

THE
NEW ZEALAND INDIAN
CENTRAL ASSOCIATION

(Incorporated)

1968

42nd

Annual Report

and

Balance Sheet

[1963]

THE
NEW ZEALAND INDIAN
CENTRAL ASSOCIATION

(Incorporated)

President:

L. N. PATEL (Auckland).

Vice-President:

PIARA SINGH (Country Section).

General Secretary:

G. B. BHULA (Wellington).

Assistant Secretary:

C. RAMJI (Wellington).

Auditor:

N. VALLABH (Wellington).

Executive Committee:

D. KESRY (Auckland), C. PARBHU (Wellington), S. B. MASTER Rotorua/Bay of Plenty), H. S. RADHAWA (Country Section), RAVJI VNKA (Pukekohe), RAMABHAI UNKA (Waikato), MORARBHAI PATEL (Manawatu/Hawke's Bay), A. BHANA (Christchurch), B. SUKHA (Taranaki).

Annual Conference, 1968

The forty-second Annual Conference of the New Zealand Indian Central Association (Inc.) was held in Palmerston North under the auspices of the Manawatu/Hawke's Bay Branch Association during the Easter Recess, commencing at 9.30 a.m. on Saturday, 13th March, 1968.

Mr. Morarbhai Patel, of the host Association, welcomed the visiting delegates to Palmerston North and wished them every success in their deliberations. This was followed by a rendering of "Vande Mataram" by a group of students of Massey University.

The President, Mr. L. N. Patel, welcomed the assembled delegates to the Conference and thanked the Massey students for their encouraging welcome. A special welcome was also extended to those delegates who were attending the Conference for the first time.

Two minutes' silence was observed in respect of world dignitaries who had passed away during the year, including members of the Association and especially those who had lost their lives in the disaster of the inter-Island ferry, "Wahine."

Delegates:

AUCKLAND

- | | |
|---------------------|----------------------|
| 1—Vallabhbai Daya | 6—Chhimabhai Vallabh |
| 2—Thakorbhai Parbhu | 7—Nanubhai Bhana |
| 3—Jagdish Natali | 8—Parbhubhai Patel |
| 4—Lalbbhai Patel | 9—Dayalbbhai Kesry |
| 5—Ramanbbhai Ganda | 10—Morarbhai Soma |

WELLINGTON

- | | |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1—Chhibabhai Parbhubhai | 6—Govind B. Bhula |
| 2—Nathubhai Bhanabhai | 7—Bhanabhai Naik |
| 3—Ramanbbhai Ranchhodbbhai | 8—Kantibhai Bhagabhai |
| 4—Govindbbhai Kanjibhai | 9—Kanjibhai Bhulabhai |
| 5—Narshihbbhai Vallabhbbhai | 10—Amratbbhai Parbhubhai |

COUNTRY SECTION

- | | |
|-------------------|----------------------|
| 1—Piara Singh | 4—Gurdass Singh Kung |
| 2—Karm Singh Basi | 5—G. S. Basi |
| 3—H. S. Radhawa | 6—Banta Singh |

MANAWATU/HAWKE'S BAY

- | | |
|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1—Chhibabhai Panchabhai | 4—Ramabhai Ranchhodhai |
| 2—Morarbhai R. Patel | 5—Vallabhbhai Ranchhodhai |
| 3—Haribhai Naranbhai | |

ROTORUA/BAY OF PLENTY

- | | |
|-----------------------|----------------------|
| 1—Shivlal B. Master | 4—Ramabhai Jerambhai |
| 2—Jerambhai Bhanabhai | 5—Jerambhai Simabhai |
| 3—Ambubhai Ramjibhai | |

WAIKATO

- | | |
|---------------------|--------------------|
| 1—Ramabhai Unkabhai | 2—Hirabhai D. Lala |
|---------------------|--------------------|

PUKEKOHE

- | | |
|-------------------|----------------------|
| 1—Ravjibhai Unka | 4—Chhaganbhai Naran |
| 2—Unkabhai Chhiba | 5—Vallabhbhai Bhikha |
| 3—Keshbhai Parsot | |

TARANAKI

- | | |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| 1—Chhibabhai Lala | 2—Bhanabhai Sukha |
|-------------------|-------------------|

CHRISTCHURCH

- | | |
|---------------------|-----------------------|
| 1—Amrat Dayal Bhana | 2—Arvind Ganda Chhiba |
|---------------------|-----------------------|

President's Report

Gentlemen,

On behalf of the Executive it gives me great pleasure to welcome you all here to the 42nd Annual Conference of our Association.

Another eventful year has passed since we last met in Taumarunui, and whilst nothing of great consequence has occurred within our Association, some events of international significance, and which may affect the way of life of this country, are worthy of consideration in passing.

The untimely death recently of the Australian Prime Minister, Mr. Harold Holt, left a void in the internal politics of that country, and with New Zealand as a neighbour that will indeed be hard to fill, able though his successor, Mr. Gorton, may be. It should be remembered that much progress was made in the White Australia policy since Mr. Holt came into office, and I believe that regulations governing Asians in Australia are not as stringent now as they were before.

