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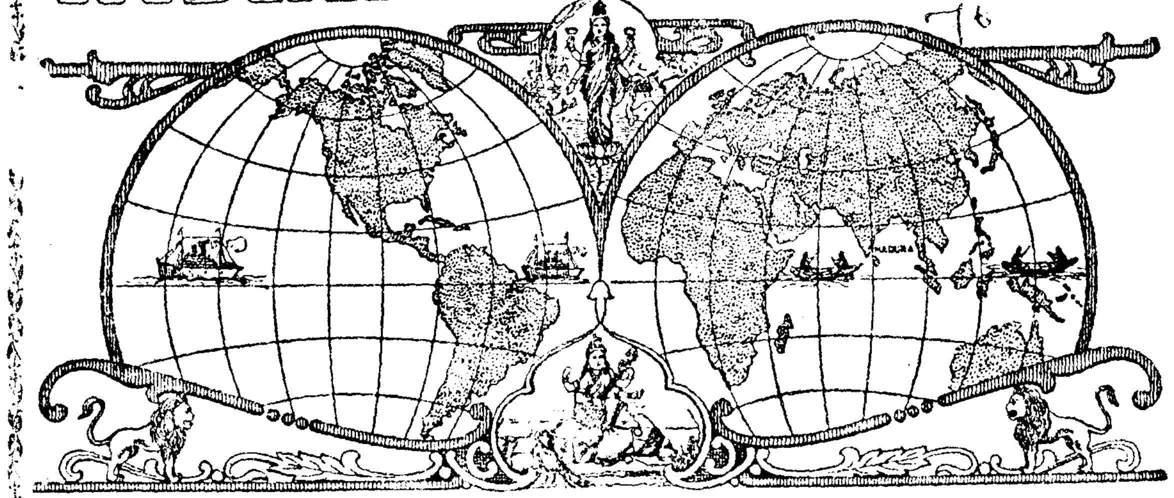

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CONENTS.

THE INDIAN COMMERCE.

A high class English Monthly devoted to Trade, Commerce, Industry, Finance, Banking, Foreign Exchange, Co-operation and Commercial Education, etc.

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Formation of an Indian Institute of Commerce.

At the anniversary celebration of the Madras Shorthand Writers' Association held sometime in February last, Mr. C. Gopala Menon, Vice-President of the South Indian Chamber of Commerce, Madras, has been reported to have observed that though the Province of Madras has been the first to introduce and organise Commercial Education in India, it is, at the present time, the least organised and advanced province in that respect. Mr. K. S. Aiyar, B.A., F.S.A.A., R.A., popularly known as the Father of Commercial Education in India, under whose personal guidance a scheme for the introduction of commercial education in Madras has been launched in 1886, rightly criticised the Government of Madras in their decision to close the three Schools of Commerce under their management and thereby giving a shocking blow to the growth of commercial education in Madras, when he had the opportunity of presiding over a function in connection with the Madras Auditors' Conference in February last. Being in full agreement, as we are, with the opinions expressed by two accredited commercial educationists, both of provincial and all-India fame, and interested in the growth of commercial education on up-to-date lines, we wish to examine it at length how the proud position that Madras has been able to occupy in her early days has been allowed to be easily robbed of by sister provinces and finally to suggest a scheme by which it may be organised in India on a better, sound and permanent basis.

Though there is a proverb that "well begun is half done", unfortunately it has been destined that in Madras in the case of the growth of commercial education it should not prove to be so and that the good beginning made should not grow more and more in importance and from success to success. This is due to the fact that the responsibility of organising this branch of education has not been entrusted, by the Government of Madras, to a democratic body of commercial educationists with little or no State interference, so that they could do full justice to their job by devoting their best attention to it and always alive to the national needs. The system adopted, *viz.* that of entrusting this important branch of work to the Director of Public Instruction as an additional duty to be discharged by him, over and above his normal duties of organising the general education of the pro-

vince, under a new name and title of "Commissioner for Government Examinations", saddled with a number of examinations of a very varied nature, perhaps about 16 in number, vesting in him full powers in the matter of selecting the members of the Board of Examiners in Commerce, appointment of Chief and Assistant Examiners etc , with a special staff to assist him headed by a Secretary, usually a retired Government pensioner of the education department above 55 years, has been in our opinion the chief reason why the growth of commercial education in this province has been more or less stagnant and moving at snail's pace. The scheme originated 47 years ago, when commercial education was at its infancy and its introduction a novelty. 's still being allowed to continue on the same lines with but a few minor changes here and there. But on the other hand within this period of 47 years (1886 to 1933) in England, commercial education has made rapid strides, separate organisations for the promotion and safeguarding of the various branches of commercial knowledge, such as Accountancy, Auditing, Insurance, Secretarial Practice, etc., have come into existence organised on full democratic lines. But at Madras the custodians of commercial education have been very slow to adapt themselves to modern improvements and to see that their machinery has been made to move more rapidly keeping pace with the growing importance of commercial education. The old system has been, and is even now being continued. Thus at the present time, the Madras Government Technical Examinations in Commerce, instead of being considered by the public as examinations for the propagation of commercial knowledge, are being considered as merely special departmental tests to prepare clerks for State service with a knowledge of Shorthand, Typewriting etc. If the original intention of the authors of the scheme of Government Examinations in Commerce is propagation of commercial education and to see that the examinees are declared fit for a business career including service in mercantile firms, then where does the necessity exist for setting question papers in the Higher Grade examinations in Shorthand and Typewriting in such a stiff manner as is being done now? In Shorthand Higher, under the semblance that hints dictated at 120 words per minute should be elaborated into proper documents ready for signature, examinees are asked to prepare a judgment of an imaginary Sessions case in the High Court of Madras and we believe that even practising advocates, in spite of their daily acquaintance with the subject may hardly be able to answer such a question satisfactorily within the short time allowed. This is but one example and we refrain from quoting more for want of space. As it is, it seems the objects of the Government Technical Examinations in Madras have been changed and hence it is no wonder that their popularity is also dwindling day by day. Had it not been for the fact that a pass in Lower or Higher Typewriting has been fixed by a recent G. O. as a compulsory qualification for entrance to Government service from 1st January 1934 and that in the selection of clerks young men with Shorthand and Typewriting qualifications are given preference, there would not have been even the present number of entries. This conclusion can be clearly drawn when one

notes the number of entries in Commercial Correspondence, Banking and Commercial Geography, which is very poor.

Now let us see what the sister province of Bombay has done in the matter of commercial education. There private enterprise took the lead. Afterwards the Sydenham's College of Commerce, affiliated to the Bombay University, providing for a 'Degree in Commerce' was started by the Government of Bombay. The prominent private Colleges of Commerce, *viz.*, Prof. Davar's and others, provided for new courses in commerce and thereby there has been practically a race among them as to which of them occupied the foremost rank as an up-to-date seat of commercial learning. In this way, Bombay has been able, both by private and Government enterprise, to build up its commercial education policy not only to cater to the needs of her province alone, but also to the whole of India. The Sydenham's College of Commerce and Economics of Bombay has been largely responsible, in conjunction with some enthusiasts like Mr. K. S. Aiyar and others, for the formation of the G. D. A. Board and the new Auditors' Rules. Even there, except for Accountancy and Auditing, there is no examining body of repute for the other professions of Company Secretaries, Sales Managers, Advertising Consultants etc., and to meet with these needs, Commercial Colleges, and Institutes coach up pupils for the examinations of London and other English examining bodies, causing a drain of Indian money in the shape of examination fees, annual subscription for membership etc. We think that it is high time that the present system of coaching for foreign examinations involving as it does a drain of money from our poor country be stopped, and earlier the better. We know full well that the Principals of Commercial Colleges and Institutes in India are fully aware of this fact and in spite of their knowing it, as they only full well do, they cannot but go on doing so, because but for these courses they have no other suitable alternatives in India to take advantage of, and neither the Government nor private commercial examining bodies provide for such examinations and if these foreign courses are not offered by them, their prospectuses will hardly reach page 8. Though the Indian Merchants' Chamber, Bombay, has just come forward to make up the deficiency, we think the plan adopted to solve the problem needs a complete revision.

From the above we believe our readers would fully agree with us when we say that the successful organisation of commercial education could no longer be left to the care of the Government Educational Department and that the only alternative left is that the various Professors, Lecturers and Teachers of Commerce distributed throughout the length and breadth of India should gird up their loins and come forward boldly to take up the sole responsibility on their shoulders to organise it in the way in which it ought to be done. The beauties and the market value of a race-horse are seldom understood and correctly estimated by a tonga or a jutka-walla except by the race-horse owner and the racer. So is the case with commercial education; none but the teachers of commerce can understand its importance and organise it properly. It is only this class of people can do full justice and any Government, especially our Indian Government, constituted as it is to-day, cannot do full justice to the growth of commercial education.

To achieve our ambition, an **Indian Institute of Commerce**, on an All-India basis, composed of all the teachers of commerce in the country should be formed immediately. It should be registered under the Indian Companies Act, limited by guarantee, with a maximum liability of Rs. 5 for each member and obtain the privilege of omitting the word 'Limited' after its name under Section 26 of the above Act, as it is a body intended for the promotion of commercial education and not a profit-earning corporation distributing the profit to its members. The proposed Institute should be completely independent and free from the clutches of the Government as far as possible. The corporeal body should, by its two main sections, devote its best attention to the organisation of Specialised Professional Courses holding examinations in them and issuing Diplomas thereof, such as Accountancy, Banking, Insurance, Secretarial Practice, Salesmanship, Advertising etc., and General Commerce Courses, holding examinations in them and the issue of certificates thereof, such as Book-keeping, Shorthand, Typewriting, Commercial Geography, Arithmetic, Theory and Practice of Commerce, Banking and Business Economics etc. To suit our country's needs and to make the Institute's examinations really popular, two grades of examinations in Professional Diploma Courses, *viz.* Intermediate and Final, with an examination fee of Rs 7-8-0 and Rs. 10/- respectively, and three grades of examinations in General Commerce Courses such as Elementary, Intermediate and Advanced with an examination fee of Re. 1-8-0, Rs. 2-8-0, and Rs. 3/- respectively should be provided for. The syllabuses should be so drafted that in the general commerce courses, the knowledge expected of the examinees is just sufficient to make them fit for ordinary clerical service in firms, companies etc. For example, the Advanced examination in Book-keeping shall make the examinee fit and competent to discharge efficiently the duties of a Book-keeper rather than those of a Public Accountant and Auditor. The Institute shall be composed of two classes of members, Fellows and Associates, with rights to use the qualifying letters, F.I.I.C., and A.I I.C., respectively after their names and suitable bye-laws and regulations should be codified for the admission, discipline etc. The annual subscription of each Fellow and Associate may be fixed at Rs. 10/- and Rs. 5/- respectively, with an entrance fee of Rs. 10/- which shall always be credited to the capital fund of the Institute. It should be the accepted policy of the Institute to see that it lives within its annual income and that at least one-tenth of its annual income, in addition to the entrance fees, is set apart every year and added to its capital fund so that in course of time it may grow up to a sufficiently large fund. To promote *esprit de corps* among the members of the Institute and to keep them in touch with the latest improvement and changes in the commercial world, a monthly journal forming the organ of the Institute should be published and distributed free to every member. Periodical lectures by men of eminence in the professional and business world should be arranged as often as possible and reported in full in the Institute magazine. Conferences may successfully

be organised every year with a view to discussing problems of importance to the members of the profession. A co-operative society to supply the requisites of the members in the matter of commercial books, typewriters, accessories, commercial stationery and sundries may be formed and thus the profits may be allowed to be distributed among the members themselves. In this way, the Institute, making a fair start, in course of time, may enlarge its scope and activities, and in a few years, both by virtue of the good work it may turn out for the benefit of the country and the importance as an All-India organisation, backed up by its financial resources will easily win the approval and recognition at the hands of the Government Authorities. In this connection, we would only invite our readers' attention to the various Professional Associations in England which are conducted on these lines and the high prestige they command there. If only our Indian Commercial Teachers take a real interest in the formation and working of the proposed Institute on the lines suggested above, we are fully confident that similar successes can be attained in India too, in a few years and the drain of money, in thousands, from the country in the shape of examination fees, annual membership subscription etc., could be stopped and utilised for the benefit of the nation at large.

Our readers may ask "Who will recognise the Institute examinations and its certificates?" We hasten to reply that in the present state of Swadeshi spirit, our Swadeshi Commercial Certificates and Diplomas will command proper regard and respect at the hands of our Indian Business-men and we dare say that they will not be found wanting in doing their duty to the Institute by employing these newly trained men whenever they need qualified hands to help them in business. By means of a "Propaganda Committee" and the "Employment Bureau" of the Institute, seeking the hearty co-operation of our Indian Business, Insurance and Banking houses etc., we can easily see that the certificates of the Institute are recognised and that whenever business-men want assistants in their offices, they give preference to those that have passed the Institute's examinations. In our opinion, one of the reasons why commercial education has not made rapid advance in the country is that the organisers, mainly the various Governments, have not taken sufficient pains to secure the co-operation of business men, and if on some occasions they have tried to secure, by offering examinerships to some Bank Agents and Secretaries, Public Accountants, Dubashes of prominent commercial houses etc, as in Madras, they have not so far been successful. The proposed Institute will not seek co-operation of business-men by offering them examinership. The Examination Committee will ascertain the needs of the business community, arrange for courses of study to suit their requirements and thus see that they are supplied with really capable assistants to help them in their business. Provided the Institute can be alive to the needs of the Business Community, they will also, in turn, be useful to the Institute.

May we, therefore, request the teachers of commerce, all over India, who have all along been working for the cause of commercial education in the country without sufficient reward because of the fact that it was not carried out in a logical and organised manner, to ponder over our suggestions and to see that an Indian Institute of Commerce on the lines proposed above, is formed at an early date, without any more loss of time and thus attain Swaraj for Indian Commercial Education with real and full democratic rights, thereby making the world understand that commercial teachers in India are a body of men who can organise themselves on a sound basis, easily sink their differences and petty jealousies for the national cause and thus contribute to the commercial advancement of the country, towards the attainment of which the importance of a scheme of Commercial Education organised on a sound national basis as the one outlined above can hardly be exaggerated. With the co-operation of enthusiasts, we hope soon, to form the proposed Institute and as such commercial teachers really interested—we believe all will be really interested—in this proposal will kindly write to us so that the scheme may be fully discussed, rules and regulations drafted and the Institute registered at an early date.

The Birthright of Labour.

BY

K. S RAMASWAMI SASTRI, ESQ., B.A., B.L.

Economic forces are the real rulers of the world. Though politics or religion or art may sit on the throne, it is money that is the power behind the throne. Even if its rivals may be kings, it is the king-maker. In an ideal state of society, religion will be the real power and other forces will be its feudatories. But now-a-days it has been discrowned and unsceptred. Now and then men and women pay lip homage to it in moments of restful ease, without faith in their words and without enkindling faith in others. Art is another pastime which is being now and then belauded in a blind and undiscerning way when there is a superfluity of leisure left after sojourn in restaurants. Politics is an outlet for the inherent energy of human pugnacity but it is only the bluster and bravado of the tongue which becomes active after a full stomach is ensured. To-day statesmen are supposed to rule but money rules them who rules the world.

But even if wealth is the main motor power in life, can it not be controlled and guided so as to subserve the highest interests of human life? Should we necessarily choose between the monstrous capitalism and the equally monstrous bolshevism of to day? Should the world plunge on from convulsion to convulsion and from catastrophe to catastrophe, and wreck high human destiny on the rocks of egoism? To-day Labour is up in arms and will not lay them down until it tramples and destroys Capital. What it proposes to-day after killing its enemy, it does not know and nobody else knows either. Is such blind action worthy of civilised human beings? Is not purposeful self-regulatedness the real distinction and glory of human endeavour?

For thousands of years labour was dumb and allowed itself to be exploited. The arrival of machinery maximised production but did not better the worker's lot at all. England was the first country to receive the smiles of the Lakshmi of industry. She became the workshop of the world. The Englishmen became the greatest producers of wealth but the wealth went into a few pockets alone while the workers had only the misery of sham life and starvation wages. The egoism of the capitalist necessarily led to trade unionism. The then political economists and statesmen were all allies of the capitalists and propounded social and economic and political theories calculated to seat Capital on the throne! Competition, free trade, buying in the cheapest market and selling in the dearest market, the doctrine of *caveat emptor,* the theory of fixed wage fund etc. etc. etc. were proclaimed as laws of nature which are rigid and inevitable and exacting obedience on penalty of extinction in cases of neglect or violation. The Cobdenites spoke in siren tones about peace and retrenchment and reform, while increasing and perfecting the army and the navy as efficient instruments of world-domination and world-exploitation. Tolstoi has said well: "The rich will do anything for the poor except getting off their backs." Every rich man speaks glibly about patriotism—which is the last refuge of the egoistic rich—and progress which means to them the domination of the capitalist.

Two solutions were loudly advertised but have failed in a large measure. The Co-operative movement was expected and inagurated to supplant capitalism by a humaner and more democratic institution by resort to co-operative production and co-operative distribution. But it has largely failed to bring about any such a result and is more or less innocuous and helpless in relation to the plutocrat. Parliamentary legislation was advertised as another panacea. But such legislation was so overshadowed by capitalist influence that it merely legalised the small concessions which capital was willing to concede to labour to avert a universal rebellion.

Thus villages were swallowed up by towns and cities, and arts and crafts were supplanted by factory production on a colossal scale and the bulk of the world was ruined by dumping. The workers of all the industrial countries began to unite. Strikes became the order of the day and were answered by lock-outs increasing in number and augmenting in scale. Every country in the west began to experiment upon what Bertrand Russell has well called the making of *Roads to Freedom* but freedom is yet as far off as ever before.

