

THE
NEW ZEALAND INDIAN
CENTRAL ASSOCIATION
(INCORPORATED)

●

35th ANNUAL REPORT

AND
BALANCE SHEET

●

CONFERENCE

1st and 2nd April, 1961
at Wellington

TABLE OF CONTENTS

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TABLE OF CONTENTS	2
GENERAL	2
DELEGATES PRESENT	3
RESOLUTIONS AND SUGGESTIONS	6
LETTER RECEIVED FROM THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA	8
ADDRESSES OF GENERAL SECRETARY ND ALL THE BRANCHES	9
FINANCIAL STATEMENT 1961	10

THE NEW ZEALAND INDIAN CENTRAL ASSOCIATION

(INCORPORATED)

GENERAL

The 35th Annual Conference of the New Zealand Indian Central Association was held at Wellington, in “Bharat Bhavan”, on 1st and 2nd April, 1961. The President, Mr. D. Kesry, taking the chair at 10.30 a.m., an hour and a half later than the scheduled time for the meeting, declared the meeting open.

The Conference opened with the singing of National Anthem “Jan Man Gan”. All the delegates were welcomed by “Swagat Geet” (welcome song) sung by young girls. Mr. C. Parbhu, the President of the Wellington Indian Association welcomed the delegates in a most cordial manner and wished the meeting every success. He also expressed his apology for the delay in commencing the Conference due to the late arrival of the train. All the delegates were informed of the time arranged by the Wellington branch for the Conference as there were two weddings to take place in Wellington during the Easter holidays.

The house stood in silence for two minutes as a mark of respect to those patriots who sacrificed time and lives for the liberation of Mother India and also to pay homage to the deceased New Zealand Indians who passed away during the past year.

DELEGATES PRESENT

The following delegates represented their respective branches:

AUCKLAND:

1. Mr. D. Kesry
2. Mr. J. K. Natali
3. Mr. L. N. Patel
4. Mr. K. Madhu
5. Mr. Parbhubhai Patel
6. Mr. Moran Patel
7. Mr. Nanubhai Bhanabhai
8. Mr. Chhima Vallabh
9. Mr. Keshavhai Vallabhbhai
10. Mr. Vallabhbhai Dayabhai

WELLINGTON:

1. Mr. C. Parbhu
2. Mr. A. D. Parbhu
3. Mr. R. Hira
4. Mr. N. Vallabh
5. Mr. G. Kanji
6. Mr. R. Rams
7. Mr. B. Naik
8. Mr. H. Dahya
9. Mr. D. Parag
10. Mr. D. Bhana

MANAWATU:

1. Mr. Shivial Master
2. Mr. Haribhai Naran

3. Mr. Rama Ranchhod

PUKEKOHE:

1. Mr. Kesha Parsot
2. Mr. Parbhu Bhikha
3. Mr. Bliula Bhakata
4. Mr. Parbhu Bhaga
5. Mr. Khandu Parag

COUNTRY SECTION:

1. Mr. Karam Singh
2. Mr. Piara Singh
3. Mr. Gurdev Singh
4. Mr. Charnan Singh

ROTORUA:

1. Mr. U. K. Dhanji
2. Mr. Rama Jeram
3. Mr. Jeram Sima
4. Mr. Rama Makan

WAIKATO:

1. Mr. Phuman Singh

CHRISTCHURCH:

1. Mr. Morarbhai Budhiabhai

TARANAKI:

1. Mr. C. L. Patel
2. Mr. J. Govind

Last year's minute was read by the Secretary. Rotorua branch objected that the words "counter charges against Wellington branch" should be omitted from the minutes written about the discussion which took place at the last Conference regarding the reply which was received from Rotorua branch for their hall fund account. The great majority approved the minutes as read.

Actions taken for the last year's resolutions and suggestions:

1. A copy of the hall fund account of Rotorua branch was not sent to all the branches and to the Central Association, as was promised by the delegates from Rotorua at the last Conference, but it was circulated to all the delegates at this Conference by Rotorua branch.
2. A matter regarding the acceptance of the signature of a respectable citizen instead of a J.P.'s on the application form for an Indian passport, was left in the hands of the President if he got an opportunity to discuss it with the Indian High Commissioner. The President made it clear that

he did not get such an opportunity, but Mr. L. N. Patel informed the House that we should not recommend the Government of India to alter the provision of their law in this particular subject.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Gentlemen,

When things go smoothly one becomes idle and careless. For some years it has been repeatedly said that we have no problems and practically no work in our Central Association. From one angle this point of view is partly true. However, looking thoroughly into the subject there are many things which could improve and many new fields which we could cultivate if we only desire. The main object of our fathers' migration to this country has been partly achieved by the march of time and we have improved our standard of earning and thereby our standard of living. However, it is yet to be considered whether we have improved our standards of thoughts or not. Higher education in our society is coming at a very slow rate. We must consider that an education is a highest form of machinery to develop one's mind and brain, and if such is developed one could keep track of the development of world affairs. I wish to express my regret at the behaviour of some of our educated people who are trying to keep away from our community's activities, and are simply not interested in giving service to the society. May I take this liberty to remind them that serving society and humanity is the highest form of culture practised by human being in the religious and political world. If the young educated people do not change their attitude towards our community, it may be a tragedy for the future existence of this society.

