinating body. That has been our experience in the various joint action committees. This shrewd move places Congress in the position where its majority following will carry out policies decided by people representing a tiny minority in the nation. Congressmen of the Centre see in this a trick by which the African people will be called upon to make sacrifices other sections of the nation will not be willing to make.

If the ANC will not be killed, why keep it a branch at all?

The Left wing knows that African opinion will keep clear of any racial link-up of the type favoured by the Left. If the ANC retains its independence, it will not be readily amenable to the type of manipulation planned for it if it becomes a branch of the COP.

By

JORDAN K. NGUBANE

There is a second and far more disturbing reason against keeping the ANC independent. The Left is scared pale of the Liberal Party. If the ANC is free to choose its friends, the Centre would choose to work in harmony with a Liberal Party which adhered to a clearcut policy of equality and opposition to the Colour Bar. The real danger feared by the Left is that not only would the leaders of an independent Congress be friendly to the Liberals, they would have behind them the bulk of African opinion which is still for equal partnership on the liberal-democratic basis.

The Left knows that Luthuli is a devout Christian. He is certainly no opportunist. As a result the Left does not trust him. They do not think now is the time to destroy him directly. Their trick is to destroy his influence by committing him to ridiculous policy. They hope to make him the laughing stock of the world so that if and when they finish him off as a leader, the African people will not kick up a row about it.

In the meantime they are shaking and chopping off the political heads of some of Luthuli's strong supporters. Professor Matthews in the Cape has been forced to refuse to stand for re-election as president of the Cape branch. Dr. Njongwe has been quietly shunted out of the limelight. Even Mr. Luthuli himself does not receive the Press publicity his position in the movement entitles him to. On the other hand Moses Kotane is being built up as the statesman of the times.

It is against this background that very many of the criticisms of what goes on in the ANC have to be seen.

Mr. Gopala Menon's Farewell Message

BEFORE leaving Nairobi for India, the Indian High Commissioner, Mr. M. Gopala Menon, said:

"I am leaving East Africa with full confidence in the capacity of the Indian community to measure up to the vital role it has to play in building the future of these territories.

"In a world progressing rapidly towards greater harmony and recognition of human rights, India is playing a proud part. Indians abroad should be able to bring to bear on the challenging problems they face some of the idealism, the faith which inspires the leaders of resurgent India.

"You should never forget that it is your historic destiny in East Africa to build up these territories, in co-operation with other races, as happy and prosperous countries. Inheritors,

as you are, of one of the world's oldest civilisations, this is a challenge you dare not take lightly. It is a task to which you must devote all your energies.

"As I have often said, this continent is in a great ferment. We see before our eyes new forces emerging—forces which will determine the world's future in the next ten or fifteen years. An urge for freedom, for equality, for recognition of man's basic rights is shaking up vast millions. You have to take account of these forces and adjust yourselves to them.

"Surprisingly, there are people among you who are afraid of these rising forces. African nationalism strikes fear in their hearts, when it should in fact cause rejoicing. Be large-hearted in the best Indian tradition; overlook your pretty privileges that may be threatened and pay

attention to that ultimate identity of interest that binds you to your African brothers and to that common destiny which you shall all share with them.

"If the vast African populations of East Africa go forward socially, economically and politically they will usher in an era of progress and prosperity, whose benefits the world will share. In bringing that era of progress into existence you yourselves have a great role to play.

"May you play that role effectively and with confidence, so that you may prove worthy of the great country you come from."—Jai Hind.

Mr. PREM KRISHEN

APPOINTED COMMISSIONER FOR INDIA

THE Government of India have announced the appointment of Mr. Prem Krishen as Commissioner for India in British East Africa, with rank of Minister, with jurisdiction extending to the Federation of Rhodesia and Nyasaland, in succession to Mr. M. Gopala Menon who has been posted as Consul-General for India in New York with rank of Minister

Mr. Prem Krishen was born on November 20, 1911, and joined the Indian Civil Service on September 4, 1935. In the course of his service he was a Magistrate and a Collector and was later on Deputy Secretary to the Government of India in the Ministry of Health. After independence his services were placed at the disposal of the Ministry of External Affairs. He first served as First Secretary in the Indian Embassy in Moscow and then as Head of the Indian Military Mission in Germany, Berlin, with the personal rank of Major-General. Mr. Prem Krishen has also served as India's Charge d'Affaires in Prague and Rome. Since December 1953 he has been Joint Secretary in the Ministry of External Affairs, New Delhi.