The Armageddon of 1914 was the answer of the gods to the challenge of man. It was not the Kaiser or the Czar that precipitated it. They were but the puppets of the force of human egoism which had become swollen beyond recognition under the influence of capitalism and imperialism which became transformed into militarism and jingoism. The embers which were already glowing were fanned into a fierce flame everywhere, and the civilisation of man which was built up bit by bit through many centuries was crumpled up and became a block ruin in the conflagration.

But the war, while it wrecked and ruined the ancient order, left the clash of Capital and Labour where it was before. In every country in the west labour is turning more and more towards direct action as the only hopeful solution of the muddle. It realises that production for capitalist profit is a sin and a vice and that there should be complete public ownership and democratic control of industry whose motive force should be not private gain but public service. The ideal should be "from each according to his ability, to each according to his needs."

Russia has found a way out through *Bolshevism*. Italy has found a way out through *Fascism*. The two ways are antipodal to each other. Both are new tyrannies in the place of the old tyrannies. Humanity will eventually find out that proletariat domination or bourgeoise domination is as barren and as subversive of human liberty as of human happiness, though they—especially the former—might effect a more equitable distribution of wealth than that ancient and hardened and heartless sinner viz., Capitalism.

But whatever may be the social and economic and political institutions in which the perturbed spirit of Humanity will eventually find rest, there is no doubt that a great vision has come before its eye and will never be dislodged from its heart. J. H. Thomas says well: "There will be no profiteers, no unemployment, no slums, no hungry children. No man will be expected to work an excessive number of hours, and no man who is fit for work will be permitted to shirk it; the right to live upon the accumulated wealth of another will no longer exist; the right to the best and highest education the country can afford will no longer be the exclusive privilege of a favoured class, but will be open to all whose talents show that they will benefit by receiving it; the only qualifications for the higher civil service will be character and ability. These are only some of the outstanding life of tomorrow from the life of to-day". A decent home, a decent wage, and a new refined leisure are integral portions of the new vision. Slums and drinking saloons will be replaced by homes and clubs. "Everything that is possible will be done to foster the desire for self-improvement; a great army of University Extension lecturers will be employed to give popular instruction; and there will be a National Theatre and a National Opera". Mr. Thomas says further in a clear and trenchant way : "The right to work and the right to rest should be the common heritage of humanity".

The Ottawa Experiment

BY

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The Ottawa Agreement is now a past event having passed the stage of heated discussions and acrimonious controversy. It will be therefore proper and worthwhile to examine its implications and repurcussions in the calm and quiet atmosphere of reasoned logic and cold economic analysis. The whole question may be presented under the two following headings—exports and imports.

PART I—EXPORTS.

Since the passing of the Import Duty Act of 1932, Britain has become a full-fledged protectionist country subjecting foreign imports to taxes ranging from 10% onwards. At Ottawa, protection has been stiffened, but the imports from the empire countries have been given preference.

As far as India is considered, Britain has undertaken to impose duties on the following goods she imports from non-empire countries at rates specified against each. These represent a preference of 10 to 20% for India.

(1)	Wheat ..	2 s. per quarter
(2)	Castor, linseed, coconut, rape and sesamum oil ...	15% *ad valorem*
(3)	Linseed ...	10% ,,
(4)	Whole rice ...	1 d. per lb.
(5)	Tea ...	10% *ad valorem*

The free list includes, amongst other items, pig iron and steel and jute goods. Further Indian coffee is given a preferential margin of 9s. 4d. per cwt. in place of the existing rate of 3s. 4d. per cwt. Indian tobacco is also given a preference. Britain further agrees to promote the greater use of Indian cotton in her mills.

At first sight the British concession looks small and trifling. But it must be remembered that Britain imports only 5% of her requirements from India. Out of our total exports to Britain, 4/5 are given preference. We could get more provided our export items were many. As it is, the value of the preferences we get in the markets of the empire is very small.

"What is this trifling gain at a time when the prime necessity of the agriculturist of India is enhanced price?" have argued some. Quite true; but that cannot be achieved except by concerted action on the part of all the countries of the world. But it is at this time of falling prices and shrinking of markets, an agreement of this character, however small the profit, must be welcome. This ought to be the only justification for the agreement that we have entered into: for, in all the commodities in which we are given preference, there is a keen competition not only from the non-empire countries, but also from the empire countries. Prof. Vakil estimates that the loss to India in those circumstances would amount to 8 crores of rupees. That is not worth foregoing.

That may be the *immediate* loss: but what about the potential or long-run loss? If the preferences prove effective, and if we could push up our sales by quality production, opening up consular agencies, by better advertising etc., the possibilities of expanding our trade with Britain and the Dominions, are really great. The Dominions' Markets, for our raw produce and manufactured goods are as yet unexplored. But on the other hand, if within the five years of the Agreement the Dominions or the foreign countries would displace Indian raw products, the potential loss will be incalculable. At any rate the progress of synthetic substitutes (e. g. lac) and alternate articles (sisal for hemp) should cause us some anxiety for preserving our markets for raw materials.

At the same time it is true that Britain could not dispense with or tax heavily our raw products without great loss to herself. If our loss would be about 8 crores, hers would be at least so much, if not greater. This line of argument, sound as far as it goes, cannot be advanced by a poor country dependent on the export of its raw materials for small gains to her agriculturists.

TEA.

Other objections are raised. Britain already takes 89% of Indian and Ceylonese tea. Why get a preference for that? Even if the remaining 11% of the foreign imports of tea in Britain are displaced by the preferences we shall get, the profits, it is argued very reasonably, would go to the British capitalists and business men. Doubtless so. But, considering the severity of the pressure

of population on the soil (Madras and Bengal), any benefit to a flourishing tea and coffee industry would be an indirect benefit to agriculture.

RICE.

Of rice, it is said that the benefit would go to Burma, which, ere long, may be separated from India. For, out of our total exports to the western markets, Burma contributes nearly three-fourths. If, as the result of preference, Burman rice would find a wider market in the empire countries, (thus lessening the severity of competition with the locally grown rice in the various centres of India) there is a chance of the Tanjore Mirasdars and the cultivators in general obtaining some little respite. But if the production of Burma rice is greater than the enlarged empire market could absorb, and if the disparity in the cost of production in rice between Burma and India continues to be as great as now, the competition will continue, though only less severely. At any rate, there is no chance for Madras rice to get any benefit from the Ottawa concessions.

WHEAT.

The case of wheat is not so easy to decide. Though foreign wheat is competing with Indian wheat which is to be protected by an import duty, India is still the fourth largest exporter of wheat. Indian wheat fills a gap in the world markets between the supplies of the so-called 'winter wheat' and 'spring wheat'. The Ottawa preference will therefore give a larger market for Indian wheat, and it is very desirable to have an expanding market in view of the Sukkur Barrage Scheme and the expansion of wheat cultivation. If costs of cultivation are reduced, and the quality is improved, the capturable margin will become greater. The country at whose expense we will gain is the U. S. A. Article 5 of the Agreement—"if at any time empire producers are unable or unwilling to offer these commodities (wheat and copper) on first sale in the United Kingdom *at prices not exceeding the world prices* and *in quantities sufficient* to supply the requirements of the United Kingdom consumers"—need not cause any alarm. As the "*Economist*" observes, "in the case of both commodities, the Empire is a net exporter: and since the British preference is unlikely to satisfy the Dominion producers unless they secure higher prices for their produce, the incentive to the raising of prices will be as strong as checks will be difficult to apply".

OIL AND OIL SEEDS.

If in the case of tea, rice and wheat the benefit is small, in the case of oil and oil seeds the gains are considerable. A preference of 15% for oil is of immense advantage to the development of an oil-milling industry in this Presidency, the largest producer of oil seeds in India, unless France and Holland and other continental oil-milling industrialists dump their products in the empire and defeat the preference.

In the case of the oil seeds, Dr. Ziad-din Ahmed calculated that the capturable market in the empire for our oil seeds would be represented by only £12,000. Britain is not a large consumer of these commodities; her total offtake in 1930 was only 13% of our total exports to world markets. It is therefore true that in the non-empire markets, where our rival producers will concentrate all their supplies, a slight fall in prices will have to be faced. But there is not much cause for anxiety as some have expressed themselves. Our position in the world markets for oil seeds is strong; we take the first place in groundnuts, castor, sesamum, the second place in cotton seeds and the third in linseed. A slightly expanded market in the empire would absorb our increasing supply and would not cause a falling off prices in the rest of the world markets, provided the production of oil-seeds does not rapidly increase in the rival countries. Madras, which produces oil seeds more than twice than any other province, is sure to benefit to a great extent in the additional market, capturable in Britain.

Raw Cotton.

Cotton is one of our staple raw export products, whose value amounts to over 43 crores of rupees. But the Empire takes only 3 crores; the United Kingdom's offtake may be placed at over 2 crores. Of the remaining 40 crores worth of cotton, Japan takes full one half.

There is no agreement on the part of Britain to take a definite quantity of our cotton; in fact our delegates ought to have insisted on it, similar to the 'quota system' arrived at in regard to meat exports by certain Dominions. Even if we had insisted or could even now insist on a definite quota, the textile mills of Britain could not make a large use of the inferior quality Indian cotton.

But provided we could improve the quality of our cotton, there is no reason, why we cannot supply a larger share of our cotton for the mills of the United Kingdom. The words of a great authority, Arno S. Pearse, Secretary of the International Federation of Master Cotton Spinners' Association, are very significant. "Two million bales of cotton are now being produced in India of a

minimum staple length of ⅞ inches. Spinners in Lancashire and other countries have not yet realized what excellent cottons are being produced in India." In another place he urges the Lancashire spinners to make a new trial with Indian cotton. If we can push up our sales, surely, there is an enlarged market for our cotton, in Britain at the expense of U.S.A.

On the other hand, it is not going to place us at a disadvantage with our largest buyer, Japan. Her mills, accustomed to the manufacture of coarse goods and anxious to have the cheap Indian cotton to enable them to compete against the protected Indian mills, would still go in for Indian Cotton. Distance prohibits them from making use of the Egyptian or American cotton: unless they use those cotton and take to the manufacture of finer goods, which is not practicable immediately, there is no danger to the major portion of our raw cotton exports. Furthermore, the Indian textile industry is expanding and would absorb the increasing supplies.

Iron and Steel.

The iron and steel industry of India is in need of markets abroad and the Ottawa Agreement secures that to a very great extent. In consideration for the free entry into the United Kingdom of pig iron and semi-finished steel (which are subject to a duty of 33⅓% if foreign) galvanized sheets of British manufacture will be subjected to a duty of Rs. 53 per ton, whereas those of foreign countries will be taxed at Rs. 83-12-0 per ton. "In order to stimulate the export of Indian semi-finished steel, a further provision is made by which sheets, made out of Indian sheet bar and exported to India will be subject to a duty of only Rs. 30 per ton. Such an arrangement will enable the British sheet rollars to pay a higher price for Indian sheet bar or enable the steel company to send them to be converted into sheets and re-exported to India on its own account." (Ginwalla). As has been pointed out by this distinguished ex-president of the Indian Tariff Board, this is a case of "complementary production" whose mutual beneficial consequences will be great. As long as we choose to remain within the Empire, this new policy, especially for the development of key industries, is of vital interest and importance.

Part II. Imports.

In return for these British "concessions", what reciprocal concessions is India asked to give? "Under the Ottawa Agreement the Indian Government has undertaken to give a 7½% preference on motor cars, omnibuses and accumulators and to give a 10%

there is less cause for alarm on the ground that the concessions to the empire imports would retard our industrial development or strangle the rising industries such as soap, brush and button, medicine and the like.

If that happens, or if the diversion of trade paralyses the industries of the non-empire countries by diminishing their purchases of our exportable food and raw materials, (unless in the meanwhile our industrial development is such as to absorb that surplus) the Agreement, in all sincerity, should be abrogated. Fortunately the Legislative Assembly has fixed a three-year period to give effect to the Ottawa experiment.

"Effacement of Capitalism" or "Planned Economy" in practice.

BY

PROF. K. S. SRIKANTAN, M.A., F. R. Econ. S. (London)

The cry of planned economy is now heard in all quarters. This cry, like several other cries, is the immediate consequence of the world-wide depression we are now passing through. Some economists of repute even think that the only hope of escape from the present world-wide cataclysm lies in some kind of international economic planning. In fact the recent lectures of Mr. N. S. Subba Rao, Director of Public Instruction, Mysore, were devoted to the same problem. He, like several others, thinks that an economic planning of some kind is the only way out of the present difficulty. It is therefore opportune that a Journal of this kind should try to inform the people of India about a country which is in fact passing through a planned economy.

The escape from the tyrannies of capitalism has been the *Eldorado* of the economist ever since the very inception of the science: but Capitalism, like the classical Hydra, has survived every effort to dethrone it, with redoubled vigour and renewed energy. In fact, its persistence and strength have been so baffling that many have given up their attacks in despair, while still others, in their wisdom, have become converts to the Gospel of Capitalism. Naturally, capitalism, to-day, has become the unbridled autocrat of economic society and is well on the way to say, "When I ope my lips, let no dogs bark."

At such a time when the whole world has very nearly resigned itself to the mercies of capitalism, the Soviet experiment to efface capitalism from its economic organisation evokes as much wonder as despair. While wondering at the magnitude of the plan, one cannot resist despairing of its future. In forecasting her future, Mr. Kvring declares that Soviet Russia would not only soon surpass the U. S. A. in industrial production, but lead the entire world in that direction. Soviet Russia is not interested in becoming the rival of any one of the industrial countries—she is interested mainly in establishing the superiority of communist principles over the capitalistic. In fact, within so short a period, Russia has made so much progress that many business men of Europe and America have already become nervous, and the departments within a factory is called the Promjin plan. There are three intermediate planning and directing bodies—the supreme Economic Council, the Combination and the Trust.

The party that is responsible for these wonderful changes have always felt the industrial backwardness of the country very keenly. But they knew that Socialism could not be established until the country had become thoroughly industrialised. That the standard of life of the labourer in Russia should not compare favourably with those in the neighbouring countries, in a place where capitalism had been given a go-by, was a feature which they could not tolerate even for a moment. It is on account of this sympathetic attitude that the '*Five Year Plan*' has taken an almost mystic significance, and the party is determined that the plan should be accomplished at any cost. The per capita consumption of food products by the city labourer has been changed as follows—while the consumption of bread is to remain the same the consumption of meat is to increase by 27·7 per cent., eggs 72 per cent., and milk products 55·6 per cent. For the rural population the amount of bread consumed is to increase by 5·7 per cent., meat 16·7 per cent., eggs 45·2 per cent., and milk products 24·7 per cent. The index of working hours, in percentages of pre-war working hours, is to fall from 77% in 1927-28 to 70·5% in 1932-33. The index of real wages is to rise from 122·5% of pre-war wages in 1927-28 to 208·9% in 1932-33. That vigorous efforts are being made to improve the conditions of the labourers is well known to all. (Hoover).

In spite of the heavy literature on the subject, "Whither Russia" still remains an unsolved riddle. The opinions of experts have been so varied that those who are in raptures over her schemes are no less than those who doubt her experiments. No less a person than Rabindranath Tagore was in Russia some time back. He certainly seems to have been well impressed with the position of the peasants. In fact the conversation of the Poet with the peasants reproduced in one of the recent issues of the Modern Review reveals a tale quite different from what is ordinarily told in the press about Russia. The American engineers and capitalists who go to Russia have also been impressed by the gigantic strides made by Russia. She has certainly thrown an effective challenge to the capitalistic world.

But the question, has Russia escaped from the tyrannies of capitalism, still remains a hard one. One can congratulate Russia on her efforts, but not on her achievements. Excepting in certain corners the labourers have still much to desire. In the

words of Hoover, "The standard of living of the labourer is in some respects worse than during Tsarist times, in terms of goods, clothing and shelter." Here again we should note that she is now in a transition and to criticise her existing conditions would certainly be unjust. But Russia is not going to reach the old standard of life which has reached a "comparative level" of luxury. Even if the productive mechanism of the Soviet system were to become efficient enough to make this possible for the wide masses of the population such a standard of life would be repugnant to the spirit of communism. Under the regime of Russian communism, there will never be any artificial stimulation of desire through advertisement, nor will the desire to emulate the "leisure class" operate to create a standard of living which would include non-essentials. Simple living, communal housing, proletarian club houses, plain clothing, motor transport, short hours of labour, vacation at state recreation houses, make up the Russian ideal of labourer's standard life. In spite of all these, it cannot be said that Russia has succeeded in overcoming the tragedies of a capitalistic society. The attitude of those in power towards their subordinates has not in any way improved. The "white collar" workers such as stenographers, clerks, and book-keepers having no influence suffer seriously. They are discriminated against in many ways. They are perhaps the 'New Proletariat' of the proletarian state.† It would certainly be a matter for regret, if in their anxiety to escape the capitalistic tyrannies, they give room for others. In fact that is what appears to be now happening to Russia, although it is too early to say anything. It is hoped that the authors of the *Five Year Plan* would realise that old tyrannies are often better than new-fangled ones. While it is true that her success would mean death to "capitalism", it should also be borne in mind that her failure would give to capitalism a strength unheard of before. Nay, it would seal once for all the aspirations of the socialist.

† Hoover—Economic Life of Soviet Russia.

Cheques.

(Continued from page 46.)

