

our subjects with contumely. It must not be forgotten that we have certain treaty-rights, which must not be tampered with or ignored. You complain of the ill-treatment of British subjects in China by irresponsible people. But that is quite a different matter from the ill-treatment of our subjects, in which you have a hand, and which you have officially sanctioned. There is another aspect of the subject, too. Mr. Quinn's reference to the Chinese Boycott Association has an ominous ring. Boycott is a very potent weapon, and, as a lever to move the Imperial Government through Manchester, it cannot conveniently be ignored. At all events, America has felt its effects and Great Britain will probably think twice before calling it into play.

THE CAPE TOWN BRITISH INDIAN

Cape Indians League is to be congratulated on submitting a well-reasoned representation to the Cape Parliament, in connection with the working of the Immigration Act and the Dealers' Licences Act of that Colony. The points raised in the memorial have been raised none too soon, and, as the memorialists rightly point out, their prayer has been considered by many prominent Cape politicians as reasonable and just. It is, for instance, impossible to justify the practice of issuing temporary permits to British Indians who have occasion to leave the Peninsula, failure to return within the period fixed in the letter of permission costing them their domicile. This makes them ticket-of-leave men, and puts an utterly unjustifiable and undue restraint on their personal liberty. Nor can the practice of depriving old Indian hawkers of their licences, without cause, be justified in any way. We trust that the memorial presented by the British Indians will receive the earnest consideration of the Cape Government.

THE LADYSMITH CHAMBER OF COMMERCE is again on the

The Ladysmith Traders

track of British Indians who have been unjustly deprived by the Ladysmith Board of their licences to trade in the Klip River District, and who have the temerity to continue to earn their livelihood by plying their trade without licences. When we say it is the Ladysmith Chamber of Commerce which is after these poor Indians, it simply means that the European merchants who are jealous of their rivals are endeavouring to hound the latter out of the district. There seems to have been some sort of an understanding on the part of the Government that they would mark their disapproval of the conduct of the Ladysmith Board by refusing to sanction the prosecution of innocent men, but it is quite evident that the Cham-

ber is not to be deterred by this action, for it appears that the Attorney-General has authorised the Crown Prosecutor to institute proceedings against these men, should they still continue to trade without licences. Such is the working of the Dealers' Licences Act of Natal, from which the Imperial Government has avowed itself practically powerless to grant relief. The Indian Government, which certainly is all-powerful, refuses to make use of the only and effective remedy at its disposal, namely, to stop indentured Indian immigration, if the free Indian population of Natal is denied bare justice.

An Appeal

From the Hamidia Islamic Society

Hindus and Moslems United

We have received for publication the following copy of a letter that has been addressed to the various Mahomedan associations in India:

We, the undersigned, Mahomedan merchants, and being Chairman, Secretary, and members of the Hamidia Islamic Society of the Transvaal, hereby bring to your notice the state in which Mahomedan Indians will be reduced under the Asiatic Law Amendment Act. We presume that you have acquainted yourself with the principal objections to the Act. But we will draw your attention to one especially which affects us as Moslems. It is the section which applies the Act to Turkish Mahomedans, whereas it exempts Turkish Christians and Jews.

The Act, indeed, applies to all Indians, and, therefore, the whole of the Indian public is concerned with it. But it applies with double rigour to the Mahomedans in that it specially insults our religion and hurts the self-respect of Mahomedan Indians more than others in that they form the wealthier and more respectable portion of the community.

We may state that, fortunately, in South Africa, there is no antipathy between Mahomedans and Hindus. We all live together in peace and friendship as Indians, and associate together with freedom and carry on a joint battle against prejudice and oppression against us. If, therefore, we lay stress upon the grievance as it affects us, we do so only in order to draw the attention of Mahomedans all over India to our precarious position, in order that we secure your most active assistance in our struggle. And we venture to ask you, as Mahomedans and Indians, to extend to us your sympathy by pleading our case before the Government and in any other manner you may consider desirable. Whilst we are receiving much help from England, even the white Colon-

ists, our Motherland, is doing for us.

We remain,

(Sgd.)

Emam Abdool Cadir Salim Bawazeer, (Chairman)

M. P. Fancy, (Secretary)

Ebrahim Salejee Coovadia, (Treasurer)

Essop Ismail Mia, (Patron)

Abdool Gani, of M. C. Camroodeen & Co., (Patron)

Amod Amodjee Karodia (of M. A. Karodia & Co.)

Omarjee Sale

Allibhai Akoojee, (Auditor)

Moosa Omar

Mahomed Omarjee

Amod Moosajee

Moosa Suliman Bhigjee

Gulam Mahomed Karodia

Ismail Bhikha Momoniot

Ebrahim Asvat

Suliman Ismail Mia & Co.

Moosa Ismail Motara

Ahmed Halim

Ahmed Mamdoo

Shahboodeen Hoosen Hobshany

H. D. Maal

Abdool Gafoor

A. Rawool

Omar Khan

E. E. Dadabhai

Moulvi Ahmed Mukhtiar

Ismail Moosa

Suliman Ismail Patel

Suliman Amodjee

Mahomed Vally

J. Ebrahim

Ebrahim Mahomed Gaba

M. S. Coovadia

E. M. Patel

Amod Ismail Chhota

Ismail Suliman Amin

L. S. A. Potrick

Ebrahim Dawood

Johannesburg, 19th August, 1907.

Cape Parliament

Hawkers' Licences

The Bill Defeated

Capetown Aug. 28.—In the House of Assembly, Mr. JAGGER moved the second reading of the Hawkets' Licences Bill. He explained that, under the General Dealers' Act, all hawkers had to apply for the renewal of licences. This way, hawkers lost their licences, and thereby their means of livelihood. The object of the Bill was to place hawkers in the same position as before the passing of the General Dealer's Act.

Mr. RAUBENHEIMER moved the rejection of the measure.

Mr. SAMPSON proposed, in committee, to move a new clause giving hawkers one year's free licence.

Dr. SMARTY stated that, if the Bill were passed, hawkers' licences must be given to bad as well as good hawkers. He could not support the second reading.

On division, Mr. Raubenheimer's motion was carried by a majority of 12 to 10.