The postponement of the visit to this country by the Indian Prime Minister, Mrs. Indira Gandhi, was a direct result of this unfortunate mishap, although I understand that the Prime Minister is due in New Zealand later next month. With your approval we shall try and arrange a reception for the Prime Minister whilst she is in New Zealand.

The violent death of Dr. Martin Luther King leaves one wondering whether the human race is capable of full understanding of the sufferings and the setbacks of their fellow men. From time immemorial we see that man has first eradicated those of whom were genuinely trying their utmost to bring peace and harmony to his fellows. The career of Dr. King, the pattern on which he based his anti-violent demonstrations, his sit-ins, and his protest marches are reminiscent of and are often quoted by the world press as being the tactics used successfully two decades earlier in India by another great Satyagrahi, our late beloved Mahatma Gandhi.

The inroads made by Dr. King in gaining some form of equality, however small they may have been, are significant when compared with what the Negro had to suffer earlier. I understand our General Secretary has written to the family of the late Dr. King and I would like this assembly to endorse his actions.

Finally I should like to reflect upon the occasion when this Branch Association was last host to the Annual Conference. This was some fourteen years ago, and despite a temporary lapse some years ago, it is encouraging to see that the Manawatu Branch is again participating in the activities of the Association and thereby taking her rightful place among the other member Branches.

On behalf of the Executive I thank you all for your co-operation in the past year and hope that this spirit of co-operation will persist in future years for the betterment of the generations that will surely follow.

I am,
Yours faithfully,
L. N. PATEL,
President.

The President's Report was duly approved and adopted.

Minutes of last year's Conference were read by the General Secretary and adopted.

The ensuing discussion on matters arising out of the minutes and actions taken on last year's resolution were as follows:—

1.—Historical Research on Indians in New Zealand

After a lengthy discussion in which several speakers threw some light on the subject, it was resolved that the General Secretary contact all branches enquiring as to what information was available from that Branch and so to compile a comprehensive report on this matter. All members were urged to receive, and compile all information possible to assist in the preparation of this report.

2.—Letter to Internal Affairs

The letters written to the Internal Affairs and the Indian High Commission were received and read. The Wellington Branch, however, pointed out that from the nature of the letter it appeared that restrictions were being made on Branches and enquired whether this restriction was for all time or for this particular occasion only. It was pointed out to the Branch that in matters of national importance, the General Association must first be consulted and only then if the Central body gives permission, may any Branch hold a function they desired for any attending dignitary.

3—Case of Jagiri Singh

The General Secretary outlined the steps taken and the probable outcome of the case. For the present it appeared likely that a re-entry permit would be granted by the Department.

4—Nehru Memorial Library

The letters from the four main Universities were received and read and after a wide discussion on the list of suggested books as set out on the appendage to the agenda, it was resolved that approximately \$250 be spent on each University for this Library.

Inward and Outward Correspondence

The inward and outward correspondence was duly approved and adopted.

Financial Statement

This was duly approved and adopted with the amendment "That the affiliation fees for the Auckland Branch for the period 1966-67 as shown on the financial statement should correctly read 1965-66."

A vote of thanks was accorded the outgoing officers who had rendered their honorary service during the past year.

The President on behalf of the Association conveyed his congratulations to the General Secretary on his recent appointment by the Justice Department as a Justice of the Peace of New Zealand. He then outlined the manner in which J.P.'s were appointed within the judicial system of New Zealand.

A vote of thanks was accorded the outgoing Officers who had officiated during the past year.

The meeting rose for lunch at 12.35 p.m. and the afternoon session resumed at 2 p.m.

The following Officers, including the Executive Committee were elected for the year 1968-69:—

President: L. N. Patel (Auckland). Vice-President: Piara Singh (Country Section). General Secretary: G. B. Bhula (Wellington). Assistant Secretary: C. Ramji (Wellington). Auditor: N. Vallabh (Wellington).

Executive Committee: D. Kesry (Auckland), C. Parbhu (Wellington), S. B. Master (Rotorua/Bay of Plenty), H. S. Radhawa (Country Section), Ravji Vnka (Pukekohe), Ramabhai Unka (Waikato), Morarbhaji Patel (Manawatu/Hawke's Bay), A. Bhana (Christchurch), B. Sukha (Taranaki).

Remits and Resolutions

1—*Question of P-Forms*

After a lengthy discussion on the matter it was resolved to initially take up the matter with the Reserve Bank of India and the Indian High Commission.

2—*Immigrants to N.Z. in 1967*

The Auckland Branch pointed out that in the Labour Department's statistics for the current year it showed that a total of 169 Indians came to New Zealand in 1967 and suggested that the Association enquire whether this figure included the wives and children of Indians resident in New Zealand. It was resolved that the Association write to the Immigration Department and find out what category of Indians were included in this figure.

3—*Mahatma Gandhi Prize*

It was resolved that the above prize be increased to \$20.00 as from next year.