Now we shall deal with endorsement. Section 15 of the Negotiable Instruments Act reads: "**When the holder of a negotiable instrument signs his name otherwise** than as such maker, for the purpose of negotiation on the back or face thereof, or on a slip of paper annexed thereto, or so signs for the same purpose a stamped paper intended to be completed as a negotiable instrument, he is said to endorse the same" Thus it will be seen from the above that endorsement may be made on the back or face of a cheque, or even on a slip of paper attached thereto. The effect of such an endorsement is that the person in whose favour the instrument is endorsed becomes the real owner, acquiring the property therein, with the right of further negotiation, and as such he is entitled to receive payment for it from the banker on whom it is drawn and to give him a valid discharge. The person endorsing is called the 'endorser' and the person in whose favour it is endorsed is called the 'endorsee'. So in the case of a cheque the payee should be the first endorser if there are endorsements on it. The payee, by endorsing it, takes a new name 'endorser' and by so doing, he guarantees the endorsee that in case the cheque is dishonoured on presentation at the drawee bank, he will indemnify him or any of his succeeding parties against the loss sustained, i.e., repay him the amount of the cheque and the expenses incurred in connection with the dishonour, provided a proper notice of dishonour is given to him within a reasonable time. What was said before with regard to reasonable time in the case of presenting a cheque for payment equally applies to giving notice of dishonour also. The act of putting into circulation by endorsement and delivery in the case of an 'order' cheque, or by mere delivery alone in the case of a 'bearer' cheque, is said to be putting a cheque into negotiation.

Endorsement is necessary only in the case of order cheques. Bearer cheques can be passed on from one person to another, by mere delivery alone, just like a currency note; but the person receiving it generally insists on the signature of the person giving it to him, so that in case it is dishonoured, he may have the legal right of proceeding against the giver. This legal right he will not have if the signature of the giver does not appear either on the face or back of the instrument.

In order to pass the ownership in a cheque to another, the endorser in addition to putting his signature on its back, must also deliver it to him and then only the endorsee can become the real owner. For example, suppose Rama desired to endorse a cheque drawn in his favour to Krishna and having completed his endorsement before delivering it to him changed his mind and kept it in his drawer. If in his absence either because Krishna has taken it without his knowledge or by some other foul means, say through the instrumentality of Rama's servant, he came into possession of it, legally

he does not acquire any ownership though he may be in possession of it. But in this case, the onus of proving want of proper delivery to Krishna lies with Rama, because the general rule of the Law is that unless and until the contrary is proved, Krishna, the holder of the cheque in question, is supposed to have come into possession of it only in the usual and lawful manner. So, if before the loss of the cheque is known to Rama, Krishna endorses it to another, say Govind for valuable consideration and that the endorsee, Govind, takes it in good faith, without the slightest suspicion as to Krishna's right of transferring it or his illegal ownership, because it is payable to him or order, then Govind becomes 'a holder in due course' entitled to keep the cheque with him as his own property and the only remedy of the loser Rama is, to go in search of Krishna who has either stolen it or illegally got possession of it and negotiated it to Govind and try to recover the value of the cheque from him if possible.

There are four kinds of endorsements :

(1) Endorsement in full or special,
(2) Endorsement in blank,
(3) Restrictive endorsement, and
(4) Conditional endorsement.

If the payee of a cheque wishes to endorse it to another by a full or special endorsement, in addition to signing his name at the back of it, he must also write above his signature, the name of the person to whom he wishes to transfer it, followed by the words "or order". Even if the words 'or order' are not added, the result is the same, i.e., the endorsee cannot transfer the instrument to another without his endorsement and delivery. If Rama the payee of a cheque wishes to endorse it under a special endorsement, he will do as follows :

"*Pay Mr. Krishna or order,*
Rama,
3-4-33."

A blank endorsement is one in which the payee merely writes his name on the back of a cheque, without adding the name of the person to whom he wishes to endorse it above his signature. By so doing the cheque becomes a bear one, even though it is originally drawn as an order cheque and as such it can be passed on to another without any endorsement; mere delivery alone will do. If Rama adopts this kind of endorsement, it will appear as follows :

"*Rama*
3—4—33."

In a restrictive endorsement, the payee prohibits the further transfer of the insturment. Example. "Pay Krishna and him only, Rama" is an example of this kind. In this case, Krishna cannot put it into further negotiation. In other words, he is the last endorsee and he is precluded from endorsing it to another. He himself should go to the bank in person and obtain payment for it, or having duly receipted it, should send it along with a covering letter through a messenger, requesting the banker to send through such messenger the amount of the cheque due to him.

In the fourth kind of endorsement, viz., conditional, the endorser of a negotiable instrument, by express words in the endorsement, excludes his own liability thereon, as by adding the words "*sans recourse*" meaning "without recourse to me". By this method, he does not hold himself liable to the endorsee or his succeeding parties for its amount in case of dishonour, as in the case of endorsements of the previous kinds. If an endorser so excluding his liability, afterwards becomes the holder of the instrument, all intermediate endorsers are liable to him.

EXAMPLES.

(1) If the endorser of a negotiable instrument signs his name adding the words "without recourse to me" this is a conditional endorsement and he incurs no personal liability.

(2) "A is the payee and holder of a negotiable instrument. Excluding personal liability by an endorsement "without recourse" he transfers the instrument to B, and B endorses it to C who endorses it to A again. A is not only reinstated in his former rights but has the rights of an endorsee against B and C."

Naturally cheques endorsed on this condition are not likely to be received by an endorsee and as such, cheques in circulation bearing an endorsement of this kind are very rare. This method of endorsing is adopted only in the case of cheques endorsed by an agent on behalf of his principal where the endorser, the agent, does not wish to take any personal responsibility.

In connection with endorsement, there are some points to be carefully noted by our readers. As stated before, the payee is the first endorser and he may be the drawer also in case the cheque is drawn "Pay self or selves or order". The payee's signature on the back of the cheque forms the first endorsement. While endorsing, the payee should adopt the same style of spelling as that adopted by the drawer. Suppose the drawer has spelt the payee's name as *Ramaswamy*, adding the letter 'w' after 'Rama' whereas the usual way in which he used to sign his name is 'Ramasamy'

omitting the letter 'w'. In this case, the payee Ramasamy while endorsing it to another, should sign his name on the back of the cheque adopting the same spelling as 'Ramaswamy' with the letter 'w' as written by the drawer, and then he *may* add his correct signature, without 'w' if he likes. Omission to add his correct signature will not be of much consequence. So far as the paying bank is concerned it is enough if the payee's signature appears exactly in the same spelling as it appears on the face of the cheque. If, instead of doing so, he signed his name in his own usual way, without paying any attention to his name as spelt on the cheque, the banker to whom it may be presented for payment will refuse payment for it on ground 'endorsement irregular'.

While endorsing a cheque, the payee should omit the courtesy title, prefixed or affixed to his or her name, such as Mr., Mrs., Miss, Capt., Dr., Esq., M. R. Ry.........Avl., etc. So a cheque made payable to Ramanathan Esq., if endorsed as "Ramanathan Esq.," will be refused payment by the banker on presentaion, because it is not a proper signature and as such does not constitute a proper endorsement.

Endorsements may be made in pencil and they are quite legal; but bankers do not accept them as proper endorsements because they are liable to become illegible in course of time. *Fac simile* signature, i.e., signature by means of a rubber stamp impression would not be accepted as proper endorsement, as the banker cannot know whether it has been used by the person entitled to use it or if used by another, with the express authority of the person entitled to use it. In such cases, the banker does not pay until such endorsement has been verified.

"No writing on a negotiable instrument is valid for the purpose of negotiation if such writing purports to transfer only a part of the amount appearing to be due on the instrument; but where such amount has been partly paid, a note to that effect may be endorsed on the instrument, which may then be negotiated for the balance." Section 56 N. I. Act. It will be seen from the above that a cheque cannot be endorsed for a part of the sum stated on it.

"The legal representative of a deceased person cannot negotiate by delivery only, a promissory note, bill of exchange or cheque, payable to order and endorsed by the deceased but not delivered". Sec. 57 N. I. Act. This section puts in a nutshell the importance of delivery to a negotiable instrument without which the ownership of the instrument to the endorsee will not be complete.

The following are a few examples of endorsements which may be of interest to note:

Payee.	Endorsement.
T. Kandasamy (an illiterate person) ...	his T. X Kandasamy mark Witness: S. Raman, Book-seller, 34 Goods Shed St., Madura. (Full address should be stated)
James Brown Esq., ...	James Brown, or J. Brown. (Full Christian name is not necessary: initial must agree).
Brown Esq., ...	J. (or other initial) Brown. (Surname alone will not constitute a signature.)
Mrs. Brown ...	Victoria (or other Christian name) Brown, or V. Brown.
Messrs. Johnson. ...	A & B Johnson, *or* Johnson & Son, *or* Johnson & Bros., *or* (merely) Johnsons. (The endorsement must indicate the plural)
The National Electricity Co. Ltd. ...	The National Electricity Co. Ltd., *or* Per Pro The National Electricity Co. Ltd. *or* For and on behalf of the National Electricity Co. Ltd., *or* For the National Electricity Co. Ltd., S. Ramachandar, Secretary.
The A. B. C. Co. Ltd. (now in liquidation) ...	For the A. B. C. Co. Ltd., (in liquidation) S. Govind, Liquidator.

Payee.	Endorsement.
The Trustees of the Madura Charities...	For the Trustees of the Madura Charities, S. Ganesh, R. Raman, A. Krishnan, D. Chellam, } Trustees. (All the trustees must sign.)
Messrs. Rama & Bros. ... (Composed of Rama, Krishna and Govind).	Rama & Bros., (Any one of the three partners can sign the firm name)

FORGED ENDORSEMENTS. An endorsement is said to be a forged one when the payee's or the holder's signature has been fraudulently written by another without his knowledge or in short, his signature is not genuine. Though the word *forgery* is commonly applied to the above, it is also applicable to any unauthorised alteration in any document, either as regards the amount, date of drawing, payee's name etc., after it has been completed and put into circulation by the drawer.

FORGERIES ON CHEQUES. A banker honouring a cheque in which the Drawer's signature is forged cannot debit the account of the customer because it is not a cheque at all, there has been no order from the customer to pay and that the banker has paid away the customer's money without his express authority. But on the other hand, if a banker pays a cheque bearing a forged endorsement, that is, when the signature of either the payee or any one of the parties succeeding to him is forged, he is free from risk and is protected by law, provided he pays it in good faith and in due course of business. Due course of business is defined under Sec. 10 of the Negotiable Instruments Act as follows: "'Payment in due course' means payment in accordance with the apparent tenor of the instrument in good faith and without negligence to any person in possession thereof under circumstances which do not afford a reasonable ground for believing that he is not entitled to receive payment of the amount therein mentioned." So, a banker paying a cheque out of banking hours to please a customer, or paying a crossed cheque across the counter, or paying a post dated cheque or paying a cheque when one of its endorsements is irregular will be considered as having been negligent in making payment and as such he cannot enjoy the protection afforded by this section. This special protection is afforded to the *drawee banker only*, i. e., the banker on whom it is drawn and not to anyone else, either to the collecting banker or to any trader or individual. Why should the drawee banker alone be given this privilege? This is because he cannot be expected to know the signature of all in the universe who may become holders of a cheque and if he is compelled to know it, the object with which cheques have been introduced viz., to act as a convenient medium for collection and transfer of money from one person to another without the use of actual coin, will be frustrated and bankers will then make it a rule that customers alone should appear before them and obtain payment; and thereby put a barrier to the practice of endorsing cheques. Now-a-days a cheque is highly useful in settling the indebtedness of several individuals when they pass through several hands. So, the paying bankers are given this protection and this protection is applicable to cheques *and cheques only*. If a banker pays a bill of exchange, domiciled at his bank, bearing a forged endorsement, he cannot debit the account of the customer and he will have to pay a second time to the true owner who lost it.

Traders selling goods to strangers and receiving payment by means of cheques expose themselves to a serious risk. Even if they have obtained payment for the cheques, they will be called upon to pay to the true owners; their amounts if it has afterwards been proved that the cheques they have received from the strangers contained forged endorsements. It should be noted here that whatever may be the good faith or innocence of the person receiving a cheque, and the consideration for which it might be received, if it contains a forged endorsement, he cannot secure a better title than the person who gave it had, and forgery can give no title to anybody. Hence it is very essential that a cheque should be received only from a known person, *and on no account from a stranger*, so that if the title to it is afterwards found to be not good, we may obtain the amount from the endorser.

(*To be continued.*)

Madras Government Technical Examinations.

APRIL, 1932.

SHORTHAND.

HIGHER GRADE—SECOND PAPER—ELABORATION OF NOTES.

ANSWERS.

(1)

Madura, 11th April, 1933.

K. RAMAKRISHNAN, ESQ., M. A.,
The Secretariat,
Fort, BOMBAY.

My Dear Ramu,

I am very sorry to write to you about the present financial position of our old High School at.........., of the Board of Trustees of which, you know, I am a member. For the last four years, there has been a steady fall in strength in all classes, due to the great economic depression now prevailing. This has so badly affected the income to the school that there was a deficit of Rs. 4,000/- in June 1932. Of the 7 members of the Board, only 3 including myself have been regularly paying their annual contribution of Rs. 100/- each, while the others had not only been irregular in their remittance, but have lately resigned. The Government, too, owing to lack of funds, have greatly reduced the teaching grants. Hence, from June 1932, retrenchments have been effected both in the staff and in their salaries, so that no further economy is anywhere possible. The annual income from fees of pupils (150) comes to Rs. 4,800, while the annual maintenance charges at the retrenched scale come to Rs. 9,100. The Government grant received is only Rs. 1,500. There is, thus, a deficit of Rs. 2,500, which, added to the previous years', comes to Rs 6,500. You know there is no Endowment for our school; and the few attempts we made to collect subscriptions from the public were most discouraging and had to be given up.

Under such circumstances, I am afraid our school will have to be immediately closed. It would be a thousand pities if an institution, which had been catering for well-nigh half a century, to the educational needs of a dozen outlying villages, were allowed to die. May I, therefore, request you, as an old boy and well-wisher, to suggest ways and means by which we can raise funds not only to meet the present impasse, but to place the school on a stable basis ?

Thanking you in anticipation and apologising for the trouble,

I remain,
Ever your affectionate friend.

(2)

Gentlemen,

I have the honour to place before you the following report on the results of the deputation of District Board Presidents that waited on the Hon'ble the Minister for Local Self Government in March last, and in which, I, as your representative, had the privilege of taking part:—

The object of the deputation was, as you might be aware, to bring home to the Minister the need for a liberal contribution by the Government towards medical relief in rural areas. In our representations we laid stress on the importance of the problem, affecting, as it did, the 'main mass of the Indian people'. Besides the hospitals at the headquarters of each District and in a few Taluks, there were only a dozen dispensaries in rural areas maintained by Government. Whereas in England and other countries, there was a dispensary for every 1000 persons, in India there was one for every 10,000 only. We therefore pleaded for the opening of a larger number of dispensaries, adequate to meet the needs of the poor villagers. We also pointed out that, at a modest estimate, a rural dispensary cost Rs. 1,500 annually, that the Government subsidy of Rs. 400 to Rs. 500 for the medical man, and the grant of Rs. 300 for drugs were wholly insufficient, and that the Government should raise their contribution under these heads to Rs. 900 and Rs. 600 respectively.

Replying to the deputation, the Hon'ble Minister said that the problem of rural medical relief had been engaging the attention of the Government for some time past and that they would give their sympathetic consideration to it. But he was afraid that, though they were most anxious to do the utmost in the matter, yet they might not, owing to the present financial stringency, be able to render assistance to the extent we had asked for. He, however, assured us that, with the improvement in their resources, they would fully comply with all our demands.

K. S. V.........

11—4—33.

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(3)

Madura, 11th April, 1933.

The Cycle Manufacturing Company,
27, Mount Road,
MADRAS.

Dear Sirs,

I should like to present a beautiful little bicycle to my small son on the occasion of his ninth birthday which comes off on the 25th instant. I shall, therefore, feel obliged if you can supply me with one immediately.

ROYCE SPECIAL, 18 inches in height, will splendidly suit him. It should be fitted with Dunlop tyre and tube, oil-box-gear case, light and pump. The seat, bell and carrier should equally be good, and the machine should stand any amount of wear and tear, at least for five years. As for the colour, I would certainly prefer black. I am prepared to pay upto Rs. 75.

Awaiting your prompt reply,

Yours truly.

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(4)

Madura, 11th April, 1933.

R. Krishnan, Esq.,
Agricultural Department,
Vizagapatam.

My Dear Kittu,

I am in due receipt of your letter of the 3rd instant and am very glad to know you propose to go over here for the ensuing Chitira Pournami festival. It is really so kind of you to have thought of paying us a visit long overdue, and my aged parents are particularly delighted to have you in their midst, especially after your long absence.

I shall certainly be most pleased to afford you all possible facilities during your stay here, and I propose to reserve for you a spacious bungalow I have recently purchased. It contains a big hall, four rooms, a kitchen, a fresh-water well and a flush-out latrine, and I trust you will find the accommodation quite suitable.

As the festival is to be celebrated in an exceptionally grand manner this year, kindly arrange to be here in time.

With love,

I remain,
Yours affectionately.

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(5)

Tinnevelly, 11—4—33.

The Magistrate of the local Court delivered judgment yesterday in a case of alleged assault. The case for the prosecution conducted by Mr. A.........was that the accused had made an unprovoked assault on the complainant. But the accused alleged that the complainant had threatened him with an *aruval* which necessitated self-defence. To corroborate this, he let in five witnesses, Subbiah Thevar, Kitna Thevar, Rama Konar, Kalian Samban and Madasami, all workers in the adjacent fields.

After hearing the defence evidence, the court delivered judgment acquitting the accused. In doing so, the learned Magistrate observed that, while the plea of self-defence on the part of the accused had been borne out by the evidence of the five witnesses mentioned above, there was absolutely no evidence to show that the accused had made any assault at all, much less an unprovoked one. Again, the manner of the assault had not been made clear, and there is not even the slightest injury on the person of the complainant. The Magistrate, therefore, dismissed the case as a fabricated one.

A SHORTHAND PUZZLE.
"Tell me what I am".

