

THE
NEW ZEALAND INDIAN
CENTRAL ASSOCIATION

(INCORPORATED)



41st ANNUAL REPORT

AND

BALANCE SHEET



CONFERENCE

25th March, 1967 at Taumarunui

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**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), SOM PRAKASH (Country Section), RAVJI UNKA, (Pukekohe). RAMABHAI UNKA (Waikato), MORARBHAI PATEL (Manawatu/Hawke's Bay), GANDABHAI CHHIBABHAI (Christchurch), G. MORAL (Taranaki).

ANNUAL CONFERENCE 1967

The Forty-first Annual Conference of the New Zealand Indian Central Association (Inc.) was held in Taumarunui under the auspices of the Country Section Branch during the Easter recess, commencing at 9.35 a.m. on Saturday, 25th March, 1967.

The visiting delegations were accorded a most sincere welcome by the host Branch President, Mr H. S. Radhawa in his opening address, and wished the conference every success in its deliberations.

In reply, the President, Mr L. N. Patel, thanked the Country Section Branch on behalf of the delegates and duly declared the conference opened.

A letter of apology from the Assistant-secretary, Mr A. D. Parbhu, was received and the meeting expressed its regret at his being unable to attend the conference.

Two minutes' silence was observed by the assembly in respect of those members and patriots who had passed away during the past year.

DELEGATES PRESENT

The following delegations represented their local branch associations:

Auckland

- | | |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. Mr Morarbhai Somabhai | 6. Mr. Ganeshbhai Somabhai |
| 2. Mr Dayalbhai Kesry | 7. Mr Ramanbhai Gandabhai |
| 3. Mr L. N. Patel . | 8. Mr Chhaganbhai Dajibhai |
| 4. Mr Parbhubhai Kasanji .Patel | 9. Mr Bahubhai J. Mirai |
| 5. Mr Babubhai Bhikhabhai | |

Wellington

- | | |
|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. Mr Narshihbhai Vallabhbai | 6. Mr Govindbhai Kanjibhai |
| 2. Mr Ramanbhai Ranchhodbhai | 7. Mr Dahyabhai Paragbhai |
| 3. Mr Chhibabhai Parbhubhai | 8. Mr Nathubhai Bhanabhai |
| 4. Mr Govind B.Bhula | 9. Mr Jayantibhai Vallabhbai |
| 5. Mr Chhaganbhai Ramjibhai | 10. Mr Kantibhai Bhagabhai |

Country Section

- | | |
|---------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Mr Piara Singh | 3. Mr Sarwan Singh |
| 2. Mr H. S. Radhawa | 4. Mr Gurder Singh |

5. Mr Mangal Singh
6. Mr Karam Singh

7. Mr Gurdas Singh Kung
8. Mr Som Parkash

Pukekohe

1. Mr Ravji Unka
2. Mr Parag Kanji
3. Mr Khushak Naran

4. Mr Morar Parsot
5. Mr Uka Chhiba

Rotorua-Bay of Plenty

1. Mr Shivilal B. Masters
2. Mr Ramabhai Jerambhai
3. Mr Bhanabhái Unkabhai

4. Mr Jerambhai Chhimabhai
5. Mr Govindbhai Makanbhai
6. Mr Munchba Singh Bhasi

Waikato

1. Mr Ramabhai Unkabhai
2. Mr Maganbhai Parbhubhai

3. Mr Laxmanbhai Kesabhai
4. Mr Ranchhodbhai Bhikhabhai

Taranaki

1. Mr Dhirubhai Patel

2. Mr _____

Christchurch

1. Mr Morarbhai Budhiabhai

2. Mr Gandabhai Chhibabhai

Manawatu-Hawke's Bay

1. Mr Morarbhai Patel

2. Mr Lalabhai Ravji

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Gentlemen,

We meet here in Taumarunui on the occasion of the Forty-first Conference of the Association. It is worth noting that it is near here that some 40 years ago the founders of the Association met for the first time and the Association was born. It is some 10 years since we met here last. It is pleasing to note that through the efforts of the members of the Country Section Branch that we meet here. For some years we gathered in the main centres but once again we have started meeting in remote centres following upon the lead taken by the Taranaki Branch. It may be difficult to make all arrangements in remote centres where the members are scattered -over great distances and I do congratulate heartily the members of the Country Section Branch for making a real effort. By holding the conferences in some of the remote parts of New Zealand it gives an opportunity to the members in the nearby districts to attend and take the advantage of meeting members and delegates from other parts of New Zealand.