R. VITHAL

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Things In General

New Branch Of Liberal Party

At a public meeting held in Pentrich on Sunday, February 26th, a new Branch of the Liberal Party of South Africa was formed.

The meeting was addressed by Prof. Leo Kuper and Mr. Pat Poovalingam. Professor Kuper gave a brief outline of the machinery and implications of the Group Areas Act and Mr. Poovalingam spoke on the functions of the Liberal Party in South Africa today.

The meeting was followed by a discussion and by election of Branch Office Bearers and Committee members for the new Pentrich Branch.

One of the first tasks of this Committee will be to investigate cases of particular hardship in its own area under the Group Areas Act and to see what action can be taken to alleviate distress under the Act.

Vernacular Classes At Shakaskraal

Under the able guidance of its chairman, Mr. S. Roopsingh, the Ramakrishna Centre, Shakaskraal Branch, is serving a very useful purpose among the Indians of Shakaskraal. In order to promote greater religious feeling he has given the Branch the correct lead by initiating Hindi and Tamil classes at the Shakaskraal Indian School. The classes which have a roll of 232 at the moment have created much enthusiasm among the residents.

On Thursday, 2nd February, a Havan Ceremony and a Sarasvathi Pooja were conducted at the School. The large number of parents present showed their keenness in regard to vernacular education, which is given free to the pupils through the generosity of Mr. S. Roopsingh who has undertaken to meet the salary of the two teachers employed, Miss Kamatchi Govender and Mr. S. Jugger. Mr. Roopsingh is well-known for his interest in education. Up to 1950 for a period of five years he has been paying the salary of a Hindi teacher who taught Hindi under the auspices of Sanathan Dharma P. M. Mandal. The Indian community of Shakaskraal is really fortunate in having in its midst such a personality.

The Tamil classes have a roll of 166 pupils. Some members of the Indian School staff have volunteered to offer their assistance. Under the supervision of Mr. T. Vadivalu, Principal of

the Indian School, work has been systematically organised.

The Hindi classes consisting of 66 pupils are supervised by Pandit Rampersadh Maharaj.

British Carriers On Good-will Visit To Bombay

Prime Minister Nehru boarded a British aircraft carrier to see a two-hour naval flying demonstration off Bombay shores. Ships of the Indian Navy took part in the exercises.

The two carriers of the Royal Navy "Albion" and "Centaur," which took part in the display, are now on a week's goodwill visit to Bombay. "Sea Venoms," "Sea Hawks," "Gnats" and helicopters took off from their flight decks to perform aerobatic and anti-submarine combat, dive-bombing on surface targets and firing depth charges.

Mrs. Pandit New Chairman Of World Brotherhood

Mrs. Vijaya Lakshmi Pandit, sister of Pandit Nehru and India's High Commissioner in London, is to share with the Belgian Foreign Minister, Paul-Henri Spaak, the Honorary Chairmanship of World Brotherhood, it was announced early in February. The organization was created in 1950 at Unesco House in Paris, with the aim of promoting mutual respect and co-operation among people of all nations, cultures and religions.—Unesco.

Soviet Mines Hampering Jap Fishermen

Tokyo.—'The Japan News' says the "Sudden appearance of Soviet-made mines in the fishing waters off Northern Japan at the height of the season is causing a great deal of anxiety" and "fishermen are hesitating to go out in their boats."

'The News' editorial Sunday points out that the Soviet mines "were first spotted in the Japan Sea in the Winter immediately after the outbreak of hostilities in Korea. Since then, from 50 to 60 mines have been washed ashore each year" and the number is expected to increase.

Drifting mines usually have broken away from their mooring cables, but have safety devices to prevent them from exploding when they are adrift. However, the paper says, "There have been too many Russian mines of late for them to all be drifters. And they do not have automatic safety devices—so that they generally explode on contact."