BY

K. S. RAO, ESQ., B. A.

1. I am formed by two light strokes of equal size,
   The curves that ascend and descend and cross the line,
   Up runs my initial stroke,
   Try, try and tell me what I am.
2. In my onward march I take an easy motion,
   Forward be my pace to ease the pen to run,
   "Collect and Bind" is what I mean,
   Try, try and tell me what I am.
3. If now my strokes are made to change their sides,
   Once again I move with grace and success,
   Now my strokes descend and ascend and go across,
   Try, try and tell me what I am.
4. I am a vertebrate of varied colour, shape, and size,
   Doomed to be a victim in the iron hands of all alike,
   For their daily dishes are amply filled by me,
   Try, try and tell me what I am.
5. I merrily wind and wind about in waters,
   I slip, I slide, I gloom, I glance,
   Monosyllabic is my name of four letters,
   Try, try and tell me what I am.

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CONTENTS.

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Contribution.

The Editor invites contributions to this Journal, on subjects within its scope. Articles intended for publication should be clearly written, or if possible typewritten, on one side of the paper only and should bear the name and address of the writer, not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. Rejected manuscripts will be returned only if the necessary postage is enclosed.

The future of the Indian Government Securities Market.

In these days when there is a feverish activity in the Government Securities Market in India, it is perhaps right and proper to think for a moment what its future is likely to be.

Upto nearly a year ago, the Government Securities Market was patronised mainly by professional stock jobbers, making or losing their fortunes and by bankers and other millionaires who could not easily invest their large resources in other ways with safety, but at the present moment, it has attracted the attention, in addition to the above class of people, of even the general public including the small investors as they find no other suitable outlet for their savings. From the point of view of the wealthy class, the usual channels through which their surpluses used to flow and to be finally absorbed, viz., trade and commerce having become less active than in normal times and as such requiring no addi-

tional capital, the securities market became their favourite. For the well-to-do of the middle-class if the securities market has also become a favourite, it is because the usual avenue of investment for their savings, viz., lending to the needy middle-class on single pro-notes, mortgages etc., whether engaged in business or otherwise, has been completely put a stop to, for want of confidence on the part of the lenders that the borrowers will repay the amount borrowed with the interest due on the agreed dates, and hence at present, the securities market is receiving the best attention of all alike, as the only avenue left open for them. It is no wonder therefore that the three loans floated by the Government of India within the last 12 months and their conversion schemes have been highly successful.

Let us examine awhile whether the same easy monetary conditions as are prevalent to-day will continue unchanged for several years ahead and whether the present 3½ to 4 per cent yield will be considered as the standard rate of return for the nation's saving? One who has studied the monetary conditions of India will agree with us when we say that the present ruling rate of 3½ to 4 per cent is rather the lowest on record in India's monetary history and no one could have even thought of this low rate last year by this time. If these very low rates are brought about by the fact that trade everywhere is at a stand-still, naturally when trade revives, as it is bound to do, especially when India's future constitution is finally settled in the near future, a reaction in the government securities market is bound to take place. An average man putting his savings in a 3½% government paper at about Rs. 89 to-day, when trade recovers and the nation's surplus which is being invested now in government securities is diverted as before to finance the trade and commerce of the country and as a result of it when the price of money also comparatively rises up, say to 6 or 7 per cent, the capital value of the 3½ per cent government paper, in parity with the ruling rate of 7 per cent, will have to come down to about Rs. 50, resulting in a capital loss of Rs. 39 to the investor on his every Rs. 89 invested, nearly 44%. Such things are but quite common when trade recovers and the market rate of interest goes up, for we cannot be so very pessimistic as to feel that, trade and commerce in India will continue to be in the same state for ever as they are to-day. So we wish to bring to the notice of the investors, especially of the middle-class, who could not easily bear such heavy capital losses, that at the present high ruling prices of the government securities based on a 3½ to 4 per cent yield, it is not advisable to purchase them now and then be open to the possibility of incurring a heavy capital loss when trade recovers in the near future. Even if only a three to three-and-a-half per cent yield can be obtained by allowing the money to lie in fixed

deposit with a banker of repute, there is no harm and the loss caused by a reduction in the yield by one-half to one per cent is nothing when compared to the capital loss likely to be incurred and the fact that the capital is kept in tact without fear of any depreciation. Our readers' attention may be drawn to the fact that consistent with the views expressed above, bankers and others are now operating in the government securities market more as sellers than as buyers. Perhaps this is a golden opportunity for holders of government securities, purchased some years back when 6% and 7% were the order of the day, to sell them at the present high prices and realise a capital profit.

The Japanese Threat.

It is somewhat strange to note that the Safeguarding of Industries Act of 1933 passed by the Indian Parliament in the last month, popularly known as the Anti Dumping Bill, has provoked Japan and the Japanese merchants to such an extent that they have taken immediate action by lodging their vehement protest and by threatening India with a boycott of her cotton. In these days when the world is a victim to materialism and every nation is striving hard to retain its markets and to capture fresh ones, we do not understand how the Japanese may be justified in their hopes that they could retain the Indian market, as a dumping ground, for the sale of their manufactures and that the sons of India will be sitting quiet with folded arms and with much indifference to be exploited by others. If Japan is justified in her anxiety to have India — a foreign market for her — for herself, how much more is India justified in her anxiety to see that at least her home market is retained for her and that she is not disturbed by other competitors ?

The main cause for Japan's provocation is, according to her statement, that by the passing of this new measure her treaty rights of some 25 years back are jeopardised and the British and the Indian Governments have both paid scant regard to the terms of that treaty. Further, with a view to justifying their own policy of threat, they introduce another controversy in that the bill has been purposely brought into effect, not with the object of supporting the Indian Cotton Industries but to encourage the Lancashire interests. Though there may be some justification for this statement, in view of the Imperial Preference shown as a result of the recent Ottawa Agreement, we cannot but characterise this as an additional reason quoted by an injured party. India is aware of all these factors only too well and she is determined once for all to build up her industries and to see that India is retained for her and *for her only* at any cost.

What is the threat? As stated above, Japan will boycott our Indian cotton. First let us see whether she can carry the amalgamation of the several mills is drawn up so that the unnecessary competition among the existing mills and the huge expenditure on management which undoubtedly increases the cost of production may be put an end to. We hope our mill owners will not be lagging behind in the acquisition and adaptation of better methods to successfully re-organise the Indian cotton industry on a sound basis and to see that it is able to stand on its own legs.

Government Technical Examination in Typewriting, Higher, April 1933.

It is not without much regret that we have the painful duty of drawing the attention of the Commissioner for Government Examinations, Madras, and the Board of Examiners in Commerce appointed by him, to the injustice and annoyance, the hundreds of examinees, in the above examination held on the 29th ultimo, have been put to and the consequent pecuniary loss inflicted upon them. We have been repeatedly pointing out that in the matter of setting question papers for these examinations, the examiners have been rather exhibiting their skill as paper setters than testing the canditates' knowledge by a well-thought-out and carefully prepared examination test and in this case, in the matter of setting up of the first paper, commonly known as the Speed, it has been very strikingly so. The examiner this time, to the surprise of the candidates, and perhaps our readers also, it seems, has not even looked into the prescribed syllabus and has also not even cared to count the number of words he has chosen. If he has taken really a little pain, we are sure he would not have given 660 words when he has to set a paper containing 600 words only. Further, the passage chosen, (for the benefit and opinion of our readers it is being reprinted on page 137 of this issue) is rather very obscure and it seems he has taken much pains to hunt after a passage of this kind. It contains 125 capital letters, with peculiar names etc., requiring also nine words to be under-lined. Generally to type a capital letter, it takes five times the time taken to type an ordinary lower case letter, and if according to the World Typewriting Champion Test method, where typing five letters make one word, the typing of one capital letter takes the same time as typing one word, the 125 capital letters consume the time taken for typing 125 words. To have some 30 to 40 capitals is reasonable, but to have as many as more than one hundred in a passage of 600 is really a severe handicap. We think that if this point is not paid proper attention to, the examiner will be simply committing a sin. But on the other hand, if he thinks that he is right in his having done so, then we would suggest, to make him a more capable examiner, that he

may even choose 600 different words, probably each containing more than 10 letters, picked up from a dictionary after a great deal of labour and even then his setting up of the paper will be within the syllabus which only requires 600 words to be chosen.

Let us examine the difficulties of the examinees. Fully made known to them as they are that only 600 words will be given to them to be copied in fifteen minutes, after typing one-half of the given passage, which should naturally take nearly 8½ minutes in this case, for the passage contains 60 words more, an impression would be created in their minds, that on that particular examination day their fingers have not been as brisk as they used to be in their school days, and hence in their anxiety to complete the passage within the given time they would tackle the remaining half at a speed, greater than what they have been accustomed to, all through their period of training. So, after typing 350 to 400 words there is every probability that in the performance of the candidates, mistakes occur in greater numbers and at rapid succession and that their chances of success in that test are very narrow. Thus, in the midst of their performance an unnecessary mental worry is created to the detriment of their good work, in addition to the inherent examination nervousness to which most of the examinees are victims. As it is necessary that a special minimum must be obtained in this test, we think most of the examinees would have failed to secure it and thus their fates sealed for no fault of their own and the discredit of having failed in the Typewriting examination, —*even in the Typewriting examination which is after all nothing according to the wrong notions of the general public*—are flung on them injuring their future careers and lofty ambitions.

It is indeed a thousand pities that the Board to whom the paper set, we understand, is sent for approval has accepted it and has thus failed in its duty to properly discharge its functions. In these days of hard finance, it would have been better if the examiner as well as the Board have paid proper attention to the examinees' interest and carefully set the paper. Further, legally also we think that the Commissioner for Government Examinations and the examiner in particular in conjunction with the Board are guilty of negligence in the discharge of their duties and they are liable for damages to a reasonable extent, if only an aggrieved examinee seeks the aid of a Court of Law. The syllabus being an offer to examine the candidates under a certain prescribed curriculum, an examinee sitting for an examination based on the prescribed syllabus accepts the offer and neither the Commissioner for Government Examinations nor the examiner, the agent appointed by him to examine the candidates, can vary the terms of the offer out her proposed threat. At least for some time to come, until she finds a substitute for the short stapled Indian cotton, she must, of necessity, whether willing or unwilling, continue to be our customer, for it is that in India only she can obtain her requirements cheaply and the cost of transport of cotton to her country from India is cheaper than that from any other Western cotton producing country. Secondly, taking for granted that with a vengeance, Japan boycotts the cheap Indian cotton by going in for the costly Egyptian or American cotton, then with the increased cost of transport charges and the high price she will have to pay for her purchases, her cost of production will be increased and as a result of it she may not be able to sell her cloth or yarn at the present low prices in our market. Then naturally, our mills will have more work and can afford to absorb more of our cotton, because of less competition from Japan and even still if the supply of cotton is more than what our mills could consume, India can well afford to restrict the acreage under cotton and devote her attention to the production of other commercial crops. Especially, after the Ottawa Agreement, India has been and is even now seriously examining her position as a producer and supplier of raw materials to the world market and rightly or wrongly having signed it for a period of three years, she is prepared, as she is bound to do, to meet with the consequences and her sons are capable, at least equally, if not more than, the Japanese merchants to look after their country's needs. These aspects of the matter are already looming large in the minds of the prominent sons of India and the fact that the Japanese threat has come a few days earlier is indeed a blessing in disguise. It is only a contingency fully anticipated and for which India must be and is fully prepared.

Now let us see whether Japan is justified in her threat. To quote her own example, what did she do when she desired to encourage her iron industry? She levied a three-hundred per cent duty on Indian iron imported into Japan and this naturally affected the iron industry of India a great deal. The protests of the Government of India and the several Indian Chambers of Commerce were of no avail. Again, Japan says that in case she loses the Indian market for her cotton goods, 20% of her cotton mills will have to be closed. In reply we deem it necessary to immediately answer that it is of no concern for us to aid Japan and thus facilitate her to maintain her cotton industry in tact at the sacrifice of the national interest of India which has to its credit only the cotton industry, which is at present very much dislocated and threatened with extinction owing to severe competition from Lancashire and Japan. Further, India is fully aware that Japan has no philosophic mind in purchasing her cotton from India, as a neighbouring

Eastern nation and that in her purchases she acts only on the accepted principles of business namely purchasing at the cheapest market. So from all these we can come to the conclusion that Japan has no justification for her threat and that if she only translates it into action, she will be losing very soon the Indian market not only for her cotton goods but also for others.

Now with regard to the cotton industry in India. The general complaint among the mill owners is that Japan being able to sell her manufactures at a price far below the cost of production at which they could be produced here by them, the cotton industry of India is unfairly competed and as such requires Government protection. How could this statement be true? We think that the textile industry of Japan also aims at a profit. Though at present her depreciated yen greatly facilitates her dumping operation, the cost of manufacture, namely, labour, power etc., should be the same. If she can find it profitable to sell her cotton goods in India at a price cheaper than the Indian made ones, even after purchasing her raw cotton from India, taking it to Japan, manufacturing it into finished products and then returning them again to India, why not our mill owners, saved, as they are, of the cost of transport to and from Japan, are not able to compete with them? This is a point which should set our cotton mill owners athinking. Their organisation, perhaps, requires a radical reconstruction. Latest methods of manufacture should be introduced and every effort should be made to see that the cost of production is in comparison with that of other nations engaged in similar manufacture. It is of no use simply saying that the national industry is at stake and it needs protection from the State. No spoon-feeding will be allowed nor will it be possible for several years to come.

We think these points should receive the earnest consideration of the mill magnates and we are glad to note that at least one mill owner has publicly announced that he intends paying a visit to Japan soon to closely study the cotton industry in all its aspects and to note where the difference lies in the cost of production between Japan and India, so that the defects in the Indian cotton industry may be set right. It is indeed a good idea and we gladly wish for him a bon voyage and a safe return. We would also be very glad if he studies only full well the industrial conditions of Japan and comes back to India with a better knowledge so as to enable him to introduce the necessary changes in the reorganisation of the Indian textile industry. One effective step in our opinion towards the reformation of the cotton industry in India is the abolition of the Managing Agents' system which has got many defects of its own. We think it is high time that a scheme for without sufficient previous notice and if the examiner has done so, as is the case now, he is undoubtedly open to blame. Perhaps if the examiner is a gratuitous worker the case may be different; but paid as he is a certain sum as remuneration for setting a question paper, he is bound to exercise proper care and skill and in this case we are very sorry that these legal aspects have not received the attention they deserve. The examiner in the Typewriting Higher second paper also is open to much criticism in that the paper has been set aiming at a very high standard and that all the questions set could not be answered within the time allotted.

We would not have stressed these matters in these terms had it not been for the fact that the Typewriting Higher qualification has of late become a compulsory test for Government service and especially the Typist's post, and that several typists in Government service have been asked to go home for want of passing it last year and that many of the typists in actual service at present are appearing for a third or fourth time, in their anxiety and eagerness to pass it at any cost and thus cling to their jobs in these hard days. Imagine the lot of typists, who have been unsuccessful in three or four examinations but are actually doing their duties to the entire satisfaction of their employers, the heads of the offices? Are the examiners at fault or the heads of the various offices under whom these higher grade unpassed, but three or four times appeared, typists serve, are at fault in certifying that their typists' work is entirely satisfactory, we do not understand. Already, the Typewriting Higher grade examinees have to meet with a severe test where the percentage of passes is in only one digit and if in addition to this, a fresh difficulty, in the way of careless setting up of the question paper, is also created they will have to submit themselves to a serious menace, and the Board of Examiners composed of bigwigs in the city of Madras and other paraphernalia are all a mere farce. By the time this issue sees the light of day, we think the fate of the unfortunate Typewriting Higher grade examinees of the April 1933 examination would have been ascertained and as such we hope at least in the next examination the Board will properly function and see that there is no need for complaints of this kind. In our opinion, the best method to overcome these difficulties is to have confidence in the capacity of commercial teachers who are declared fit by the Educational Department, to coach up pupils in commercial subjects and to appoint them as Chief and Assistant Examiners so that they may discharge their duties properly, for they know their job only full well and understand the difficulties of the examinees.

Government Technical Examinations.

April 1933.

TYPEWRITING.

HIGHER GRADE—FIRST PAPER.

SPEED TEST.

Time—Fifteen minutes.

[N.B.—*Time allowed must in no case be exceeded. Special attention must be paid to accuracy and neatness of execution*].

Type the following :

History tells us that Malabar had carried on trade with Egypt and Arabia from very early times. Bartholomeo speaks of the Musalmans who came to Malabar in the reign of Caliph Valid (A. D. 710), and various other travellers have recorded from time to time the advent of Egyptian and Arabian merchants and the formation of Muslim colonies at Quilon and other ports in Travancore. The descendants of these early settlers and of the converts they made are called *Methans*. Their mother-tongue is Malayalam. Their women do not generally observe *purdah* and in their habits and customs they are like the Malayalis. It is among these that we find the marumakkathayam section. Some centuries back a small colony of Muhammadans came from Arabia and settled in Cranganore. Later on their descendants migrated to Travancore and are now found in Alleppey and other places in North Travancore. They belong to the group known as *Thangal*. During the invasion of Travancore by Tippu in the 18th century a number of Hindus in North Travancore were forcibly converted into Muslims and their descendants, now found mostly in Parur, Kunnathunad and Muvattupula taluks are known as *Jonakans*. They correspond to the Mappillas of British Malabar, but unlike them they are a peaceful community and have not earned a notoriety for rebellion. During the reign of Rama Varma in the latter half of the 18th century, Diwan Raja Kesava Das, to whose foresight is due the development of the port of Alleppey, the most important commercial centre in Travancore brought some *Bora Musalmans* and *Kutch Memons* from Sind, Kutch and Gujerat, settled them at Alleppey and encouraged them in opening trade with Bombay. The descendants of these settlers are still there carrying on trade with Bombay, Calcutta and other Indian and foreign ports. During the reign of Martanda Varma, the maker of modern Travancore, in the earlier part of the 18th century the Nawab of Carnatic, sent an army of Muhammadans to help the Raja to crush internal rebellion. They belonged to the group of *Dakhani Musalmans*. Their descendants are still here engaged in trade, Government service and other occupations. Their numbers have increased in recent years by fresh arrivals from Bombay and other places. Travancore has had commercial and political relations with the adjoining Tamil country from very early times and consequently there have been constant streams of migration of Tamilians to this country. Among them there were large numbers of Muslims also who came for purposes of trade. Some entered the country through Aramboly and settled in the southern parts of the State. Their descendants are known as *Thulukkans*, while others came through Arienkavu and other mountain passes further north. Their descendants who are now found in Shenkotta, Pathanapuram, Minachil and other places are called *Ravuthars*. Both the Thulukkans and Ravuthars speak Tamil and are Tamilian in their habits and dress. Labbai is another group of Tamil-speaking Muslims. Originally the name "Labbai" was a title given to the persons who served in mosques and presided over religious ceremonies. Latterly, others have also adopted this title and thus a separate group has been formed.