Our relations with the immigration department is very peaceful and harmonious. Intending son-in-laws have been granted permission to enter this country and become residents of it if they prove to be so. Gentlemen, from our side's point of view, I feel that this subject needs reviewing as from the marriage success point of view. It is necessary for any intending son-in-law to bear in mind that he must not marry New Zealand country, but marry a young lady who has been brought up in New Zealand and thereby try to understand each other's mind more and make life successful and happy. I also remind father-in-laws not to detain their minds from the ample opportunities that exist in various fields in this country. Duty requires to give them some good sound advice on their responsibilities.

"Faith" is which some of us believe and yet some of us don't, because it is beyond our sight. When it comes to the final leave from this existing sight, all of us look to this last faith and have a service prayer conducted by different religions. On some of these occasions, conducting priests have preached to convert our people's thoughts. We all inherit a culture and religion. Could we not make it possible to have our man conduct this last service in our own religious manner? I congratulate Wellington on this subject—it has taken a very wise lead.

Looking back to our Mother Land, the situation on the Northern border with the Government of China remains almost the same as last year. On the contrary, peaceful negotiations have not resolved any difference and both sides stand firmer to their claims. Indian President expressed in his speech to the House of People that sooner or later China will have to come to some peaceful solution, though this particular phrase has been widely discussed in India. Let us hope that such becomes true. In other

fields, such as industry and farming, India is making steady progress through democratic methods.

Let us look across to the other side of the world where millions of people are looking for their emancipation from foreign domination or from depression from other ruling classes. In such places clouds of storm gather and darken the atmosphere, leaving the future undecided for many millions of people. We sincerely hope that those who are responsible for such events of tragedies may soon realise and stop such activities. On the other hand the lust for power is also such that instead of cooperating with each other to stabilise law and order and make the administration function properly, they are engaged in fighting and killing each other. It is high time that ill-motivated outside sources should pull out from such countries. Let us hope that God may give them more wisdom to solve their problems peacefully.

We deeply mourn the recent loss of Home Minister of Government of India, Pandit Govind Vallabh Pant. He was one of the leaders of the 'Indian National Congress during the civil disobedience movement and has served prison terms for many times. We pray that his Soul may rest in peace.

D. KESRY, President.

The President, Mr. D. Kesry, presented his report, which was widely discussed, especially the subject of reviewing the marriage success part of it, as some of our marriages taken place in New Zealand have not been very successful. The necessity of giving good advice to both son-in-laws and father-in-laws were insisted by nearly all the delegates.

The President's report and financial statement were duly approved and adopted. All the correspondence done by the secretary was also approved.

A vote of thanks was accorded to the past officers who faithfully served the noble cause of the community.

OFFICERS ELECTED

The following officers were elected for the year 1961-62:

President: Mr. Dayal Kesry, Great South Road, Papakura.

Vice-president: Mr. Paira Singh, P.O. Manunui.

General Secretary: Mr. Narshih1bhai Vallabhbhai, 5 Wilson Street, Newtown, Wellington.

Assistant Secretary: Mr. Dahyabhai Paragji, 52 Onepu Road, Kilbirnie, Wellington.

Auditor: Mr. Khushalbai Madhubhai, 478 Richmond Road, Auckland.

Executive Committee: Messrs. C. Parbhu (Wellington), J.K. Natali (Auckland), K. Parsot (Pukekohe), J. Sima (Rotorua), C. L. Patel (Taranaki), Morar Budhia (Christchurch), Phuman Singh (Waikato), Shivial B. Master (Manawatu) and Charnan Singh (CountrySection).

Permission was granted to the delegates from Rotorua to leave the Conference at the end of the first day of Conference.

RESOLUTIONS AND SUGGESTIONS

1. A resolution was brought forward to print and publish a directory of addresses (with telephone number, if possible) of all the Indians residing in New Zealand. Number of copies required by the branches are to be charged, This resolution was unanimously adopted.

A question of inclusion of non-members addresses was raised and was widely discussed. Majority voted in favour of publishing the addresses of non-members too, providing their names are printed in a separate column.

2. It was proposed by the Country Section branch to the Central Association to appeal to the Government of India to create a formidable defence of all kinds to ensure security against aggression from outside. Right is might, but might is necessary to make it effective.

At the end of the discussion of this proposal a majority passed to appeal to the Government of India with the amendment of omitting the words "right is might, but might is necessary to make it effective" from the original proposal.

3. Country Section recommended that the expense of the Annual Conference of the Central Association should be contributed to by all the branches according to the number of their members. This recommendation was widely discussed and at last it was withdrawn by the Country Section.

4. As it was resolved at the 33rd Conference of the Central Association, a draft of the new constitution was presented by Mr. L. N. Patel. He briefly outlined the whole constitution. The President thanked Mr. L. N. Patel for giving his honorary service to this Association in drafting the constitution.