The editorial comments that the drifting mines, together with

other Soviet moves such as calling for "restrictions on Japanese salmon fishing in Northern waters" may be "an effort to bring pressure to bear on Japan in the current Soviet-Japanese negotiations by influencing public opinion."

"If that is their intention," the paper concludes, "the Russians are not doing a very good job. In fact, all these floating mines are liable to explode in their face."

Drug To Fight The Common Cold

Philadelphia.—A derivative of the peel of lemons, oranges and some other fruits, known as bioflavonoids and said by scientists to block viruses and other germs in the capillary (minute blood vessel) system, is being marketed as a drug to fight the common cold.

The bioflavonoids have long been in limited use against blood vessel ailments.

Scientists, who have been working on this new use of the bioflavonoids believe these drugs employ a different disease-fighting principle from anything used before.

The drugs have been described as "the most broad, exciting and hopeful field of biological inquiry." The bioflavonoids were discovered more than two decades ago by the Nobel Prize winner, Dr. Albert Szent-Gyorgi.—Sapa-Reuter.

OBITUARY

Death Of Mr. Goolabchand V. Soni

Mr. Goolabchand Vallabhjee Soni, of Main Road, Tenast, passed away on Thursday, 24th February, after a very sudden and short illness, at the age of 35.

Mr. Soni, who had been to India in 1941 to learn the art of jewel making and engraving, leaves behind his sorrowing wife, whom he married in India, and three children and a host of friends and relatives to mourn their loss.

Mr. Soni was also a member of the P.O.S.A. and took keen interest in the welfare of the poor people.

His family wishes to thank all the friends who paid tribute in the way of flowers and messages and also personal visits.

Death Of Mrs. Sam

Mrs. Anthonimah Mariet Sam, the beloved wife of the well-known businessman and sportsman of Port Elizabeth, Mr. A. E. Sam, died peacefully on the 11th February.

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By "PARDESI"

This will be a weekly feature treated in a light vein

In Johannesburg a five-year-old girl was taken to a concert. Her mother warned her that she must sit very quietly.

She listened respectfully to two intricate pieces, then gravely asked her mother, "Is it all right if I scream now?"

—o—

Small Boy: "Mrs. Brown, did you enjoy your holiday?"

Mrs. Brown: "Holiday! What holiday? I haven't had one"

Small Boy: "Oh! I heard mother say that you and Mr. Brown had been at Loggerheads"

—o—

John: "Pa."

Father: "Yes"

John: "Teacher says we're to help others"

Father: "Of course we are."

John: "Well, what are the others here for?"

—o—

Little Mabel caught her first glimpse of a cat carrying one of its kittens by the scruff of the neck.

"Good gracious!" she exclaimed, "you're not fit to be a mother. In fact you're hardly fit to be a father."

—o—

"Has the new florist any children?"

"Yes, a girl who is a shrinking violet and two boys—one a budding genius and the other a blooming nuisance."

—o—

A missionary had given a very earnest address and was touched to find a small boy waiting to speak to him after the meeting.

"Well, my son," said the speaker, "I think I can guess what you want to ask me. Perhaps you would like to be a missionary too, some day?"

"Oh, no sir. I just wondered if you had any foreign stamps."

—o—

"Auntie, do you imagine things like mummy does?"

"Imagine, child? What do you mean?"

"Well, mummy often speaks about the cat next door and they haven't got one."

Fond Parent: "Well, how did my little darling enjoy his first day at school?"

Small Son: "Not much. As soon as can read comics I'll quit"

—o—

He was rather small, and had been used to sleeping with a night-light in his room, but his parents had decided that he must start sleeping in the dark. When his mother put out the light, he asked, plaintively: "Must I sleep in the dark to-night, mummy?"

"Yes, darling," was the reply, "you are getting a big boy now."

"Well, may I say my prayers over again—more carefully?"

—o—

A doctor had an urgent phone call from a gentleman, saying his small son had swallowed his fountain pen

"All right! I'll come at once," replied the doctor. "What are you doing in the meantime?"