The total Muslim population, according to the present census, is 353,274 which shows an increase of 30·6 per cent during the last decade against the general increase of 27·2 per cent in the total population. In the previous decade they increased by 19·4 per cent, while the increase in the aggregate population was 16·8 per cent only. The numbers returned under different groups are unreliable. It will be seen therefrom that the bulk of the Muslim population of this State belongs to the Sunni sect, those belonging to the Shia sect numbering only 1,319 out of a total of 353,274. The Sunnis are again divided into four sub-classes and each of these again into a number of groups. It will be noticed that the Malabar and Tamil Musalmans together constitute as much as 96·5 per cent of the Muslim population.

News and Views.

The total value of articles cleared through the London Clearing House for the year 1932 is as follows:—

Town Clearing	...£ 27,834 millions
Metropolitan ,,	...£ 1,610 ,,
Country ,,	...£ 2,668 ,,

whereas the figures for the year 1931 are £ 31,816; £ 1,668 and £ 2,752 millions respectively. The lower figures for 1932 are probably due to trade depression.

Royal Economic Society's Memorandum No. 39.

x x x

The value of currency notes in circulation in India on the 15th April 1933, as notified by the Controller of Currency is Rs. 1,76,32,82,701 which is less by Rs. 17,52,478 than that of the week ending 8th April 1933. Towards the prompt repayment of these notes on demand, Reserves in India in the shape of silver coins and silver and gold bullion as detailed below

Silver coin ...	Rs. 95,65,34,496
Gold bullion ...	Rs. 26,11,63,649
Silver bullion...	Rs. 15,59,68,697

and Government securities of the nominal value of Rs. 39,38,92,600, at the purchase price of Rs. 38,96,15,859 are maintained, thus making up the reserve equal to the value of notes in circulation.

x x x

Under section 8 of the Indian Income-tax (Second Amendment) Act 1933, the person responsible for paying any interest not being 'Interest on Securities' shall, on or before the fifteenth day of June in each year, furnish to the prescribed officer a return in the prescribed form and verified in the prescribed manner of the names and addresses of all persons to whom during the previous financial year he has paid interest or aggregate interest exceeding such amount not being less than *one thousand rupees* as being prescribed in this behalf, together with the amount paid to each such person. The attention of bankers is invited to this new rule.

x x x

The Rupee Debt payable by the Government of India, as on 31st January, 1933, bearing interest is Rs. 6,89,62,02,000 whereas that bearing no interest is Rs. 1,37,81,000.

x x x

The cash realised from the sales of Post Office 5 year Cash Certificates, the amount repaid for them on account of principal and the amount of principal outstanding on them on 31st January, 1933 are Rs. 1,26,08,000; Rs. 73,63,000 and Rs. 37,59,53,000 respectively.

x x x

At last in spite of the best attempts to prove an exception to the general rule of many European countries which have followed England one after another in going off the Gold Standard, U. S. A., has now deliberately thought it advisable and absolutely necessary too, to go off the Gold Standard and her dollar is now allowed to depreciate. One important feature of this "off the gold standard scheme" is that the President is to be given the extraordinary and autocratic discretionary power to alter the existing coinage law of U. S. A. so as to permit him, at his sweet will and pleasure, to fix the contents of the gold dollar and to reduce the gold contained in it, even up to 50% from the normal, according to the exigencies of the exchange market. This is indeed a very wonderful way of overcoming her financial troubles. The immediate effect of the plan of being off the gold standard is now clearly visible; the cross rate has jumped up to 3.92 per pound sterling and this should naturally increase the demand for American products from other nations and it is just the thing that

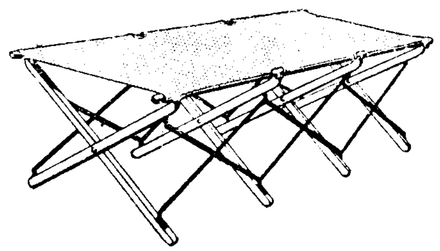
U. S. A. urgently wants. This being a case of studied going off the gold standard to increase her export trade, the scheme deserves to be closely watched by all.

x x x

The Secretary to the Commissioner for Government Examinations, Madras, notifies on page 213 of the Fort St. George Gazette, Part I-B, Educational, dated 25th April 1933, that the 'ORGA PRIVATE' Type writer may be used by candidates at the Government Technical Examinations in Typewriting.

x x x

We understand the latest date for sending applications for the quarterly examination in Typewriting to be held in July under the Madras Government Technical Examination scheme is 10th June 1933. Late applications with a penalty fee of Re. 1 per application will be accepted upto the 25th June 1933.



The Leipzig the City of Muses. Leipzig the Book Centre.

BY

K. P. PADMANABHAN TAMBY, ESQ.,
Trivandrum.

As the centre of German culture, Leipzig is supreme and has exercised vast influence over all the civilised world. For centuries past, Leipzig has remained "a city of books". Three important reasons have contributed to its greatness as the leading book centre of the world. First and foremost, Leipzig is the city where the largest international fair is held ; secondly it is the seat of one of the ancient and illustrious Universities of the world, and lastly it is the accepted centre of music. In all these ways, the pre-eminence of Leipzig is universally admitted.

The most outstanding organization of the German Booksellers "*Boresnverein der Deutschen Buchhandler*" is established at this famous city of rich and roaring trade. The three vital essentials of Book Trade—the art of book decoration, book production in general and bookselling—are taught most efficiently in the institutions set apart for that purpose. There are a number of rare and costly treasures of book art in the excellent libraries of Leipzig. The "*Deutsche-Bucherei*" is "the only truly national collection of books in Germany" for it alone is in full possession of every book, periodical or other publication, appearing in that country. This mighty institution has been truly described as the "National Archive" of Germany. Its department of 'Artistic Prints', provides the finest and most precious treasures of modern German book art. This great organisation constitutes "the living symbol of Leipzig as a book centre." Musical life in the city is ultimately associated with that of book trade. Leipzig's reputation for the engraving and printing of music, is long established.

There is a special "Book seller's quarter" in Leipzig and this certainly is an interesting attraction. Two monumental edifices exemplify the overwhelming importance of this great city in the world's book trade. There are many well-known publishing houses of sound standing. *Leipzig, the Book Centre,* an entertaining pamphlet, speaks thus "Whole streets in the 'Book Sellers' quarter' are lined by handsome buildings wherein are housed the offices of well-known publishing firms and the stores of retail book sellers, or else those graphic art establishment for which Leipzig has long since been renowned, the range of whose activities extends from the printing of books to the most up-to-date proceedings employed for the reproduction of artistic works". Some of the publishing houses are known throughout the civilised world. To mention but one, the *Durrsche Buchhandlung*, which specialised in educational works and pedagogical literature for young people had its birth in 1656 and is now considered to be one of the best of its kind on earth.

The prestige of Leipzig as a book centre was eminently enhanced, and its importance fully exemplified, by the International Book Art Exhibition organised by the "Union of German Book Artists". This exhibition was a marvellous cultural, intellectual and commercial success, and afforded ample scope and chances for research to interested people. There are some matchless institutions for technical education in Leipzig. These excellent places of study have strengthened the position of the city as a book centre.

Foremost among them is *the State Academy of Graphic Art and The Book Trade*, the unique institution of its kind in Germany, founded in 1764. The first Director of this internationally reputed Academy was Friederich Ceser, under whom Goethe learned drawing and etching. Professor Hans Wahl, Ph. D., in his edifying book entitled *In Goethes' Footsteps* says thus "From the artist Adam Friederich Ceser, whose daughter Friederike was on friendly terms with Goethe, the young man received his first lessons in painting, the results of which may be seen to-day in the Ceser collections in the Leipzig Historical Museum". The greatest achievement of the "German Book Trade Union", is the creation of the "*Deutsches Museum fur Buchund Schrift*." This museum enables both the specialist and the layman to obtain first-hand, a clear comprehensive survey of printing and book production, from the earliest origins to the present day. This museum boasts of a magnificent collection of books and manuscripts—all valuable in historical importance—and is looked upon as one of the finest and costliest throughout the globe. *The German Book Museum* at Leipzig founded in 1884, is the storehouse of the best and highest information regarding everything connected with book trade in Germany. It was started with the purpose of cultivating printing, writing and all graphic arts and processes in an historical, artistical, industrial and technical manner.

During the half century of its existence, the Museum has developed to one of the most remarkable institutions of the kind in the world. To-day, this Museum stands out unrivalled in many respects. Most of the materials which were exhibited at Leipzig in 1914, in connection with the International Book Exhibition, were presented to the German Book Museum. Now it exhibits a general view of the gradual evolution of Printing and Book craft, from the primitive times to the very modern. Examples of the oldest writings, manuscripts, and the most famous typographical monuments of the 15th and later centuries are all to be met with among the collections carefully preserved in this Museum. One of the precious Gutenburg Bibles on vellum forms the richest treasure. There is a first class library of over 50,00,000 historical and technical books, situated in the museum. A large and varied collection of single sheets, more than ½ million, systematically classified containing title pages, book-plates, printer's marks, wood cuts, etchings, book bindings, also a collection of historical machinery are some of the inspiring possessions of this great institution. The Museum publishes a comprehensive and profusely illustrated Annual, besides a "Literary Sheet" in Six Numbers, embodying reviews of recent literature.

The Libraries of Leipzig deserve special mention. The University Library is extremely praiseworthy. The rich libraries of Saxon Monasteries which were dissolved in 1500, formed the nuecleus of the University Library which at the present day is most famous. The outstanding feature of this Library is the Goethe collection, originally owned by an enthusiastic student of great-master, which contains over a thousand printed works and half that number of manuscripts. The Kastner collection constituting over 2000 autographs, is another reputed attraction. The Leipzig Municipal Library is remarkable for the priceless specimens of book art it has. The library of the Supreme Court of German Reich, is universally recognised to be the best in the world as regards works on legal subjects. The Comenius Library is acknowledged to be the leading pedogogical collection of books. The Central German Library for the Blind, established in 1894, is a great achievement. Leipzig is a model in regard to its Libraries and Reading Rooms. They uphold the glorious reputation of the city as the centre of learning and book art. The Public Libraries of Leipzig, are decidedly far ahead of most of their kind, in the world. There are many private collections which are great in themselves, owned by Publishing Houses. All the Museums of Leipzig have excellent Libraries. As a centre of training for Librarians, Leipzig is pre-eminent. The Museum of Local History in the Old Town Hall alone is enough to impress the foreigner with the superiority of Leipzig as the seat of book art. This museum is one of the oldest in Germany and is most perfectly equipped and dexterously organised. Under its auspices, exhibition are held from time to time. The successes of the all world Exhibition of Book Art in 1927. and the Beethoven Exhibition were mainly due to the endeavours of this Museum.

Leipzig's fame as an important centre of Book Trade and Graphic Art, has been firmly established centuries ago. Everything connected with books—printing, illustration, binding, etc.—is well exhibited in the great institutions possessed by Leipzig. Nowhere else in the world is the art of book production, so well developed and so exquisitely expressed, as in Leipzig, and in this respect she challenges the rest of the globe.

One is often inclined to consider Leipzig, more as a City of Fairs than of the Muses, but in spite of its marvellous development into a great city of flourishing industry, it has achieved no less renown in other lines of progress as well. It is a mere truism to say that the Museums and Libraries of Leipzig, the city of Fairs, Music and Book Trade, are full of treasures which sing loud praises of the cultural background of the past epoch-making days which have left richest heritages of supreme glory and enviable grandeur.

Goethes' verdict on Leipzig is at once true and interesting. True it was then and so it is even to-day.

"Leipzig can be regarded as a small moral republic.........There is unbelievably much here. Wealth, science, talent and possessions of all kinds give the place a fullness which a stranger can well enjoy and use to his advantage if he understands it."

The Plight of Tanjore District Mirasdars.

BY

R. KRITIVASAN, ESQ., B. A.

There can be no two opinions about the oft-repeated statement that Agriculture is the chief industry of India and therefore the mainstay of Indian finance. It is also equally true that the help and treatment accorded to this important phase of South Indian activity by the Madras Government have been and still continue to be, to a

great extent, most niggardly. In agricultural countries of the West like Norway and Sweden, all the energy and resources of the State are concentrated on the development of agriculture and allied industries. The Minister for Agriculture is the Chief Minister and the entire policy of the Government is shaped as per the needs of its agricultural population. But here in our own province it is least cared for, both by the educated class and government and anything connected with it, is not ever mentioned in the election programmes of the various political parties when they scramble for power. Unless this gulf that divides the mass from the educated class, who are naturally the foremost to take advantage of any concession given in the government of the land, is attempted to be bridged by an intensive 'Five year or Ten year plan', there is no chance of the interests of the masses and of agriculture, their chief industry receiving proper attention in the hands of the ruling class. The evasive and unsympathetic reply given to some of the requests of the mirasdars of Trichinopoly district by the Revenue Member at Srirangam on 9th April, 1933 is an instance in point.

The plight of the mirasdars of the Tanjore District has been of late the subject-matter of several articles in the Press and speeches in the various Mirasdars' associations. The price of paddy has phenomenally fallen with no chances of its near recovery and owing to keen competition from Burma, there is no market even at this low rate. The suffering of the middle-class families in the District is simply heart-rending. They have already sold away the entire stock of paddy for the year in the local markets at prices dead cheaper than the market-rate with a view to pay off the first three instalments of the Kist and thereby save their hearths from the inroads of official attachment. They are now at their wits' end and some of them are indenting on the sympathy and support of some relation or other who may be employed in government or elsewhere for their livelihood during the remaining part of the year. Under these circumstances the very poor concession given to the mirasdars in the matter of payment of government kist by suspending collection at the rate of one anna per rupee in the last instalment is but an eye-wash and a vain attempt to put down agitation.

The duty of the comparatively well-to-do landholders of the District under the circumstances set forth above is very clear. They must shake themselves off their age-long conservatism, organise and organise with a fixed and far-sighted plan of washing out their salvation themselves. Many are the absentee-landlords and they must be made to take an active interest in such work and carry on propaganda wherever their voices will be heard and given due weight and consideration. A strong central District organisation with effective branches in each taluk to start with. as also out-posts in cities like Madras where a good lot of these absentee-landlords reside, is the crying need of the hour. The central organisation must scientifically study the various questions like cultivation of sugarcane and marketting facilities through expert committees in co-operation with the agricultural department if necessary and submit their proposals to the government which cannot then evade facing the problem squarely in the face and rendering justice.

A good deal of spade work has to be done by such a central organisation. Sugarcane cultivation is of course more profitable, but it cannot be cultivated like paddy in the same land during successive years. Besides a preliminary survey as to which lands are most suitable for its growth has to be made and the ryots taught by intensive propaganda and practical experiments to overcome their bias in favour of paddy cultivation. All this can be done only by a strong and representative central organisation. If this initiative is taken and preliminary work finished, the Agricultural and Industries Departments may be expected to help the organisation towards its further activities like the erection of a sugar refinary and the floating of a limited concern for manufacture and sale of sugar.

As for marketting facilities, the proposed 16% reduction of the railway freight to Colombo, and that too as an experimental measure for three months, cannot be welcomed as a great advantage since the opening of the Tranquebar part, if it is done, will enable the mirasdars to export paddy to Colombo at a lesser freight-charge and also open up trade with some of the inland ports like Tuticorin and here again organisation only will count. An export syndicate under the central District organisation may be formed to study the question and arrange for the cheap transport of paddy to profitable markets.

Rich and influential mirasdars may attempt to tackle the problem in their own spheres immediately by starting agricultural colonies on a co-operative basis and trying to interest the masses in sugarcane cultivation taking the educated unemployed youths also in such colonies for purposes of carrying on propaganda. We heartily welcome the efforts of Rao Sahib S.G. Kanagasabai Pillai of Mannargudy in this direction.

It is already too late in the year and we hope the mirasdars of the District will see their way to effectively organise themselves and carry on intensive work at the earliest not relying too much on government or outside help.

Indian Chambers' Federation.

ANNUAL SESSION IN DELHI.

MR. WALCHAND HIRACHAND'S ADDRESS.

The following is the text of the address delivered by Seth Walchand Hirachand, President, Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry, at the sixth annual meeting, which met in Delhi on the 15th April 1933 :—

Gentlemen,—I extend to you all a cordial welcome to this, the sixth annual general meeting of the Federation.

I am sorry the review of the past year's work has to begin with the mention of the policy of repression followed by Government during that year. As you all know, the year 1932 opened with the incarceration of Gandhiji as a State prisoner which was followed by a general policy of raids, arrests and imprisonments. The inauguration of such a policy was bound to adversely affect the economic fabric of the country. This is but in consonance with the well-recognised law that the commerce and industry of a country are appreciably affected by the slightest tremor caused in the political strata. This is neither the time nor the place to chronicle the subsequent events in the political history of our country. I might, however, quote the opinion of an impartial Englishman who was a member of the deputation sent out to this country by the India League to study the Indian situation on the spot and whose opinion will, I am confident, be considered fair and unprejudiced. That gentleman, referring to one aspect of the policy of repression, has said:—

"When I know that the Commissioner of Police in Bombay can send merchants to jail because their refusal to trade with the other merchants constitutes an offence and can release those whom he terms as 'law-breakers' when he is informed that trading has started in a certain market—this is something new in law and commerce."

