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INDIANS WELCOME PLAN TO ABOLISH INDENTURE SYSTEM

Government's Announcement Greeted With Pleasure By Subjects.

Delhi, India, April 20.—The Government's announcement that it intends to abolish the system of Indian indentured labor, made through the Viceroy a few days ago, has been received with great satisfaction throughout India. The announcement applies to the large shipments of coolie labor which are annually sent to Jamaica, Trinidad, British Guiana, Fiji, and Dutch Guiana.

Indian feeling on the subject has for many years condemned the indenture system. No arguments as to its possible economic advantages weighed against the feeling of educated Indians that it degraded India in the eyes of the world. Recent reports showing the social degeneration caused by the paucity of women emigrating and also the number of suicides among the coolies have caused a painful impression.

Students of Indian conditions have long maintained that there is abundant scope in India for all available labor and emigration is no longer one of India's necessities.

How soon the government's promise of abolition will put into effect is yet a matter of doubt. The Viceroy stated that the existing system of recruiting must be maintained until the new conditions could be worked out and reasonable time had been given the communities which depend on this labor to adjust themselves to the change.

"No one who knows anything of Indian sentiment can remain ignorant of the deep and genuine feeling to which the continuance of the indenture system has given rise," said the Viceroy in his announcement. "Educated Indians look on it as slavery or serfdom. This will soon be removed forever, and it is a source of deep satisfaction to me that one of the last of feudal acts I shall have to perform in this country is to tell you that I have been able to do something to insure that Indians who desire to work as laborers in tropical countries may do so under happier conditions, and to obtain from His Majesty's government a promise that in due course the whole system which educated opinion in India has long regarded as intolerable, will be abolished."

The indenture system dates from 1822. Natives of India are only permitted to emigrate under contract to such countries as satisfy the government of India that sufficient provision is made for their protection. The coolies are recruited by licensed agents throughout Bengal, the United Provinces, the Central Provinces, the Punjab, and Assam. The supply varies greatly, depending in large degree on agricultural conditions in India, but it is estimated that 10,000 per year is an average figure. Of these only about 5,000 return to India at the end of the contract period, the rest settling in the countries to which they are sent. Thus there were in Natal in 1910 over 60,000 "free" Indians, while in Mauritius 70 per cent of the total population is Indian born or of Indian descent.

The Muskogee Refining Co. has stopped the payment of 10 cents a barrel premium to all oil producers.

VERDUN'S MAYOR TAKES REFUGE IN CELLARS OF CITY

Customs Agent Does Cooking for Officials During Bombardment.

Verdun, France, April 20.—The mayor of Verdun spent the early days of the bombardment in the cellars of the town hall, where he conducted official business as usual undeterred by the roar of guns and the noise of falling masonry. The mayor was assisted by seven of the municipal officials, and the chief customs agent did the cooking for the party.

The mayor's favorite story of those trying days is an incident of a would-be bridegroom and his wedding feast. "It was on Feb. 26," says the mayor, "that a railway worker who had been mobilized in the Voorges came to us in the town hall cellar while the bombardment was proceeding at its highest pitch. 'Well, my friend, I asked, 'what can we do for you?' 'I have come to get married,' he replied. 'Married?' I asked in amazement, looking out of a grating at a cloud of dust just thrown up by a small shell. 'Certainly,' he went on. 'The bans have been published, the date fixed for today, and I have obtained permission from the military authorities to get married. But I cannot find my fiancée.' 'We made inquiries and learned that the young woman had fled with the rest of the population. The future husband had brought a fine supply of provisions and wine for the wedding feast. As the shells continued to fall, we prevailed upon him to remain with us for three days while he shared all his good things with us.'"

CONVICT'S TALE RECALLS MYSTERY



DOROTHY ARNOLD

Edward C. Glenorris, a convict in the Rhode Island state prison, who recently professed religion, confessed, the police say, that he took part in the secret burial of Dorothy Arnold, the long missing New York heiress, after she was murdered. He said the burial took place in the cellar of a house near West Point, N. Y., where it was taken by a wealthy New York man, who hired the services of Glenorris as a guard to prevent interference. Miss Arnold disappeared from the home of her father, Francis R. Arnold, in West Seventy-ninth street, New York, Dec. 12, 1910. After examining Glenorris' statement, John S. Keith, Esq., Arnold's attorney, said that neither he nor any member of the family believed the story.

COSTS MONEY TO PLAY IN ENGLAND'S PARKS

London, April 20.—For the first time in the history of London, people who play tennis, croquet, or other games in the public parks, must pay a fee for their sport this summer. The following charges have been approved by the Parks Committee:

Tennis, 5 cents an hour; lawn bowls, 4 cents an hour; croquet, 3 cents an hour.

RUMANIA HAS MILDEST WINTER IN 25 YEARS

Bucharest, Rumania, April 20.—This winter has been the mildest which Rumania has experienced in more than 25 years. Snow and rain combined reached a total of only 11 millimeters in December which is less than a third of the normal. The lack of severe weather has been fortunate in view of the shortage of fuel.

