

FOREIGN OFFICE, S.W.1.

T. 1251/26/378

20th February, 1926.

Sir,

I am directed by Secretary Sir Austen Chamberlain to state, for the information of Mr. Secretary Ansary, that it was recently decided by the Supreme Court of the United States, on appeal in the case of United States vs. Bhagat Singh Thind, that British subjects of Hindu race were not eligible for naturalisation as United States citizens, even though they had lawfully entered the territories of the United States.

2. It seems clear that the United States authorities propose to treat the "naturalisations" of such persons as null and void ab initio, and Sir Austen Chamberlain is advised that it can be assumed that such "naturalisations" have not affected the British nationality of the persons concerned.

3. Such persons are consequently entitled to receive the protection and passport facilities usually accorded by British authorities to British subjects, and I am to transmit to you herewith a copy of a circular despatch upon the subject which is being issued to British consular officers abroad.

I am, etc.

(Signed) G. R. WARNER