Whilst we in this country were realizing to our cost how, by the promulgation of the Ordinances, the administration of justice was made subservient to the exigencies of executive administration, on the other side of the World Lord Reading tried to hold this state of rule by Ordinances, to the admiration of the "Civilised World," by asserting in a broadcast speech on India to the American public that

> "We have promised to insist on the maintenance of order in India and we wish to make secure liberty and justice there *in accordance with the aims and ideals of English-speaking peoples*, both American and British." (Italics are mine.)

We have had sufficient experience of the ideals of liberty and justice for which the British nation stands in their administration of this country for over a 100 years to know the meaning of these terms as applied to India. It is not easy to see why Lord Reading coupled the name of the Americans with the British by suggesting that the aims and ideals of both Americans and British were the same. Probably he has a greater insight in the administration of the Philippine Islands by the Americans than ourselves as he felt justified in roping in the Americans as he did. Those who have watched the working of the Ordinances during the year 1932 do not believe that such an action, even if now legalised by Government, will create a calm atmosphere for the working of the reforms. For the purpose of creating such an atmosphere, Government have been trying to crush the biggest and most powerful political organisation—the Indian National Congress. That organisation with its 47-year-old traditions and its clearly expressed policy of non-violence and representing as it does not only the intelligentsia but the vast masses of the country, can and will never be crushed permanently. At the most, it might be driven underground for a time, but the present impasse will continue and the bitterness will go on increasing both against Government and Britain until those who were responsible for forcing the Congress to resort to civil disobedience movement by advising the Viceroy to decline an interview to Mahatma Gandhi, realise the harm that they are doing not only to India but to Great Britain and be morally courageous enough to cast aside all notions of prestige and find out ways and means to create goodwill among the people of this country. This and this alone will be a guarantee against any future political and economic eruptions in the country. In my opinion, and that opinion is sure to have the backing of the Federation, the release of Mahatma Gandhi and the release of all political prisoners is absolutely essential to create real goodwill between the two nations. Let us hope that better counsel will prevail in London and at Simla in the near future to bring about such a change.

During the period of uncertainty in the past year, India's normal trade naturally suffered a heavy set-back in addition to the set-back caused by the world-wide depression that has existed for the last four years. India's balance of trade, which was always in her favour and which was helpful in discharging her obligations outside India, diminished to a very alarming extent. In any other self-governing country such a fall in the balance of trade would have created a stir in the Government circles, and would have spurred them to adopt emergency measures to adjust the import and export trade of their country. In India, however, as it did not adversely affect the British commercial and industrial interests, the usual policy of "Laissez Faire" continued to prevail. Whilst in other countries either the currency policy is adjusted to suit the exigencies of the situation or tariff-walls are erected to check the imports from foreign countries, in India, unfortunately, the administration not being in national hands, there have been no readjustments in either the currency or the tariff policy of the Government of India whose currency policy has always been subordinated to the interests of Great Britain. The haphazard manner in which the policy of discriminating protection is applied by Government, combined with the newly adopted policy of Imperial Preference has not resulted in any appreciable progress in the establishment of new industries in the country. This apathetic attitude of the Government of India towards the increasing unfavourable balance of trade against India

makes us feel despondent about the future of the economic condition of our country. The appeal made by promoters of several Swadeshi and "Buy Indian" Leagues to check foreign imports to the greater use of indigenous goods has had some effect in the beginning, but as these movements had not only not had the support of Government as in Great Britain, but were looked upon with suspicion, the efforts and the effects thereof began to dwindle. As you all know, Great Britain witnesses the unique phenomenon of the "Buy British" campaign supported by everybody, from the Prince to the porter and receiving whole-hearted support at the hands of the administrators of the country and as a result of this propaganda, the inrush of foreign exports to that country was very soon checked. In contrast with this attitude we have in India responsible ministers in the provinces, carrying on a campaign for giving preference to goods manufactured in other parts of the empire even at the cost of Indian-manufactured goods. Such an interpretation of the cult of swadeshism from men in authority will not help the industries of this country. The time has come, or rather past, when it is necessary for each and every Indian to observe a vow to buy and use only pure Indian goods to the exclusion of all others. If once a genuine and lasting demand for Indian goods is created, there is every reason to hope that we shall see springing up in our country a large number of industries financed, managed and controlled predominantly by Indians which would be able to supply the requirements of our countrymen. It would not be out of place for me to refer with appreciation to the work that is being carried on by a number of "Buy Indian" Leagues or Swadeshi Leagues organised in various provinces in the country to propagate the cult of swadeshism and to appeal to you all and to my countrymen at large to give them all encouragement and support that it is possible for you and them to give.

My predecessor last year dealt in detail with the very distressing phenomenon, which, I may say, is unique, in the economic history of the whole world. I mean the enormous drain of the yellow metal from this country. The callous indifference with which the people's gold reserve is allowed to be drained away in spite of the unanimous condemnation by the representatives of the Indian commercial community is a vivid example of how the interests of a nation ruled by another are disregarded by the latter for its own advantage. That the exports of gold from India were required by Great Britain to give strength to the pound sterling does not now require to be proved. If still there is any doubt lingering in the minds of any of my countrymen, they have merely to look at the policy pursued by such mighty nations as the United Kingdom and the United States of America with their gold hoarded in their vaults and then to compare the same with the opposite policy in this country adopted by the administrators belonging to one of these nations. Whilst the United States of America with more than 7 000 million dollars worth of gold in their vaults think it wise to put an embargo on the export of gold, India's non-Indian Finance Minister characterises this distressing feature of gold exported from India as a "pleasing phenomenon". It is not difficult for us to understand why this phenomenon of the export appeared pleasant to Sir George that the aims and ideals of both Americans and British were the same. Probably he has a greater insight in the administration of the Philippine Islands by the Americans than ourselves as he felt justified in roping in the Americans as he did. Those who have watched the working of the Ordinances during the year 1932 do not believe that such an action, even if now legalised by Government, will create a calm atmosphere for the working of the reforms. For the purpose of creating such an atmosphere, Government have been trying to crush the biggest and most powerful political organisation—the Indian National Congress. That organisation with its 47-year-old traditions and its clearly expressed policy of non-violence and representing as it does not only the intelligentsia but the vast masses of the country, can and will never be crushed permanently. At the most, it might be driven underground for a time, but the present impasse will continue and the bitterness will go on increasing both against Government and Britain until those who were responsible for forcing the Congress to resort to civil disobedience movement by advising the Viceroy to decline an interview to Mahatma Gandhi, realise the harm that they are doing not only to India but to Great Britain and be morally courageous enough to cast aside all notions of prestige and find out ways and means to create goodwill among the people of this country. This and this alone will be a guarantee against any future political and economic eruptions in the country. In my opinion, and that opinion is sure to have the backing of the Federation, the release of Mahatma Gandhi and the release of all political prisoners is absolutely essential to create real goodwill between the two nations. Let us hope that better counsel will prevail in London and at Simla in the near future to bring about such a change.

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Schuster and his countrymen. It is, however, necessary to examine the ingenious argument used by the Finance Member in defence of his inaction. The Finance Minister puts forth a very amusing theory that the proceeds of gold realised by Indian sellers had been transferred to interest-bearing investments. It seems that he has ignored the fundamental fact that the average Indian is not likely to bring into market his gold ornaments unless he is compelled by circumstances to meet daily wants. Thus, a portion of the sum realised by the sale of gold must have gone to the money-lenders from the pockets of the agriculturists and small holders of gold articles, while the greater part of the remaining sum had to be exchanged for commodities. This process of forced sale of gold led to the increase of British imports in this country, which was wished for both by the Finance Member and the manufacturers in his country. Some of the balance may at first sight be supposed to have been used for the purpose of assisting industries, but so far as I know, no industry except the sugar industry is in a sufficiently flourishing state in the country and therefore is not capable of absorbing any new capital. Even the capital for the sugar industry has not come from those who had sold their gold but mostly from substantial business men. In support of my statement, I would request you to go to the villages in the country and there you will see for yourselves the cry of distress emerging from the huts of these villages and you will be satisfied that the story about the re-investment of gold is much less than half a truth and consequently much worse than untruth. I feel it my duty at the time of laying down the reins of my office to voice from this platform the feelings of those who know their country well and to warn the administrators against the continuance of policy of economic exploitation of my country any longer and would advise them even now to put a stop to the export of gold.

Outside India we have been witnessing a very interesting change in old things giving place to new. The United Kingdom's plan of keeping a hold on the European group of nations under the obligation of war debts has failed completely. Activity in the industrial world outside the United Kingdom has placed British industries face to face with severe competition from its rivals on the continent. British industries for the last 15 years have not been able to face world competition in the Eastern markets of the globe and the very policy of free trade of which Britain boasted for more than 80 years had to be changed to one of protection. The McKenna duties, the Safeguarding of Industries Act, the Dye Stuff Importation Act and the recent Import Duties Act are a sufficient indication that the existing plight of British Industries forced the hands of the British Parliament and Ministers to give up the economic policy founded by Richard Cobden and John Bright familiarly known as the Manchester School. After the Great War, no efforts were spared by British administrators abroad in the dependencies and in the colonial empire to give by Administrative Acts whatever relief they could give to British industries. Discrimination in favour of their industries at the cost of indigenous ones was the principle on which the British administrators governed the country under their control during the last 15 years. We have an illustration of this policy in the passing of the Indian Currency Act of 1927 when the rupee was appreciated by Statute to 1s. 6d. to give advantage to British industries to the extent of $12\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.

The passing of the Currency Act has not the desired effect of increasing British imports in the country. The purchasing power of the people was going down on account of the slump in the prices of agricultural produce. This added to the advent of the cult of Swadeshism led to the reduction in the volume and value of British imports into India. The depression that set in since 1929 made the position of British industries still worse and in 1931, Britain had to go off the gold standard to correct an adverse balance of trade. Britain went off the gold standard just to suit its purpose of giving artificial encouragement to its export trade without in the least calculating the effects of its policy upon the currencies of the world. The attitude of the United States of America towards Great Britain and the competition created by the industrialised Nations in Europe forced Great Britain to create a sterling area for tariff purposes among countries constituting the British Empire. Thus it was sought to secure some relief at Ottawa at the hands of the Dominions by securing an extra advantage of 10 per cent by way of Tariff Preference over the manufactures of non-empire countries. India being still a dependency, her interests were naturally subordinated to those of Great Britain; the Government of India, controlled as it is from London, had no choice but to acquiesce in the policy enunciated by the British Government. The country had the misfortune to witness the tragic farce of the Legislative Assembly ratifying the Ottawa Pact in spite of the unanimous verdict against it from all economists and representatives of Indian commercial interests in the country. With a solid Government bloc in the Assembly and with immeasurable amount of patronage at their disposal, the administrators of the country are able to get the Assembly to ratify or legalise any action of theirs in spite of country-wide opposition. We have another instance of this power of the present administration in the legalisation of the Ordinances that were temporarily issued last year by the Viceroy for the suppression of the surging tide of nationalism created by the Congress in the country.

In spite of all these efforts the United Kingdom has not been able to find a correct solution of the state of helplessness in which it is finding itself as a result of the unprecedented economic depression that has set in for the last four years all the world over. To an impartial student of world conditions, the attitude of the United States on the question of war debts is understandable inasmuch as they do not want Great Britain or the European Group of Nations to utilise their resources made available to them by the liquidation of war debts to carry on a ruthless competition against American industries in the world markets, nor do the United States want these resources to be made use of by the debtor nations to add to their armaments and thus be a menace to the very peace of the world. If satisfactory guarantees are forthcoming on these questions, I do not think the United States of America will stand in the way of an amicable adjustment of war liabilities between the nations. This may be said to have aggravated the distressed condition of the world and the forthcoming session of the World Economic Conference is an indication of the anxiety of all the nations to find out a remedy to cure the world of the existing depression. India as one of the eight industrially great nations of the world is naturally interested in the forthcoming Conference. As you know the position of our country is entirely different from that of the other industrial countries. She has yet to develop her industries on right lines and in these days of severe competition, they cannot be developed without the active help of the State. She has very little to gain from the policy of discriminating protection and Imperial Preference as means to build up her industries. A self-governed country with inexhaustible raw materials available everywhere with an enormous home market, with hydraulic power available at almost every industrial centre and with abundance of cheap labour, would have developed her industries in a manner that would have won the admiration of the whole world but India with all these advantages, presents a different and a sad picture under British administration. It is some satisfaction to note that in spite of the existing handicaps, with a tenacity, characteristic of India and owing to her own peculiar advantages her industries may be considered to have fared less worse than those of other countries in present world conditions. She will have to make her position very clear at the World Economic Conference. She will have to revise her tariff policy in a manner suitable to the requirements of her industries. Her outlook, therefore, towards any of the questions on the agenda of the Conference must be entirely different from that of other countries owing to an honest clash of interests between the western nations and herself. The United Kingdom and the United States of America attained the position which they occupy to-day by a policy of actively promoting and safeguarding their own industries as against the foreigner. The United Kingdom particularly used even the weapons of administration and legislation including the weapon of discrimination in favour of their interests to encourage its industries at the cost of the development of Indian industries. I need not refer here in detail to their deliberate policy followed in this country of not only stultifying all efforts towards the development of Indian industries but even of going to the extent of destroying by unfair competition the industries that had survived the havoc of the East India Company's commercial policy in India. All this is a matter of history known to you all and which makes a very painful reading. We must at this stage make it clear to the Government again that India's economic and financial needs are distinctly different from those of the other industrially advanced countries of the world, including the United Kingdom, and India will have to strike out an altogether different path of her own at the World Economic Conference to suit her own requirements. India does not want to be dragged into a policy not suitable to her own needs and it is, therefore, all the more necessary that the Government of India should give every possible opportunity for the nation's rightful representatives to attend the conference and to express candidly the nation's point of view before it.

Coming nearer to the realities of the situation in the political world in India, all I can say is that the expectations raised in

the minds of several of our countrymen for the last four years are set at rest by the publication of the White Paper in March last. The verdict of the nation as voiced by the various organisations and their representatives of whatever political thought and creed is unanimous in this that it is not capable of satisfying even the most moderate demands of the progressive political intelligentsia in the country. The constitution of the Central Government, the reservation of Federal Finances to the extent of nearly 80 per cent for reserved subjects, the sweeping, extraordinary and uncontrolled powers proposed to be vested in the Governor-General and the Provincial Governors, all these and other limitations, reservations, restrictions and safeguards lead one to question the very bona fides of the intentions of Great Britain towards India. The very inauguration of the Federation is subject to three principal conditions. The one particularly relating to the establishment of the Reserve Bank, seems to me to be incapable of being brought into practice for yet a long time to come. This view is strengthened by the deliberate line of action which the Government of the country is following in respect of its currency and exchange policy and also that relating to gold exports. Even assuming that the Federation is brought into existence, I am very much doubtful if its working will tend to make the nation solvent for the years to come, when 80 per cent of her revenue would be earmarked by Statute towards the maintenance of an army kept chiefly for Imperial purposes, debt services, the pensions and Civil Service charges. Thus scarcely 20 per cent of the revenues are left for the nation-building departments of the country.

I understand that the report of the Indian Defence Expenditure Tribunal has been submitted to the Prime Minister. One of the issues dealt with by the Tribunal relates to India's claim to a contribution from the Imperial revenues towards military expenditure in India on the now admitted ground that the army in India is maintained to a certain extent for Imperial purposes. Millions and millions of rupees were debited in the past to India's account towards such expenditure and India rightly claims substantial relief in this matter. Another item which requires a very careful examination is the past obligations thrust on India by the British administrators of the country. I would particularly refer in this connection to the various wars waged by the British outside the limits of India and in which India had no real interest. Huge amounts were paid from the Indian treasury towards these wars, and if Britain wishes to be free from all charge of misappropriation and mal-administration during her regime of trusteeship of this country, an honest and true accoumt of all these expenses incurred on these wars waged for imperial purposes must be rendered to the newly-installed Government of this country.

I would lastly refer to a grievance and a very serious and genuine grievance entertained by the country regarding the recruitment of the all-India Services. The emoluments of the Services and the privileges enjoyed by them are far higher than those of similar officers employed by Great Britain, Dominions or any other country in the world and are quite out of proportion to the financial resources and taxable capacity of the country. India cannot afford to maintain such a costly Civil Service, and the British Parliamentary Joint Committee should, in fairness to this country, revise the clauses making them a permanent costly fixture in the future administration of the country. The way in which the powers of the members of the Services are not only maintained but actually increased by several clauses and appendices in the White Paper leads one to believe that the British administrators are not in the least inclined to transfer the governance of the country to Indian hands. Unless the conditions and terms of pay of these all-India Services are adjusted in accordance with the ability of the country to pay and unless they are really made subordinate to the Ministers, I am afraid, India will in perpetuity be a debtor nation ruled as a matter of fact, by Members of the all-India Services appointed by the Secretary of State.