The unexpected answer was: "Using a pencil!"

—o—

"Who were the foolish virgins?" asked the school-teacher.

"Those who weren't in time to be married," answered one of her little charges.

—o—

Two small boys were boasting about the wealth of their respective fathers.

"My father," said the first, "has so much money that he doesn't know how to spend it."

"That's nothing," retorted the other, refusing to be outdone. "My father has got so much that even my mother doesn't know how to spend it."

—o—

Greengrocer (to small boy loitering near stall): "Were you trying to take an apple?"

Small boy: "No, I was trying not to."

—o—

Father: "How are you getting on at school, John?"

Son: "Be a sport, Dad, I never ask you how you're getting on at the office!"

YOUR humble scribe looked a trifle silly with his battered hat, unkempt clothes and his broken-down Tin Lizzy at the dockside last Thursday when the streamlined Caronia luxury liner for millionaires, looked arrogantly down upon him.

I went on board with a colleague of mine and it took me some minutes to recover my breath. The Observation Lounge, Main Lounge, open air lido, swimming pool, theatre (accommodating 300 people) and the acres of deck space were too much for my ageing, rickety frame! And those streamlined snakes! Our host on board, a Mr. Christie of New York City, asked us to tea when he saw me all pop-eyed and immobile.

Most of the 540 passengers I saw had very bored expressions, and to relieve the monotony I thought some big wig would slap me with a fat cheque! The cost for the passage of the 103 day world cruise to 23 ports in 18 countries ranged from a thousand to eleven thousand pounds.

Said Mr. Christie of our country: "You have a wonderful place here. I enjoyed myself tremendously at the Indian market. I liked the Zulu dances and the rickshaw rides through Grey Street."

When I left the Caronia and removed myself and my stuttering automobile out of the dockyard, I was hoping Mr. Christie wasn't watching.....

Mutie For Milady

A friend of mine who is in the "muti" business in town is doing well for himself. The old chap has put a few enviable pounds round the waist and now looks more like a Wall Street banker.

Want some "muties" for milady? Ah, that's easy. You can get a fool-proof concoction for as low as fifteen shillings. If you want something to "work" on any madonna, then you will have to pay more.

I am thinking seriously of chucking up newspaperwork to get into the "mutie" business myself.....

Spooky Business

What won't people do for a living. An enterprising gentle-

man down Clairwood way has commercialised on spooks!

For a "reasonable amount" (which usually runs into a crisp, chlorophyll-green note), he undertakes to drive away any evil spirit which has "caught" anyone.

A very strange place, too, he has chosen for his spook-driving rituals: the Brighton Beach!

Time: Midnight.

Arabic Study Circle

The Annual Public Speaking Contest of the Arabic Study Circle on the Life of Prophet Mohamed and the four Caliphs was held last Sunday at the Kajeje Hall.

The following were awarded the floating trophies: 1. Bobby Muthusamy; 2. G. H. E. Van-ker; 3. Yacob E. Meer.

Impromptu speech: Suleman Omar.

In the morning session Mr. Subban Khan was the chairman. In the afternoon the chairwoman was Professor Housie Pollock.

Tennis

The Natal Indian Lawn Tennis Association held its meeting last Sunday at the International Club.

The following is the official list: Patrons: Messrs. S. L. Singh, A. E. Shaikh, M. D. Pillay; President: Mr. E. H. Isemall; Secretary: Mr. M. N. Pather; Treasurer: Mr. B. S. Moodley; Record Clerk: Mr. R. Rambaran; Hon. Auditor: Mr. G. T. Stewart. There were 11 Vice-presidents.



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Pakistan Troops Still On Indian Territory

PAKISTAN troops, which crossed into Chad Bet in the Rann of Cutch on February 19 and fired, wounding three Indian soldiers, are apparently still on Indian territory, it was stated in New Delhi.

India is to take strong action against this border violation, Prime Minister Nehru has told the Indian Parliament, which was presented with two adjournment motions by Opposition members.

Mr. Nehru pointed out that Chad Bet was an uninhabited area, submerged for four months in the year and for the rest used as grazing ground. The question of possession of the area was really one of grazing rights. There was no doubt that it was part of India and that possession had been exercised by her. India had been giving grazing rights to contractors.