On my recent tour through many countries I had the pleasure to meet Indian people in other parts of the world. Indian people seem to have settled in many parts of the world. I met them in America, London, East Africa, Zambia, Rhodesia and South Africa. In all these countries I found that the Indian people have made good progress in wider fields than we have done in New Zealand.

I had the opportunity to meet the previous High Commissioner for India in New Zealand, Mr Ahuja, who is now stationed in New Delhi. He asked me to convey his warmest greetings to all Indian

people in New Zealand. He particularly mentioned that his stay in New Zealand was a happy one and wished all success to Indians in New Zealand. Through him I was fortunate to meet various officials in the Central Government and had discussed with them, the food problem. The food shortage is not so apparent in Gujarat but I noticed that Rajasthan and other parts, particularly Bihar, U. P., and other states, there was a great shortage of food. Even in Gujarat the prices of food were comparatively very high.

As far as the activities of the Association is concerned this will be dealt with by the General Secretary in his report on business arising out of the minutes.

The economic situation of New Zealand has given some concern to the present Government, and generally there is unrest in the world. In such times there is real need of co-operation and I ask you all present here to co-operate with the forthcoming committee.

L. N. PATEL,

President.

This was duly approved and adopted.

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

Discussion arising out of the minutes, and actions taken on last year's resolutions and suggestions were as follows:

1. Sub-committee Re: Nehru Memorial Library.

It was pointed out that the third delegate's name as shown, on the report should have read "J. Hirabhai" and not "J. Dahyabhai".

2. Famine Relief Fund

The Auckland Branch expressed the opinion that had the General Secretary taken earlier action with regard to their letter dated 13/6/1966, then the Auckland Branch's contribution would have been sent earlier and no delay would have resulted. Following considerable discussion- this matter was duly declared closed.

3. Indian Travellers To and From New Zealand

Mr I. S. Radhawa, of the Country Section Branch suggested that a letter be written to Messrs McKinnon & McKenzie Ltd (London), inquiring as to why sufficient berths were not made available to travellers returning to New Zealand after a stay in India, when it was perfectly clear that a large proportion of any vessel leaving Bombay for Australia or New Zealand was usually empty, and contained many empty berths which could have been made available to these travellers instead of their having to resort to air travel.

4. *Directory of Names and Addresses*

It was resolved that the printing of this directory be deferred until the new Auckland numbers were known and came into effect.

5. *Sub-committee's Report Re: Rotorua Branch Association*

It was resolved that this report be published in the minutes.

THE NEW ZEALAND INDIAN CENTRAL ASSOCIATION (INC.)

President: L. N. Patel (Auckland).
Secretary: G. B. Bhula (Wellington).

G.P.O. Box 1941,
Wellington.
7th May, 1966.

The President and Members,
Rotorua (Bay of Plenty) Indian Association,
P.O. Box 294,
Rotorua.

Dear Sir,

Following the special General Meeting of your Branch Association held on the 1st May, 1966, this will serve to place on record the findings of the special sub-committee of the above Association appointed to investigate certain alleged acts of impropriety by the President of the Rotorua (Bay of Plenty) Indian Association, following allegations made by Mr U. K. Dhanji in a letter dated 2nd April, 1966.

Referring more particularly to the allegations made, the members of the special sub-committee are satisfied from the evidence available that:

1. "The present President (Mr S. B. Master) did not cause the Rotorua (Bay of Plenty) Indian Association to become an Incorporated body without the sanction or prior approval of the members of the Branch Association as a whole. The Branch Association in fact had been registered as an Incorporated body prior to 16th December, 1963, during which period Mr S. B. Master was clearly not the President of the said Branch Association. The letter from the Solicitors of the Branch Association as conclusive evidence clearly negates this charge.

"The present President is therefore, hereby deemed to be blameless in every respect arising from the first charge made against him."

2. "The present President (Mr S. B. Master) did not raise or cause to be raised, a mortgage for the purpose of purchasing a property without the sanction or prior approval of the Rotorua (Bay of Plenty) Indian Association as a whole.

"The Branch Association had in fact, at a meeting held on the 30th October, 1965, decided by way of a resolution, to purchase the property in question.

“The matter of raising the necessary mortgage was inherent in the terms of the resolution which was finally signed by five members of the Rotorua (Bay of Plenty) Indian Association, in the presence of the solicitors acting for the Branch Association.

“The relevant minutes of the Branch Association meeting of the 30th October, 1965, clearly negates the second charge.

“The present President is therefore, hereby deemed to be blameless in every respect arising from the second charge made against him.”

3. “The New Zealand Indian Central Association special subcommittee has thoroughly investigated the specific matters referred to under items (1) and (2) contained in the letter dated 2nd April, 1966, and is of the firm opinion that both acts were authorised by way of resolutions.