ROCKEFELLER FUNDS AID CHINA SCHOOLS

Tsinanfu, China, April 20.—Members of the faculty of Shantung Christian University located in Tsinanfu are much elated by the announcement that the Rockefeller Foundation, through the China Medical Board, will grant that institution fifty thousand dollars for buildings and equipment, and one hundred thousand dollars for expenses of faculty and students over a period of five years. The fifty thousand dollars will be used in constructing two new wings to existing college buildings, for the erection of dormitories for students and teachers, and for the further equipment of the laboratories. All the money is to be expended in preparation for medical education, or preparatory work leading up to a medical course.

ROCKEFELLER FUNDS AID CHINA SCHOOLS

Sixty students will be sent to Tsinanfu from the Union Medical College in Peking, which is owned and directed entirely by the Rockefeller Foundation. These students will be the preparatory class and first and second year class medical men. The appropriation for the school here is a part of the general plan of the Rockefeller Foundation for the betterment of medical education in China.

RUSSIANS NEED MANY COOLIES FOR WORK ON NATIONAL RAILWAYS

Harbin, April 20.—The Russian government requires about 20,000 more coolies to replace men who are serving the army, and is arranging with the Chinese contractors at Harbin to supply these workmen. One interpreter is to be employed for every 100 coolies. These coolies are needed for dock work in Vladivostok, for work along the Russian railways, in the mines and in agriculture.

CHATHAM HARD HIT BY EUROPEAN WAR

Chatham, Eng., April 20.—Chatham, a little port in the southwestern corner of England, has in proportion to her population given more sailors' lives in the war than any other place in the British Empire and as a result it is said to have a greater proportion of widows and orphans. Figures just compiled show that Chatham has as a result of losses sustained by the British navy increased the number of her widows by 265, the number of fatherless children by 453 and the number of the dependents by 33.



SOCONY KERO-SCENES

"John!"
"Yes, my love."
"John, the kerosene can is empty."
* * * * *

"John! Did you hear me?"
"Yes, light of my life. You said 'The kerosene can is empty.' I am sincerely sorry that the kerosene can is empty."
"Yes, so am I, because you've got to go out and get it filled."
* * * * *

"John! John!"
"Yes, my love. Can I get it filled at the grocery on the corner?"
"No, you can't. I don't know anything about their kerosene? You've got to go down the street to Smith Bros. They carry SOCONY Kerosene."
"But, my love, be reasonable. Isn't all kerosene alike?"
"Yes, it isn't. There is as much difference in kerosene as there is in eggs. Get SOCONY Kerosene—it's the Standard Oil Company of New York's best grade of refined oil."
"Yes, my love. SOCONY, you say?"
"Yes, SOCONY. Look for the SOCONY sign on the store window. Mind you don't come back with anything else. And hurry!"
"Yes, my love."

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PRINCIPAL OFFICES: NEW YORK BUFFALO ALBANY BOSTON

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SAFEST and BEST

STANDARD OIL CO. N. Y.

Columbia May Records

Now on Sale

Note the Notes

First Recordings of Louis Graveure
The Musical Sensation of the Season

FROM the greatest of operatic arias to the simplest English ballads, Louis Graveure displays an amazing gift of interpretation. Never before has such clarion power and vocal abandon been heard as in Graveure's singing of the "Pagliacci" Prologue, nor such tenderness of tone expressed as in his rendering of "Mary," Richardson's famous ballad. With the new records by Godowsky, the poet-genius of the piano, and the latest recordings of dainty, vivacious Maggie Teyte,

These records fitly represent the artistic quality of all the

New Records for May

Instrumental music plays a most important part, presenting novelties like the *marimba* as well as exquisite trio recordings, thrilling war descriptives by Prince's Band and orchestral renditions that range from joyous light overtures to the massive works of the greatest modern Russian composers.

Triumphs of Orchestral Recording

A 5781 12-inch \$1.00	POLONAISE FROM "BORIS GODOLINOV" (Moussorgsky) Prince's Orchestra.	A 5783 12-inch \$1.00	MERRY WIVES OF WINDSOR OVERTURE (Nicolai) Prince's Orchestra.
	RACHMANINOFF'S PRELUDE IN C SHARP MINOR, Opus 3, No. 2. Prince's Orchestra.		MASANELLO OVERTURE (Auber) Prince's Orchestra.

Other Recordings of Varied Interest

Brice and King, the clever musical comedy and vaudeville pair enter the Columbia field this month with two of their latest song successes; in addition, there are fourteen popular hits; two tremendous operatic chorales; Hawaiian melodies; solos by a new concert soprano, Eldora Stanford, and six up-to-the-minute dance records.

Columbia Records for Easter

An Easter program such as you could not enjoy in any other way may be assembled from the sacred records in the Columbia Record catalogue. Your dealer will gladly play over to you appropriate Easter recordings.

Columbia Records in all Foreign Languages

New Columbia Records on sale the 20th of every month. This advertisement was dictated to the Dictaphone.

COLUMBIA
GRAFONOLAS and DOUBLE-DISC
RECORDS

FOR SALE BY

F. E. Beach, 962 Main St.	West End Grafonola Co., 1184 State St.	Otto Wissner, Inc., 935 Main St.
Howland Dry Goods Co., Main and Cannon Sts.	Piquette Piano Co., 60 Cannon St.	M. Sonnenberg Piano Co., 1056 Main St.