I do not want to examine all the proposals of the White Paper, but would like to refer to two particular proposals one relating to the special responsibility of the Governor-General in respect of several of the questions in the administration of the Federation, and the other relating to the Statutory Railway Board. One of the subjects under the former refers to the "prevention of commercial discrimination." During the last four years of Commissions and Conferences, discussions and reports, this question of commercial discrimination has stood prominently before both the countries. It is not necessary for me to repeat any argument in support of the right of this country to use all means including discrimination against all non-nationals for the purpose of building up her own indigenous industries. By indigenous industries I mean industries or services owned and managed predominantly by Indians. It is an inherent right of all self-governing countries to develop their agriculture and industries in the best interests of their inhabitants and India cannot be barred by any one from exercising this inherent right. I would like to put a straight question to those who have agreed to the discriminatory clauses as a price for peace or as a matter of expediency, whether they had the right to sacrifice a nation's birthright even if the attainment of the full scope of this right might have appeared very difficult or impossible to them. Once this principle is given up and the discriminatory clauses are accepted, our countrymen will have to remain satisfied by being mere workers in factories with no hopes of being the leaders thereof. Some of us may even be taken on the Board of Directorate. Are we going to remain satisfied with this state of things? My answer, and I am sure, yours also will be a distinct and definite "No" to such a query. Moreover, the creation of such vested non-national interests will always come, as it has done till now, in the way of the political progress of this country. I would also like to ask those who are arguing from the British side whether their own industries, either the textile industry of Lancashire or the British shipping industry are not built up to the present high

position by an unambiguously deliberate policy of discrimination against every other nation and by following a policy of ruthless exploitation of countries, that were either dependencies or colonies, under their control and management. They now want to prevent India from using the very weapon which they themselves used in the past not only in their own country but in India during the period of their administration to build up their own industries. Now that they have secured a certain privileged position in the commercial and industrial life of this country, they want to retain that position even at the cost of the interests of the children of the soil. I would like to ask what earthly chance can Indian enterprise have against the already established large-scale industries and giant vested interests possessing huge reserves, accumulated experience and resources enough to wipe out all Indian newcomers unless these newcomers are protected by the Government through discriminatory powers, both legislative and administrative, against non-nationals. I personally hold the firm conviction that no country at the present day can develop her industries without following a deliberate policy of discrimination, without excluding the non-nationals in the country, without giving substantial help either in the form of subsidies or bounties to those nascent industries that require careful bringing up, and I personally see no relief in any formula, howsoever worded, unless the clear right of discrimination against any non-nationals is vested in the country. It is no use mincing matters on this most important question, and the longer the right of economic self-government is delayed, the more embittered will be the feelings of the nation towards those who withhold it. I am sure that if this unrestricted right of discrimination is given to this country, she may not have many occasions to use it at least not as ruthlessly as Britain used it against other nations, but that she must have that right goes without saying.

The question of the establishment of a Railway Board to administer the affairs of the Indian railways really came as a surprise to those who were all along told at the second and third Round Table Conference that this Body will be constituted by the newly-formed Federal Legislature. The railways in India with more than 800 crores invested therein constitute the biggest asset of the country. They have been so far managed by a Railway Board with the Commerce Member as the Chairman. No necessity has been felt for constituting a Statutory Board for the administration of these railways. I do not know whether the proposal as incorporated in the White Paper is the result of any apprehensions entertained in British circles owing to the fact that the future Commerce Member of the Federal Government will be an Indian Minister and therefore he may not be relied upon to follow the same policy that his predecessors had been following in the pre-federal period. The Railway Board wields an enormous power to make and unmake any industry in the country and if this power is wielded in the national interests of the country, I am sure many an industry will be encouraged in the land and will add to its prosperity. Looking back to the history of the administration in the past. I can well understand the object of the British administrators to constitute the Railway Board as a close preserve for British interests and as the administration will be run by non-Indian persons at the helm, there will be very little chance of the future Railway Statutory Board with immense assets worth nearly 800 crores under their control following a policy that would relieve unemployment in the country, increase the country's productivity and add to the national wealth. I am voicing the unanimous opinion of the entire commercial community when I say that the mercantile community views with grave concern the proposal in the White Paper relating to the establishment of a Railway Board.

I do not wish to express my opinion on the other proposals in the White Paper as they will be discussed by the whole House either to-day or to-morrow. But let me warn the British people in the country and outside that their interests will be safer in the hands of Indians vested with full power rather than if real power is denied and nominal control given. In such a case people will be tempted to find out ways and means of circumventing all safeguards to damage those vested interests. May I repeat the warning given by the Poet Tagore in his letter to the Indian Conciliation Group, London;

> "Genuine peace in India can only result from fearless recognition by the Government of the fundamental claims of humanity."

To this I may add that given a status equal to that of Canada, Australia or South Africa as defined by the Statute of Westminister, India, with a population of 350 millions of souls, will always be helpful in maintaining peace in the world.

Reviews.

Rural Reconstruction.

BY

Prof. K. S. SRIKANTAN, M. A., F. R. ECONS. S. (London);
Certified Librarian (Madras University); Madura College, Madura.
pp. 124. Price Re. 1.

Rural Reconstruction is decidedly one of the most vital problems of the day. To us in India, it is of immense importance, weighty significance and extreme necessity. Both from the press and the platform, there are repeated cries for village uplift and people though but recently have realised the imperative need for reconstruction work in the rural area. A number of excellent and authoritative volumes have been written on the subject by distinguished sons of India who believe in the mighty powers and possibilities of the village. Prof. Srikantan's brief yet brilliant book is a happy addition to the literature on Rural Reconstruction in India. The results of Mr. Srikantan's close study of the problem, in all its outstanding aspects, are embodied in this dainty Pocket Edition which is an opportune one and an eye opener. The brochure is at once learned and refreshing. Prof. V. L. D. Souza, B. A., B. Com. (Lond.) of the Mysore University one who is deeply interested in and intimately connected with village uplift work in India—has written an informative foreword to Prof. Srikantan's smart volume. This interesting and illuminating study of —one of the greatest needs of India from the gifted pen of a distinguished Professor of Economics, deserves to be widely read by all. Prof. Srikantan's entertaining book must be studied with much pleasure and profit by all teachers and students, for it is certainly the best approach to the vast subject about which so much has been written of late.

Rural Reconstruction is just the book for all those who are desirous of making a serious study of village uplift work in India. As an introductory manual, Prof. Srikantan's handbook is decidedly a splendid success. The greatest recommendation of his book lies in the fact that it is lucidly written and with fidelity to truth. It is only through such literature, that people will be able to know at one reading the more salient features of Indian Rural Reconstruction. Ambitious volumes, packed with uninteresting and intensely technical material often fail to impress the layman but Prof. Srikantan's Work is sure to afford good interest and much needed information to all. The author has most ably succeeded in his self-imposed and arduous task of focussing the attention of the reader, on things relating to Rural Reconstruction in India. Prof. Srikantan, it is true, has not propounded any new theory in his book but he has endeavoured to present all the outstanding theories, in a scholarly manner and attractive garb.

This little book has its uses, chief among them the power to stimulate interest in further study of the subject. In an

(*Continued on page 160*)

Statement of the Affairs of the Imperial Bank of India for the 5 weeks in March 1933.

(In thousands of rupees)

Liabilities.	For the week ending 3rd March 1933	10th March 1933	17th March 1933	24th March 1933	31st March 1933
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Subscribed Capital ...	*11,25,00*	*11,25,00*	*11,25,00*	*11,25,00*	*11,25,00*
Capital paid up ...	5,62,50	5,62,50	5,62,50	5,62,50	5,62,50
Reserve	5,17,50	5,17,50	5,17,50	5,17,50	5,17,50
Public deposits ...	6,98,10	6,60,21	6,77,02	7,65,84	11,33,86
Other deposits	75,84,06	76,59,97	76,27,92	74,05,03	71,70,38
Loans against securities *per contra*	...	...	...	...	...
Loans from the Government of India under section 20 of the Paper Currency Act, against Inland Bills discounted and purchased *per contra* ...	...	...	...	...	...
Contingent liabilities ...	...	...	...	...	...
Sundries	1,03,51	1,04,44	1,05,58	1,06,48	1,10,35
Total Rs. ...	94,65,67	95,04,62	94,90,52	93,57,35	94,94,59
The above Balance Sheet includes:	£	£	£	£	£
Deposits in London ...	1,717,900	2,020,200	2,129,300	1,955,900	2,048,000
Advances & Investments in London ...	1,821,300	1,895,100	1,860,900	1,869,600	1,844,400
Cash & balances at other Banks in London ...	93,200	292,000	449,400	203,600	275,800
Percentage ...	26.11	24.94	25.45	28.85	31.42
Bank Rate ...	3½%	3½%	3½%	3½%	3½%

Assets.	For the week ending 3rd March 1933	10th March 1933	17th March 1933	24th March 1933	31st March 1933
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Government Securities ...	35,20,61	33,77,44	34,54,34	37,17,45	37,08,37
Other authorised Securities under the Act ...	1,34,17	1,30,58	1,30,31	1,30,17	1,29,41
Ways and Means Advances to the Government of India ...	6,00,00	8,00,00	7,00,00	3,00,00	...
Loans	6,45,68	6,32,18	6,36,07	3,60,23	3,28,93
Cash Credits	17,97,52	18,25,68	18,00,11	18,43,72	19,55,27
Inland Bills discounted and purchased ...	2,27,93	2,63,21	2,40,11	2,58,37	3,55,53
Foreign Bills discounted and purchased ...	25,17	22,81	28,36	33,30	27,29
Bullion	...	...	...	...	...
Dead Stock	2,61,54	2,61,59	2,61,61	2,61,62	2,61,69
Liability of constituents for contingent liabilities *per contra*	...	...	...	...	...
Sundries	51,08	50,90	39,16	37,19	47,69
Balance with other Banks ...	12,07	38,47	59,48	26,86	36,39
	72,75,77	74,02,86	73,49,55	69,68,91	68,50,57
Cash	21,89,90	21,01,76	21,40,97	23,88,44	26,44,02
Total Rs. ...	94,65,67	95,04,62	94,90,52	93,57,35	94,94,59

Statement of the Affairs of the Imperial Bank of India for the 5 weeks in March 1933.

(In thousands of rupees)

Liabilities.	For the week ending 3rd March 1933	10th March 1933	17th March 1933	24th March 1933	31st March 1933
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Subscribed Capital ...	*11,25,00*	*11,25,00*	*11,25,00*	*11,25,00*	*11,25,00*
Capital paid up ...	5,62,50	5,62,50	5,62,50	5,62,50	5,62,50
Reserve	5,17,50	5,17,50	5,17,50	5,17,50	5,17,50
Public deposits ...	6,98,10	6,60,21	6,77,02	7,65,84	11,33,86
Other deposits	75,84,06	76,59,97	76,27,92	74,05,03	71,70,38
Loans against securities *per contra*	...	...	...	...	...
Loans from the Government of India under section 20 of the Paper Currency Act, against Inland Bills discounted and purchased *per contra* ...	...	...	...	...	...
Contingent liabilities ...	...	...	...	...	...
Sundries	1,03,51	1,04,44	1,05,58	1,06,48	1,10,35
Total Rs. ...	94,65,67	95,04,62	94,90,52	93,57,35	94,94,59
The above Balance Sheet includes:	£	£	£	£	£
Deposits in London ...	1,717,900	2,020,200	2,129,300	1,955,900	2,048,000
Advances & Investments in London ...	1,821,300	1,895,100	1,860,900	1,869,600	1,844,400
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Bank Rate ...	3½%	3½%	3½%	3½%	3½%

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Government Securities ...	35,20,61	33,77,41	34,54,34	37,17,45	37,08,37
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Foreign Bills discounted and purchased ...	25,17	22,81	28,36	33,30	27,29
Bullion	...	...	...	...	...
Dead Stock	2,61,54	2,61,59	2,61,61	2,61,62	2,61,69
Liability of constituents for contingent liabilities *per contra*	...	...	...	...	...
Sundries	51,08	50,90	39,16	37,19	47,69
Balance with other Banks ...	12,07	38,47	59,48	26,86	36,39
	72,75,77	74,02,86	73,49,55	69,68,91	68,50,57
Cash	21,89,90	21,01,76	21,40,97	23,88,44	26,44,02
Total Rs. ...	94,65,67	95,04,62	94,90,52	93,57,35	94,94,59

attractive tabloid form he has pictured vividly and appealingly, the great problem in all its phases. Prof. Srikantan's book has a value out of all proportion to its modest form. It is a masterly exposition, in clear, correct and convincing terms, of the extremely vital theme. As an honest approach and delightful introduction to the study of Rural Reconstruction in India, Prof. Srikantan's book must easily take the first place.

(K. P. P. Tampy)

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Edited by

Dr. Arthur R. S. Roy, Bombay.

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The Three Allies of Indian Commerce.

At the opening ceremony of the All-India Swadeshi Exhibition at Conjeevaram on the 1st instant, Mr. A. Renganatha Mudaliar, M.L.C., is reported to have observed that "any amount of political freedom would be of no use without economic freedom" and we heartily agree with him in his statement which we would immediately characterise as a sane advice to those who are engaged or otherwise interested in trade and commerce of the country. Though political freedom is no doubt essential, as without it the best of results cannot be obtained, yet political freedom alone and of itself, without the necessary adjunct of economic freedom is of little or no practical use. But there are some important problems connected with the trade and commerce of the country that could be tackled efficiently and good results obtained, even in the present state of political freedom that India has, towards making her economically self-contained so far as her commerce is concerned. Hence we shall now examine for awhile whether India, our motherland, is autonomous in the proper sense of the term in the needs of her commerce.

A critical examination of India's commerce should reveal how unfortunate she is, in having to depend upon foreign concerns for the three important allied industries, namely, Finance, Insurance and Transport. Any country to boast herself as being autonomous in her commerce, must have the above three allied industries in the hands of her own nationals, and without them, her commerce, however voluminous its annual figures may be, is not productive of best results. If this is true, how striking it must be, if one is made to know that India having as it does one-fifth of the human race in the world and having a volume of trade to the extent of Rs. 700 to Rs. 800 crores per annum, should be losing a national income likely to be obtained to the extent of Rs. 20 crores, if she can we would suggest that the proposed Exchange Bank of India Ltd., should have a paid up capital equal to that and the reserves of the Imperial Bank of India, say Rs. 10 crores, though fifteen crores would be quite welcome. It is only with this amount of capital and other resources that could be secured through the banking capital in its actual working, it could do full justice to the national interests in the matter of financing the exports and imports of the country. The head-office of this concern should preferably be at Bombay and branches should be opened at all the important sea-port towns of India and at important commercial centres of the world that have business relationship with India. If at present foreign Exchange Banks are being used for this purpose, it is to a great extent due to want of facilities offered by Indian banks in the foreign exchange line and that our Indian merchants, both exporters and importers, who have to depend for their finance on these foreign exchange banks, have of necessity to prefer foreign Insurance and Steamer companies, without which they find it rather difficult to obtain the necessary financial accommodation. So to render the best and efficient service to business-men, an All-India Insurance Co., with a paid-up capital of a like sum as that the Exchange Bank is an absolute necessity and its formation should no longer be postponed. Thirdly, a Ship Building Co., also, is urgently required and it would be in the fitness of things if it is soon formed with a capital of about Rs. 15 to Rs. 20 crores and a fleet of vessels are provided for carrying the exports and imports of our country in our own bottoms. By this new industry the nation will be greatly benefited and it will encourage the trade in timber and other ship-building materials and offer employment for thousands of workmen and educated young men in the country as Masters, Engineers etc. It is only by organising these three important industries on purely national lines, India can, we believe, obtain her economic freedom. With the highly encouraging results obtained within the short space of about 20 months, from the country-wide propaganda carried on by the 'Buy Indian League' a spirit of swadeshism has been enkindled in an appreciably large measure in the minds of all and with such good omens and practical results coupled with fast approaching political reforms, India should have a good future and will not be wrong in her expectations to secure a good support for these three national concerns from her businessmen so as to make her commerce self-contained in every respect. No better opportunity than the present time, with money cheap and abundant, can be had to float and organise such gigantic national concerns requiring large capitals. Provided business magnates like Thakurdas, Sethna, Hirachand and others of all-India—nay even international—fame noted for their financial and business acumen, float these enterprises under their own personal management, we are quite confident that the required capitals will be subscribed in no time. Will they and others ponder over these suggestions and see that Indian commerce is provided at an early date with the three above-named important adjuncts and thus made to secure her economic freedom ?

Anarchy in Transport or the Road Railway Competition.

BY

K. S. SRIKANTAN, ESQ., M.A, F. R. Econ. S. (London).

Our interest in this problem arises from the fact that we are just on the threshold of a similar difficulty, to solve which we just had a Road Railway Conference. Anarchy in Transport is perhaps the briefest and the most significant expression to indicate the existing chaos in the means of transport in the United Kingdom and America. The problem, let me hasten to point out. is not, however any lack of transport facilities, but the existence of more facilities than are wanted, resulting in an unhealthy competition between Railways and Roads, both of which connect most places, the choice has become difficult. The automobiles are well on the way to outwit the Railways. Providing sometimes the same convenience and safety as the Railways, the automobiles are also able to carry passengers and goods for a smaller remuneration. The Railways, on the other hand, have been seriously handicapped in their efforts to preserve and improve their traffic by the inequality of the conditions governing the transports. Since their inauguration, the Railways have been the object of much legislation on the subject of precaution to be taken in the interests of safety, conditions of transport, the right to establish rates and the publication of tariffs. "So long as the railways had a virtual monopoly, the legislation was quite justified. But the preservation of this legislation at the present time in the face of severe competition, has resulted in a differential advantage to other means of transport. particularly, the automobiles. The result is that the Railways which have heavy expenses notably in the maintenance and improvement of the permanent way—are subject as well to taxation, particularly heavy in certain countries, and to heavy obligation in respect of safety, whereas the automobile undertakings have every liberty in fixing their schedules and their rates as well as in their choice of traffic." They use this liberty to take the cream of the traffic normally remunerative, which leads to the inevitable consequence of obliging the latter, in order to save disaster, to increase, to the great prejudice of general economy, the tariffs now in force upon heavy merchandise, or goods of first necessity. In some countries, the automobiles enjoy some special privileges too, resulting in driving the Railways to the wall.