“The ‘minute book’ of the Rotorua (Bay of Plenty) Indian Association is conclusive evidence of this fact as nothing to the contrary could be found.

“The Rotorua (Bay of Plenty) Indian Association is therefore deemed to be blameless in every respect arising from the third charge made specifically against it.”

Summary

This special meeting was held on the premises of Messrs Turners Markets, Rotorua, on the 1st May, 1966, at 2.15 p.m:

The meeting was chaired by Kesavbhai from Auckland.

The members of the special sub-committee were: L. N. Patel, Moraribhai Soma and the General Secretary.

The members of the special sub-committee are unanimous in their decision that after examining the facts there does not appear to be any impropriety on the part of the present President in view of the libellous charges made against him by Mr U. K. Dhanji. The charges have been found to be inconsistent and without foundation.

For, and on behalf of the investigating sub-committee

Yours faithfully,
(Signed) G. B. BHULA,
General Secretary.

RESOLUTIONS AND SUGGESTIONS

1. *Appointment of Public Relations Officer*

Following the Auckland Branch remit that “the work of a public relations officer be incorporated within the office of one of the existing officers”, it was moved and adopted that such office be served by the President.

2. *Branch Activities*

The Wellington Branch remit that “time be granted to each member branch at the Annual Conference to report on activities carried out during the year” was duly approved and adopted.

3. *Historical Research on Indians in New Zealand*

Remit by Auckland Branch “that research into past history of Indians in New Zealand be carried out by an appointed committee” was duly carried.

The committee appointed comprised: (1) Mr Karam Singh (Country Section), (2) Mr D. Kesry (Auckland), (3) Mr Moraribhai Soma (Auckland), together, with President and General Secretary (Ex Officio).

4. *Publishing of a Quarterly Newsletter*

A suggestion that a quarterly newsletter be published by the Association in Order that branches are informed of progress of resolutions and suggestions as adopted was left to the discretion of the General Secretary to implement if time permitted.

5. *Letter from Mr U. K. Dhanji dated 16/3/67 Re: Rotorua Branch Association*

The President outlined what had transpired at the last Annual Conference of the Association, the ensuing resolution, and the actions taken. The letter from Mr Dhanji dated 16/3/67 was then read. The President pointed out that most of the allegations made in the letter were of a general nature and went back to about 1951 during which time the complainant was himself an active member of the Rotorua-Bay of Plenty Association.

6: *Letter to Internal Affairs*

It was resolved that a letter be written to the Internal Affairs Department asking that in future this Association be given time to convene a meeting with any visiting Indian dignitaries representing the Indian Government.

7. *Case of Jagiri Singh*

The General Secretary outlined the steps that had been taken in this case and what had transpired in the meanwhile. It was suggested that the President and the General Secretary, if able,

should try and ascertain, unofficially, why this case was initially declined.

8. *Nehru- Memorial Library*

The General Secretary outlined the present position regarding the accumulation of funds and the action taken by him. -

INWARD AND OUTWARD CORRESPONDENCE

The inward and outward correspondence as carried out during the year was presented as was the financial statement. These were duly approved and adopted.

A vote of thanks was accorded the outgoing officers who had rendered their honorary service in the interests of the community.

The meeting rose for lunch at 12.30 p.m. and the afternoon session recommenced at 1.45 p.m.

OFFICERS ELECTED

The following Officers, including the Executive' committee were elected for the year 1967-68.:—

President: Mr L N. Patel, 26 Fife Street, Westmere, Auckland.
Vice president: Mr Piara Singh, R.D. Owhango, Taumarunui.
General Secretary: Mr G. B. Bhula, 6 Nikau Grove, Lower Hutt.
Assistant Secretary: Mr C Ramji, 34 Wellington Road, Wellington
Auditor: Mr N. Vallabh, 5 Wilson Street, Wellington.
Executive Committee: Messrs D. Kesry (Auckland), C. Parbhu (Wellington), S B Master (Rotorua Bay of Plenty), Som Prakash (Country Section), Unka Ravji (Pukekohe), Ramabhai Unka. (Waikato), G. Moral (Taranaki), M. Ravji (Taranaki), G. Chhiba (Christchurch).

The proceedings of the special sub-committee meeting held in Rotorua on 1st May, 1966, were then presented and in the light of the outcome of this meeting, the President recommended that the letter should not be received. Further, if the complainant felt that if he had any proof of his allegations he be asked to present his case personally to the Association when it would be considered.

It was moved "that the letter containing allegations in general terms without proof, and the contained matter extending over some 20 years, this association is unable to receive this letter under these conditions, and in the absence of the writer, despite a request to attend the Conference, the letter be not received".