4—*British Citizenship and Nationality Act*

It was resolved that: "The New Zealand Indian Central Association approach the Minister of Internal Affairs with a view to an alteration in the British Citizenship and Nationality Act so that in particular cases he may have the discretion to grant citizenship either to a husband or wife where lack of knowledge of the English language is the prime factor. This is essential in order to establish similarity of nationality for both husband and wife.

5—*Letter of Sympathy to Mrs. Martin Luther King*

Resolved that the letter of sympathy as previously read out by the General Secretary be sent to Mrs. King and her family.

6—*Discussion of Impending Visit to N.Z. of Mrs. Indira Gandhi*

After much discussion it was decided to:

- (1) Garland her on her arrival at the Airport.
- (2) A Committee of four be authorised by the President to work out details of a possible programme for her.

- (3) That a suitable presentation be made in the vicinity of \$100.
- (4) That all office-bearers of all the Branch Associations be invited to attend whatever function was arranged.

7—*Conferring of Life Membership to Mr. Vallabh (Wellington Branch Association)*

After much varied discussion it was decided that the Central Association do not elect Mr. Vallabh as a Life Member of the Association even though the Wellington Branch had chosen to elect him as a Life Member of their Branch Association. It was further decided that should the Wellington Branch wish to propose him as a Life Member of the Central Association, then they bring the matter forward at the next Annual Conference.

The Wellington Branch of the Association extended an invitation to hold the next Annual Conference in Wellington under their auspices. This invitation was heartily accepted by the Association.

The various delegations then expressed their thanks to the Wellington/Hawke's Bay Branch for the hospitality and cordial welcome extended them during their stay in Palmerston North.

In his concluding address the President thanked the host Branch for the efficient manner in which the Branch had carried out the arrangements for the Conference. He also urged each and every member to be fair and critical in their remarks and that it was only through such constructive criticism that officers would be better able to carry out their duties for the welfare of the community. Harmful and destructive criticism, on the other hand, would not only deter the enthusiasm of present and future officers, but would also be a disruptive force in the community.

A very successful Conference concluded on Saturday, 13th March, 1968, at 9.00 p.m. with the singing of the Indian National Anthem, "Jan Man Gan."

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

CREDIT				DEBIT			
	£	s.	d.	\$	c.		
Last year's Balance brought forward:						Rental to G.P.O. Box 1941, Wellington:	
Bank of New Zealand	1714	14	1	3429.41		1967	3 0 0
Post Office Savings Bank	532	19	3	1065.92		1968	3 0 0
Cash on hand	225	16	0	451.60		Printing of Annual Report, 1967	45 0 0
Affiliation Fees:						Mahatma Gandhi Prize, Massey Univ.	5 0 0
Wellington, 1966-67				75.80		Donation to Royal N.Z. Society for	
Auckland, 1965-66				100.00		Health of Women and Children	101 0 0
Waikato, 1966-67				8.00		Exchange on Cheques	3 6
Bequest from Mr. Ranchhodhbhai Dahyabhai						Balance Cash on Hand:	
(deceased, Wellington) for Nehru Mem-				141.20		Wellington Affiliation Fees, 1966-67	75.80
orial Fund						Auckland Affiliation Fees, 1966-67	100.00
Nehru Memorial Fund:						Bequest from Mr. Ranchhodhbhai Dahyabhai	
Waikato	133	5	0	266.50		(deceased, Wellington) for Nehru Mem-	
Famine Relief Fund:						orial Fund	141.20
Christchurch	17	0	0	34.00		Famine Relief Fund, Christchurch	17 0 0
Manawatu	39	10	0	79.00		Donation re Rajendra Prasad Singh, Auckland	150.00
Donation, re Rajendra Prasad Singh:						Nehru Memorial Fund, Manawatu, and Sec-	
Auckland				150.00		ond Defence Fund	381.40
Interest, Current Account, Bank N.Z.				133.73		Balance in Bank of New Zealand	3672.49
Interest, Post Office Savings Bank				64.82		Balance in Post Office Savings Bank	1130.74
				<u>\$5999.98</u>			<u>\$5999.98</u>

Addresses of Branch Associations

The Secretary,
Auckland Indian Association,
77 Dryden Street,
Grey Lynn, Auckland.

The Secretary,
Wellington Indian Association,
Bharat Bhavan,
90 Tasman Street, Wellington.

The Secretary,
Bay of Plenty (Rotorua) Indian
Association,
P.O. Box 294, Rotorua.

The Secretary,
Waikato Indian Association,
Mr. Rama Unka, Box 145,
Te Aroha, Waikato.

The Secretary,
Pukekohe Indian Association,
P.O. Box 149, Pukekohe.

The Secretary,
Country Section Indian Association,
Mr. Karam Singh,
R.D. 3, Te Awamutu.

The Secretary,
Manawatu-Hawke's Bay Indian
Association,
91 Main Street, Pahiatua.

The Secretary,
Taranaki Indian Association,
Bridge Street, Eltham.

The Secretary,
Christchurch Indian Association,
6 Raycroft Street,
Christchurch.

All communications to be addressed to:
The General Secretary,
The N.Z. Indian Central Association (Inc.),
G.P.O. Box 1941,
Wellington.