The procedure of adopting this constitution suggested by the President was approved as follows:

A copy of this constitution will be forwarded to all the branches to discuss it thoroughly at their meetings. An executive committee meeting of the Central Association will be held either during Christmas or New Year holidays. Amendments and recommendations from the branches are to be received by the Secretary at least a month before the executive committee meeting. A new copy of the constitution (including the amendments and recommendations) will be forwarded to all the branches after it has been discussed by the executive committee meeting so that the branches will have enough time to discuss it again before it is finally presented at the

next Annual Conference for adoption.

5. In the general discussion it was brought forward to the notice of all the delegates that two Indians in Wellington were refused membership of the Taxi Owners' Union on the ground of racial discrimination. It was also found that the Federation of Labour and Drivers' Union were interested in this matter and were trying their best to obtain their membership. So it was suggested that this matter be left in the hands of Wellington branch and expressed the full support of the Central Association to them if required. It was also recommended to Wellington branch to contact Federation of Labour and Drivers' Union to co-operate and assist them in this matter.
6. It was noticed on some occasions that our funeral services at some places have been conducted by Christian Priests who preached to convert the thoughts of our people. We all inherit a culture and religion, so it was suggested to all the branches to conduct it in our own religion. A copy of this service will be forwarded to all the branches by the Central Association to whom it will be provided by the Wellington branch.
7. It was suggested that the census of the Indian community should be taken through the branches every five years.

Auckland Indian Association extended an invitation to hold the Annual Conference next year at Auckland. This was thankfully accepted.

An invitation was extended to all the delegates (except Wellington) by Mr. C. Parbhu, the President of the Wellington Indian Association, to attend the showing of the film "Anari", which was to be screened on 2nd April, 1961, at 8 p.m., under the auspices of the Wellington Indian Association.

All the delegates thanked the Wellington Indian Association for the hospitality they received at the hands of the said branch. They also thanked Messrs. Dullabh N. Patel and K. Parbhu for providing the sumptuous meals on the occasion of the weddings of their daughters.

The Conference concluded with the singing of the National Anthem "Jan Man Gan".

LETTER RECEIVED FROM THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA**Copy of the letter received from the Government of India**

F. No. 6/47/60-Cus. VII
Government of India
Ministry of Finance (Dept. of Revenue)

New Delhi
15th October, 1960.

From:
The Under Secretary to the Government of India.

To:
The General Secretary,
Indian Central Association Inc.
G.P.O. Box 1941,
Wellington,
New Zealand.

Sir,
Subject: LEVY OF DUTY ON GIFT PARCELS

I am directed to refer to your letter dated the 2nd October, 1960, addressed to the Finance Minister in connection with the above subject and to state that gift parcels are not exempt from Customs duty by reason of the fact that they are gifts. There is, however, exemption in favour of post parcels on whose contents the duty leviable is not more than Rs. 3/-. However, the rate of the duty to be levied on such parcels depends upon the nature and value of goods imported. The duty is determined in accordance with the rates laid down in the Current Indian Customs Tariff.

Yours faithfully,

(sgd.) L. S. MARTHANDAM,
Under Secretary to the Government of India.

ADDRESSES OF GENERAL SECRETARY AND ALL THE BRANCHES

All communications to be addressed to

The General Secretary,
The N.Z. Indian Central Association (Inc.)
G.P.O. Box 1941, Wellington.

ADDRESSES OF ALL THE BRANCHES

The Secretary,
Auckland Indian Association,
952 Dominion Road,
Auckland.

Mr. Piara Singh
The Secretary,
Country Section Indian Association,
P.O. Manunui.

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

The Secretary
Pukekohe Indian Association,
P.O. Box 142,
Pukekohe.

The Secretary,
Manawatu and Hawke's Bay
Indian Association,

79 The Square,
Palmerston North.

The Secretary,
Waikato Indian Association,
Parawera Stores,
Parawera.
via Te Awamutu.

The Secretary,
Christchurch Indian Association,
122 Ferry Road,
Christchurch.

The Secretary,
Taranaki Indian Association,
Egmont Street,
Patea.

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

FINANCIAL STATEMENT 1961**FINANCIAL STATEMENT**

CREDIT				DEBIT			
	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Last year's balance in Bank of N.Z.	92	2	5	Printing of Annual Reports	26	10	0
Last year's balance in P.O.S. Bank	446	8	11	Exchange on Cheques		1	9
Affiliation Fee -				Mahatma Gandhi Prize -			
Auckland for 1958	34	14	0	To Massey College	10	0	6
Auckland for 1959	28	0	0	(£5 1959, £1960, 6d. exchange)			
Wellington for 1959-1960	21	8	0	Printing of Writing Pads	4	10	0
Interest in Current Account	3	2	10	Posting of Annual Reports and postal stamps	1	5	0
	<u>£625</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>2</u>	Telegram to Rt. Hon. Mr. Holyoake		8	11
Owing General Secretary	1	1	3	Telegrams to four branches (Re representations to Conference)		12	4
				Total	<u>£43</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>6</u>
				Balance in Bank of N.Z.	137	0	0
				Balance in P.O.S. Bank	446	8	11
Total	<u>£626</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>5</u>	Total	<u>£626</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>5</u>