6. *Letter to Auckland Branch Association from Royal New Zealand Society for the Health of Women and Children*

The letter requesting aid in travelling expenses for three nurses coming from India for training in Plunket work in New Zealand was received and it was moved that the Association donate £50 (\$100)

towards this cause.

The amendment to this motion that the figure should be £101 (\$202) was carried.

7. Balance of Second Defence Fund

Suggested that the balance of £164 2s. 6d. (\$328 25c) be retained for use at a later date for the same purpose for which it was raised. This was adopted.

The Manawatu-Hawke's Bay Branch of the Association extended an invitation to hold the next Annual Conference in Palmerston North under their auspices.

This invitation was heartily accepted by the Association.

The various delegations then expressed their thanks to the Country Section Branch for their hospitality and the cordial welcome extended them during their stay in Taumarunui and commented on the Branch's splendid collective effort in view of the fact that its individual members lived considerable distances apart from each other.

A very successful Conference concluded on Saturday, 25th March, 1967, at 8.30 pm., with the singing of the Indian National Anthem, "Jan Man Gan". -

All communications to be addressed to:

THE GENERAL SECRETARY,
THE N.Z. INDIAN CENTRAL ASSOCIATION (INC.),
G.P.O. BOX 1941, WELLINGTON.

ADDRESSES OF BRANCH ASSOCIATION

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

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

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

The Secretary,
Country Section Indian Association
Mr. H. S. Radhawa
R.D. No. 3, Taupiri

The Secretary,

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

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

The Secretary,
Waikato Indian Association,
359 Great South Road
Te Rapa, Hamilton

The Secretary,
Taranaki Indian Association,
c/o Vern Morgan Ltd.,
60 Weraroa Road, Waverly

The Secretary,
Christchurch Indian Association
122 Ferry Road, Christchurch

FINANCIAL STATEMENT 1967**FINANCIAL STATEMENT**

| CREDIT | | | | DEBIT | | | |
|--------------------------------------|-------|----|----|--|-------|----|----|
| | £ | s. | d. | | £ | s. | d. |
| Last year's Balance brought forward: | | | | Milk Powder: Second Defence Fund | 2,000 | 0 | 0 |
| Bank of New Zealand | 2061 | 6 | 10 | Printing of Annual Reports | 49 | 2 | 6 |
| P.O. Savings Bank | 532 | 19 | 3 | Milk Powder: Famine Relief | 2,470 | 0 | 0 |
| Cash on hand | 25 | 0 | 0 | Refund Auckland Association Re: Famine Relief Fund | 143 | 0 | 0 |
| Affiliation Fees: | | | | Mahatma Gandhi Prize: Massey University | 5 | 0 | 0 |
| Pukekohe Association | 14 | 0 | 0 | Cheque Book | | 10 | 0 |
| Waikato Association | 4 | 0 | 0 | Exchange on Cheques | 3 | 2 | 9 |
| Auckland Association | 50 | 0 | 0 | Balance: | | | |
| Wellington Association | 35 | 2 | 0 | Cash on Hand | | | |
| Nehru Memorial Fund: | | | | Wellington Affiliation Fee (1965-66) | 35 | 2 | 0 |
| Pukekohe Association | 50 | 0 | 0 | Manawatu Nehru Memorial Fund | 26 | 11 | 6 |
| Auckland Association | 571 | 10 | 0 | Manawatu Second Defence Fund | 164 | 2 | 6 |
| Wellington Association | 367 | 1 | 0 | Balance in B.N.Z. | 1,714 | 14 | 1 |
| Taranaki Association | 51 | 0 | 0 | Balance in P.O.S.B. | 532 | 19 | 3 |
| Christchurch Association | 17 | 10 | 0 | | | | |
| Country Section Association | 68 | 0 | 0 | | | | |
| Manawatu Association | 26 | 11 | 6 | | | | |
| Famine Relief Fund: | | | | | | | |
| Wellington Association | 740 | 10 | 0 | | | | |
| | 501 | 0 | 0 | | | | |
| Pukekohe Association | 316 | 12 | 0 | | | | |
| Auckland Association | 1,439 | 0 | 0 | | | | |
| Taranaki Association | 50 | 0 | 0 | | | | |
| Country Section Association | 46 | 15 | 0 | | | | |
| Second Defence Fund: | | | | | | | |
| Manawatu Association | 164 | 2 | 6 | | | | |
| Interest of current account B.N.Z. | 12 | 5 | 0 | | | | |
| Interest on P.O.S.B. | - | | | | | | |
| Total | £7144 | 5 | 1 | Total | £7144 | 5 | 1 |

"Evening Post" Print