FAIRFIELD COUNTY NEWS

Checks from State.
The town of Danbury has received from the state treasurer a check for \$3,743.99, this being its share of the stock tax of one per cent which the state treasurer collects and distributes among the towns. Bethel received \$182.18; Bridgewater, \$135.43; Brookfield, \$288.06; New Fairfield, \$97.65; New Milford, \$2,710.20; Newtown, \$1,242.47; Redding, \$224.22; Ridgefield, \$879.45, and Sherman, \$171.30.

Offered for Probate.
The will of Rufus Wakeman, the Saugatuck mattress manufacturer, has been offered for probate. The estate is roughly valued at about \$31,000, of which the son, Austin Wakeman, gets one-third outright. The widow has the use of two-thirds, which later reverts to the son. The sum of \$500 has been bequeathed to the Westport Congregational church.

Dog's Blood Leaks.
A literal case of a "broken heart" has been discovered in Norwalk by Veterinary Frank L. Olmstead. The peculiar circumstance came to the attention of Dr. Olmstead several days ago upon the death of a handsome collie dog owned by Edward Beard. The doctor performed an operation and found that, due to a leakage in the lower valve of the heart, the blood of the dog had dripped gradually out of the heart, and found its way into the diaphragm, where Dr. Olmstead found over four quarts of blood. The dog's heart was soft and flabby, instead of a hard texture, as is the case when the heart is healthy. Dr. Olmstead said the leakage, which may affect a human being as well may have been caused by a strain.

Auto Milk Trains.
The procession of milk-laden motor trucks passing through Danbury every day attracts considerable attention. Some of the trucks are of great carrying capacity and others are operated in trains of two or more vehicles, trailers being coupled to the leading trucks.

Nearly all these trucks ply between Danbury and Danbury and the neighboring milk producing districts. One of the trucks makes daily trips to

Brewster, N. Y., and it is said that the territory included in the schedule will be extended to Carmel in a short time. The idea of motor-truck transportation of milk originated in the west, where it is used extensively, and Bridgeport milk dealers have adopted it for the purpose of gathering milk from a wide area of surrounding country.

LITCHFIELD COUNTY NEWS.

Attempted Suicide.
Temporarily insane from an ulcerated tooth, from which he had suffered for two days, Henry A. Tanner of Winsted, proprietor of a restaurant, threatened suicide with a revolver Tuesday evening, and when it was wrested from his grasp, left the house hatless and disappeared. Tanner was found, curled up under a tree at the top of a high cliff. He was taken to his home, following a struggle, and given medical treatment.

Will Move to Norfolk.
At the meeting of the Norfolk Manufacturing Co., Thursday afternoon, the directors voted to buy the business of the Albenhart Company, Canton, Mass., which has been manufacturing the Albenhart movable clamp vices. The entire business will be removed to Norfolk and will mean the employment of 20 additional men in the Norfolk plant. The machinery used in the local factory is adapted to turning out the new work.

Superior Court Cases.
There was a short calendar session of the superior court in New Milford the past week. Two Torrington divorce cases were heard, both of which were uncontested. Florence Scranton sued Walter Scranton on the ground of desertion, he having gone away in a huff about five years ago while the couple were living in New Britain, and forgotten to come back. Mrs. Scranton had heard not seen anything of him since. Leon Flowers sued Delphine Flowers, alleging infidelity, and as proof submitted evidence that a child had been born since their separation five years ago. The couple were married 17 years ago, and had four children. Decision was reserved in both cases.

BRIEF NEWS NOTES.

No confirmation of Villa's death has reached Secretary of War Baker.

The United Zinc Smelting Co. of New York, capital \$3,000,000, was incorporated at Albany, N. Y.

Striking subway workers in New York have been granted increased pay, and it strike is all settled.

Justice W. Platt at White Plains, N. Y., dismissed the charge of immorality in a blanket indictment returned against Thomas M. Osborne, former Sing Sing warden.

Governor Stuart of Virginia, mixed his dates and arrived at Harrisonburg, Va., to address a meeting of the Rockingham Farmers' association, scheduled for May 18.

James Crede of Jacksonville, Fla., was arrested for disorderly conduct in New York city as he was trying to sell \$10 bills for \$1 each. He had not made a sale, when arrested.

One man was killed and the rest of the crew narrowly escaped death when the tug James McDonough was sunk at the Bush Terminal, Brooklyn, by the wash of a passing steamship.

Stockholders of the Atlas Powder Co., at a meeting at Wilmington, Del., voted to increase the preferred stock \$4,500,000 and the common stock \$1,000,000, making the total capital \$20,000,000.

A bill providing that proprietors of public places and railroad carriers who discriminate against United States soldiers because of their uniforms may be fined up to \$50 was adopted by the Senate.

Three German steamships interned at Brazil, will be leased to Brazil for coastal service until the end of the war, if a guarantee of their immunity of attack or capture by the Allies is received.

SPRING FLOWERING PLANTS, JOHN RECK & SON.