He said last year an attempt was made by Pakistan to suggest that this was a disputed territory and belonged to Pakistan. The Indian Government pointed out that this was an abso-

lutely unjustified and baseless claim. Since then the practice has been for the Indian police and some times military patrols to go to the place about once a week. On the 17th of this month a police patrol went there in ordinary course and observed some activity on the other side. A day later, a military patrol went there and camped some distance away. Next morning, that is on the 19th, the patrol went towards Chad Bet. At about 11 o'clock when the patrol was about 400 yards from Chad Bet, Pakistani forces, who apparently occupied positions on the other side, opened fire with light machine guns. An Indian sepoy was wounded in the stomach and as he was being taken away, two others were wounded by firing. Three camels were killed in action.

Mr. Nehru said this was a serious matter, not in the sense of a big-scale military action, but because it was an incursion into the Indian territory. —I.S.I.

Sports Round-Up

International Competitions For Children

Two international contests with related themes are open to children in all countries with artistic or literary ability. One is sponsored by the Morinaga Society of Japan and, the other, by the Munich International Youth Library in Germany.

The Japanese competition invites children of not more than 14 years to submit drawings or paintings on the theme of "My Mother" for an international exhibition to be opened in Tokyo on May 13, Mothers' Day. The paintings should be sent in to the Morinaga Society, either direct or through Japanese embassies or legations, before April 15, 1956 —(UNESCO).

S.A. Open Table Tennis Championships

The South African Open Table Tennis Championships will be opened in Durban towards the end of June. Keen interest has been manifested, and preparations are well under way. Organising and Championship Committees have already been formed.

This year a junior section is also proposed to be held.

It is of interest to note that the South African Table Tennis Board whose activities are open to all races is affiliated to the International Table Tennis Federation. Last year a representative was sent to Utrecht (Holland) for the International Table Tennis Federation Conference.

Verulam Temple F.C.

The Verulam Temple Football Club held its 13th annual general meeting at the Shree Gopallal Hindu Temple Hall recently, which was well attended by members and well wishers. The following officials were elected as office bearers: President: Mr. S. R. Lalbeharee; Secretary: Mr. H. Ramluoken; Treasurer: Mr. G. Moonoolall; Manager: Mr. R. Gobin Lal; Captain: Mr. K. Ellen; Vice-captain: Mr. M. S. Pandaram; Vice-presidents: Messrs. A. C. Sham, H. R. Lal Behari and Boya Naidoo; Auditor: P. S. Beharee. Eleven prominent people of the district were elected as Patrons. Delegates to Verulam and District Indian Football Association: Messrs. S. R. Lalbeharee and K. Ellen.

RECIPE CORNER

Home Made Toffee

Ingredients

½ lb. sugar, ½ oz. butter, ½ teaspoon vanilla, 1 table spoon water, 2 table spoons Vinegar, a flat tin.

Method

Put sugar, vinegar and water as well as butter into a saucepan. Dissolve it slowly on a stove and stir it occasionally across the base of the pan. Bring it to a boil and let it boil until a small quantity, when dropped into cold water, and left for a few seconds, then if rubbed between the fingers it becomes a hard ball.

This will probably take from twelve to fifteen minutes. When the mixture is ready, add the vanilla and pour immediately into a greased tin.

Pastries

½ lb. butter, ½ cup castor sugar, 1 lb. flour, ½ teaspoon salt, ½ teaspoon Vanilla essence, 2 eggs, 1 teaspoonful baking powder.

Line an 8 inch square baking tin about 2 inches deep, and grease the paper with butter.

Method

Cream butter and sugar thoroughly to a soft texture, beat in eggs one by one; add flavouring to the mixture. Add the flour with baking powder a little at a time and mix gently. Add 1 or 2 tablespoons of milk if required. Then spread mixture evenly on the prepared tin, bake in a quick oven of average heat

of 425° F. Take the cake out after about 15-20 minutes.

When cold cut into desired shapes and decorate. Coat the cakes with glaze icing and decorate with butter icing and jam.

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