

THE  
COLLECTED  
WORKS  
OF  
MAHATMA  
GANDHI

VOLUME TWELVE



THE PUBLICATIONS DIVISION



344. LETTER TO G. K. GOKHALE

ON THE KIMBERLEY TRAIN,  
*July 1, 1914*

DEAR MR. GOKHALE,

I cabled<sup>1</sup> yesterday saying that everything was settled. I am not inflicting copies of the correspondence or any other papers on you.

I am making a desperate effort to leave by the 18th instant. My one desire is now to meet you and see you, take my orders from you and leave at once for India. This will be in your hands after I have left, if I leave on the 18th, but before if I leave on the 25th. I shall cable next week when I am to leave. If, therefore, you have any instructions for me will you kindly cable Cape Town or Madeira as the case may be.

I hope that your health is improving.

Mrs. Gandhi and Mr. Kallenbach accompany me.

*I am,*  
*Yours sincerely,*  
M. K. GANDHI

From a photostat of the original in Gandhiji's hand: G. N. 3777

345. SPEECH AT KIMBERLEY RECEPTION<sup>2</sup>

[*July 2, 1914*]

After giving a brief account of the events from the day of the meeting in the Gaiety Theatre, Johannesburg, in September 1906, up to date, and a moving description of the Indians' sacrifices during the period, Mr. Gandhi said:

As a result of these sufferings, today we see that the hearts of the Europeans in South Africa have melted. In this struggle, I was only a soldier in the army of voluntary sufferers. Real honour should go to those who went through these unbearable sufferings. We also owe thanks to Mr. Kallenbach, Mr. Polak and

<sup>1</sup> This cable is not available.

<sup>2</sup> A meeting was held in the Beaconsfield Town Hall to honour Gandhiji, with Councillor T. Pratley in the chair. The original report of the speech in English is not available.

all other European friends who have helped us during difficult times.

Speaking on the new Bill, he said:

We could see that the Union Government worked to get the Assembly and the Senate to pass a Bill which would satisfy the Imperial Government, the Government of India and the Indians of South Africa. General Botha, it must be admitted, has done much for us, seeing that, for the sake of a community as docile as the Indians, he threatened to resign if the Bill was not passed. We also thank the Opposition for treating this issue, not as a matter of party-politics, but as an Imperial problem. We are thankful, too, to the Imperial Government and to Lord Hardinge, that noble Viceroy of India, for their help. The help which India gave us under the leadership of Mr. Gokhale and the invaluable help from Mr. Andrews—each of these surpassed the other and it is thanks to them that we have this final and satisfactory settlement today. The spirit which animated the Government in dealing out justice to us will also inspire the administration of the Act and, if so, there will be no occasion again for a struggle like this. But, with their leave, I wish to point out to my countrymen that the remedy for every hardship lies in the first instance with us; after that, we have the weapon of satyagraha. . . . I shall for ever cherish the sacred memory of European friends and the love my countrymen have borne towards me.

[From Gujarati]

*Indian Opinion*, 8-7-1914

### 346. SPEECH AT DURBAN MEETING<sup>1</sup>

[July 5, 1914]

The inference that the *Mercury* and other papers have drawn about the £3 tax is altogether wrong and misleading. It does not at all follow from the Act. After the *Mercury's* comments were published, General Smuts was addressed on the matter, and he is also convinced that the Act does not bear the meaning which the *Mercury* has read in it.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> The meeting was held at the Football Ground on Gandhiji's return from Cape Town, after the passing of the Indians' Relief Bill.

<sup>2</sup> *Vide* footnote 1 on p. 427.