The readers of this journal need not be told that such an irregular competition, between forms of Surface Transport, is not only unhealthy but positively injurious. This is bound to result in economic crisis and commercial paralysis. It is not therefore a matter to be left unnoticed by the Government. We see therefore, almost all the states making attempts to legislate on the matter. The U. S. A. set up some time back a joint committee, to discuss problems common to Road and Railway Transport. The committee was composed of six representatives of the Railway Industry, an equal number of representatives of the Road Transport Industry. They have, it is interesting to note, given an unanimous report. Following the U. S. A., a very strong committee was appointed in the United Kingdom, to go into the question under Salter whose valuable report is now the topic under discussion everywhere.

Nor have the other states been keeping quiet. Particularly anxious are those states where the Railways are owned by the State. Before the International Railway Conference held recently, Herr V. Ibl of Czecho-Slovakia, said that his country had gone a step further by refusing concession to any transport undertaking which might compete with the State Railways or postal services. All road transport undertakings, whether passenger or goods, said Ibl, must obtain a concession, which would not be granted if the public did not require it, if the state of the roads did not allow it, and if the State Railway administration had made use of the right of priority by the creation on its own account of a road service fulfilling the object of Concession applied for. Signor G. Ottone, speaking on behalf of Italy said that under a decree recently published in Italy with regard to secondary railways, the Italian Government, had set up the principle of regional union for the administration of all methods of transport, each in a defined area providing the necessary co-ordination, and eliminating the methods of transport recognised as useless. Herr J. Dorpmneller, manager, German National Railways proceeded to explain why in his opinion the monopoly enjoyed formerly should be renewed. According to him, as the Railways assured the safety of the Nation, they should always be given the preference in matters of concession. He urged the necessity for the re-establishment of the monopoly in such a way as to place in the same hands the two methods of transport.

The attempts that are being made in the several countries are enough to show the magnitude of the problem. Ill developed as India is, in regard to her means of transport, she is not in the predicament of facing this problem. But even now she is having symptoms of this disaster. Some of her Railways have begun to suffer a distinct loss on account of the Motor transport. The

report drawn by K. G. Mitchell, road Engineer to the Government of India and Mr. L. H. Kirkness, Director of Establishment, Indian Railway Board, discloses that, as a result of road competition, the Railway annual losses on passenger traffic amounts to approximately £1,400,000 and on the carriage of goods to about £25,000. These losses are enough to open the eyes of the Government of India. She is just beginning to have the problem which is troubling the European States. Wisdom therefore consists in making all efforts to develop both means of transport on a complementary basis. As it is, so far no attempt has been made and it is possible to see numerous buses plying between stations where Railway communications exist. With a view to overthrowing this bus competition, some of the Railway companies are having buses of their own running on Railways. But they have not been able to displace the buses completely. On account of lack of coordination, both are working at a loss. Railway development, being in infancy in India, it is certainly a matter of great concern if its income is reduced. It is therefore absolutely necessary that some attempt at coordination between the two means of transport is made immediately in India. It is certainly a matter of pleasure to see that already efforts are being made to secure a harmonious co-operation of the two means of transport. Extensive as India is, it is no exaggeration to say that there is unlimited scope for the development of both Road and Rail transport. The future of the automobiles, so far as India is concerned is very bright. "Already every year 15,000 Lorries and 9500 cars are coming into the country, that is 24,500 vehicles a year, to say nothing of some 2000 motor bicycles; so we are probably not far out in estimating that there are 160,000 vehicles in all running in India. If we allowed one man per vehicle that would account for the employment of 160,000 men, but the tally does not end there." It is therefore clear that in trying to solve the problem of Road Rail competition, we have to realise that the automobile industry like the Railways has come to stay and to think of destroying it, is to attempt the impossible.

On the other hand, the possibilities of motor transport are immense. The Motor Industry is giving employment to 200,000 of people. But at present the bus traffic is as risky as it is inconvenient. It is no exaggeration to say that the Government regulations on bus traffic has all along been like water passing on duck's back. Unless one has heavily insured his life, it is unwise to travel in a bus in India. Even in a state like Mysore where it is often said there is little to be desired, bus traffic is absolutely inconvenient. The present difficulty is due to the unhealthy tendency among the bus companies to run their vehicles only between the places served by the Railways. It might be tolerated in Europe where Railways have spread to every nook and corner. But here, areas untouched by Railways are

many and motor transport properly used should open up and bring into touch with the Railways large areas hitherto untapped. The scope for motor transport therefore lies in connecting areas hitherto untouched by the Railways and they could also bring in numerous passengers and goods to swell the main river of Railway traffic. How ample the scope is for such development in Motor Transport is clear from the fact that while India is 20 times the size of Great Britain, her Railways having a mileage of 41,000 is only twice that of Great Britain. It is said that Great Britain has a mile of Railway to every 4·4 square miles of area, India to every 45 square miles. How backward we are in the matter of Motor Transport is clear from the following :—

"The U. S. A. has 217 motor vehicles per 1000 of population. Canada 123, France, Great Britain, the Argentine and Denmark all over 30, British Malaya 29½, South Africa 23, New Zealand 13½, Australia 9, India has the least of any country in the world—.5"

But the greatest obstacle to the spread of Motor Transport is the lack of roads. The total mileage of roads in Great Britain is 180,000 miles, while the mileage of India's surfaced roads is only 60,000. This is certainly tragic. It is impossible to think of any kind of development without adequate roads. The report of K. G. Mitchell, bearing in mind the dangers of competition on the one hand, and the need for more roads on the other, wisely recommended that the Railway Companies should operate their own Road services. The report favours the creation of provincial boards of communication which would advise on Road and Railway transport development. It is necessary to point out here that the 'axe", however legitimate its application may be elsewhere, cannot be applied to the development of roads. To do so would be to court eternal depression. The roads are to the State what the nerves are to the body. In spite of the crisis, Italy, America, Jugo-Slavia and even China have extensive schemes on hand. If the Government feels delicate to press the tax payer any more, it can as well launch a Road Loan! Any way, on no account, should road development be given a 'good-bye.' The report recently published have recommended a ten years' programme.

The burden of this article, however, is not so much road development as the creation of an organisation to bring about a co-ordination between the Road and Railway transport. As matters stand now, co-ordination is rendered impossible on account of the Railways being under the control of the Central Government and roads under the Provincial Governments. We would move a great way towards securing this co-operation if Road development is also entrusted to the same body as the Railway development.

Economic Depression in Travancore.

BY

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I.—STATISTICS.

In popular parlance Economic Depression means and includes scarcity of fluid cash necessary to regulate the ordinary transactions among the several units in the Society of man. Not enough money to purchase enough goods, is the best instance of this depression. Equilibrium between goods and money is disturbed to the disadvantage of Money being pushed far into the vanishing lines. In simple terms, Money is prized at too much of a value over Goods. The causes of depression are more artificial than natural. · Economic Distress is the evil of the highly specialised forms of Exchange between the several artificial Credit Tokens and natural food products, involving nice problems in the mathematics of Combinations. Exchange rises and falls even between Credit Tokens *inter se.* Bankruptcy is the demon that sits and rules over the rock bottom depths of Depression. Banking Houses are locked up; Industrial Corporations go into voluntary liquidation. Mahommad Tavghluk's trash of currency tactics is the living instance of colossal financial crash in Indian History. Reparation Committee's incessant labours towards credit adjustments of the Nations are recent illustrations from the aftermaths of the Great War. Moratorium was declared to save the face of the financial world. In our own limited sphere of pecuniary obligations, Administration had to relax the rigour of Demand Notices and vouchsafe deferred payments. Gold Standard, Bullion Reserve, Guilt-edged Securities, Exchange, Conversion, International Credit, Consols, Debentures, Loans, Coinage, Depreciation, Tariffs and a host of collateral problems and propositions, corallaries and deductions are in the heads of Finance Department, in the palm of the Financier, and in the stalls of the Vanity Fair technically called The Money Market. While Buying and Selling Credit is the regular business of the Fair, wailings, lamentations and convulsions of Bankrupts flying breathlessly after Accommodation and Retirement, open the vast vista of cool, collective thought for the disinterested spectator. The controlling Administration has auctioned out the Market to the contracting Financial Ring; and, with extensive view observes the Fair in progress. Eventually, they smell the rat, and cry 'something is rotten in the State of Denmark'. A Birds-eye view of the summed up situation grips them at once with all the inner details. Banking Enquiry Committee, Economic Development Board and Economic Depression Enquiry Committee are instantly constituted to purge the Market off the Money Changers. But they catch the Tartar in The Financier; white wash the whole market and paper the four walls with a glorious Report. Consolidating Treasury Bonds, 6½ per cent. at a discount, guilt-edged, redeemable after so many years are issued. Some Agricultural Enactment hurried through the Legislative House relieves the masses of all their Indebtedness. The panoramic survey of the Financial World has made us guilty of this pretty long preface, incidentally reminding us of the sweating Adam and his spade in the Farm where he welcomes back his brothers returning insolvent after excursions into Commerce and Banking—so succinctly put in the Parable of Tolstoy.

The Statistical Volume of our Dharma Rajiam is reflecting, *mutatis mutandis*, all the essentials of the Money Market prefaced above. The revenue collections of the State invariably in every department, have suffered deficit, the responsibility whereof is thrown at the door of the world-wide Economic Depression. It is instructive to cite the conclusions of the Report from the several folios. "In order to relieve the lower and middle classes of their distress on account of economic depression, one lakh of of rupees was sanctioned for the purpose of granting small loans on applications received in 1106, the maximum limit of a loan to each individual or family being fixed at Rs 200" (p. 34). May we ask all at once if protective measures were taken to see that the loans did not go in the name of good investments to replenish Banking and Loan Companies. Insurance organisations, Chitties and Prize-chit Developments? Customs Revenue speak volumes. Imports fell from Rs. 6,21,161 in 1105 to Rs. 6,15,076 in 1106 or by Rs. 6,085 while export duty rose from Rs. 28,59,552 to Rs. 28,67,681, or by Rs. 8,129. The net receipts fell from Rs.34,14,605 to Rs. 34,07,165 or by Rs. 7,440. Against this has to be set off the increased expenditure of Rs. 6,744. The gross receipts hence run short only by Rs. 696. Is it not obvious that foreign trade has had no tangible effect on the local economic conditions? Money has come into the State through Export trade, rather than gone out of it. Remember that Export Tariff was reduced even, due regard having been shown to Interportal Trade Convention. The fall of receipts under Stamps Rs. 2·41 lakhs, under Registration Rs. 2·65 lakhs, under Land Revenue Rs. 1·07 lakhs, is said to be the natural result of the "economic depression that prevailed during the year". True. But the pressure from without was practically nil.

All the moneys in the State may unhesitatingly be said to have been cornered by 259 Banking and Loan Companies with the paid up working capital of Rs.57,91,685; 55 Insurance Companies, each with about Rs. 500 collections on the average; 10,289 chitties with Rs. 253 lakhs capital and with a volume of business over 6½ crores of rupees annually; Prize-chits with—sorry, figures that have vanished into the thin air. In this connection, it is noteworthy that co-operative societies increased from 1803 to 1818 i. e., by 12 with 221,939 members i.e., about 123 members per society, of Rs. 33·26 lakhs paid up capital. The total working capital of the Societies is Rs. 69·34 lakhs. "Look at this picture, and that"; volume of financial operations by Co-operation against Profit-seeking, Joint Stock and otherwise. Our total population is 5,095,973. Total Earners comprise 1,475,652; working dependants 929,480; non-working dependants 1,687,841. Our statistical volume is eloquent on the details of the Money Market. One small page gives the number of men and women following an occupation: another, the area which raises the principal crops. Statistics tell us that the State is more Industrial than Agricultural; the adjective "Industrious" is, however, significantly lacking. What is the total quantity of paddy cultivated? How much imported? ....Such figures are missing. Economic Development Board has discussed so many subjects of value. Economic Depression Enquiry Committee has called for reliable statistics. The new Dewan has reviewed a previous Administration on second-hand data and is made to say "Travancore has not escaped the effects of the world-wide economic depression!"

Raja Ravi Varma and His Art.

BY

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RAVI VARMA KOIL THAMBURAN was unquestionably the greatest Indian Artist of his day. Even now he is held in great esteem as one of the foremost artists of India, nay, of the world at large. He was the founder of a new school of painting, which at the present day, has many followers. Amidst the glorious galaxy of distinguished personalities of the world who have contributed vastly to the domain of art, that of Raja Ravi Varma looms large. His work awakened deep interest throughout India and his remarkable influence crossed the waters to far off lands. He came to be looked upon as a gifted artist who possessed an exquisite and exalted sense of the true, the sub-lime and the beautiful. In the history of the progress of painting in Travancore, no other name is so famous and arresting as that of Raja Ravi Varma.

RAJA RAVI VARMA.

Kilimanoor Palace has been from days past famous for the art of painting. The male and female members of that illustrious royal house were and are gifted with very high tastes for painting, music and such other Fine Arts. In such a great family of soundly-established traditions, was born the genius, Raja Ravi Varma, the talented artist who won for himself international reputation and made over to his proud motherland a seat of honour in the world of art. It is indeed eminently interesting and immensely gratifying to note that the reputed royal house of Kilimanoor continues to maintain and further its glorious

traditions in painting. The late Raja Ravi Varma's nephew, Mr. K. R. Ravi Varma, is an artist of exceptionally brilliant talents. At the present time in Travancore, Mr. Ravi Varma is the best and unrivalled portrait painter. No less distinguished is the late Artist's son Mr. Rama Varma. He is an artist of outstanding merits and maintains most admirably the traditions of his family. It is reported that he intends starting on a continental tour with a view of exhibiting some of his pictures.

Raja Ravi Varma received his early training at the hands of his learned uncle, Raja Raja Varma Koil Thampuran, who had well developed taste for painting and who won his laurels as the supreme artist in Malabar of the time. His works of art are outstanding for their mastery of all technicalities of painting and fidelity to nature and instinct besides being brimful with life. He was one of the good and godly souls who loved the noble art for its own sake. It must be said with abounding reverence for him, that he was a favourite and devoted votary of the Goddess of Art. As was the usual custom in all the noble and aristocratic families of the age, Raja Ravi Varma while very young was placed under the Family Tutor (*Kula Guru*) to study Sanskrit. The predilections of the youth were in a different line—Drawing, Painting and mastering the classics. He made drawings with charcoal on the walls and floors of the family mansion. His sole attention while a student was upon drawing. The uncle of the youth, Raja Raja Varma, watched his nephew with great pleasure. Young Raja Ravi Varma took his first lessons from his uncle who was a clever master of the brush. Ravi Varma began to portray in eloquent colours, striking scenes from the fabulously rich lore of Hindu Mythology. This was his fertile field of exploration in which he achieved marvellously tremendous success almost unapproached even by the greatest artists of modern times. At this period of his career, Theodore Jensen, an English Painter, eminently skilled in portrait drawing, paid a visit to Travancore. Ravi Varma the young and aspiring artist, was introduced to the English Master, who at once understood the genius of the former. Theodore Jensen for the first time in the life of Ravi Varma, revealed to him the immense possibilities that opened before him with high promises in the realm of oil colours. The meeting with Jensen was a turning point in the career of Ravi Varma who was bound to thrill the world with his immortal and inimitable productions.

Ravi Varma took the fire from Theodore Jensen, the broadminded portrait painter, whose works of art were decidedly of a high order. The ambitious and intelligent youth took to his brush and pigments more interestedly and assiduously with the result that he met with increasing success, which never once went down the scale of great height and glory. To have been young and gifted, to have worked, dreamed and achieved fame, that was the reward of Ravi Varma. The first portraits he painted were those of the members of the royal house. He had as his models the excellent and perfect pictures of Jensen. Ravi Varma's concrete and real studies on canvas were much praised by discerning art critics. Encouragement, willingly and judiciously given, gave the enterprising budding artist great impetus for higher work. Next he entered the domain of imagination where his fine and well-developed genius found ample scope for winning world fame as a master painter of first rate portraits. He won his spurs for the first time and in the midst of keen competition, at the Fine Arts Exhibition of 1873, at which he was honoured with the much coveted Governor's medal. The painting was that of a high class Nair Lady at Toilet. This piece of art showed very great powers in the rising artist and opened the eyes of all. The teeming originality and supreme beauty of the picture which was most true to life gave rise to rapturous sensation in the art circles of South India. Now Raja Ravi Varma was on the road to everlasting fame and fortune smiled on him most graciously. He found a powerful rival in the person of Ramaswamy Naidu of the Madura Naicks who was a clever Painter. At that time Ramaswamy Naidu was at the court as a protege of the First Prince. Naidu was extremely jealous of the young Artist who was fast becoming famous. Ravi Varma often approached Naidu for guidance which of course the envious Artist flatly refused to give. Thereupon Ravi Varma felt wounded and worked with his brush carefully and vigorously. Needless to say ere long Ravi Varma eclipsed his powerful rival and added one more feather to his cap.

His Highness Sree Vishakam Thirunal, Prince among patrons of art and literature, took Ravi Varma under his patronage and provided him with a well furnished studio in a section of the royal palace. Soon he became the friend and companion of the Maharajah. As advised by the Maharajah, Ravi Varma went to Madras and interviewed Lord Hobart, the then Governor. His Excellency felt great pleasure on seeing the young Painter's picture and eulogised it. This picture won for Ravi Varma the Gold Medal. Later on the picture was sent to the Great International Exhibition at Vienna where it was honoured with a Gold Medal and Certificate. Now with all help and recognition from the enlightened ruler of the State, Ravi Varma worked with his brush inspired by overwhelming earnestness. This certainly was a great step. He began to paint classical themes, the celebrated ones. In the next year's Exhibition at Madras. Ravi Varma won the Gold Medal for the picture of a Tamil Lady playing on a Sarabat. This along with a couple of other Paintings were presented to H.M. The King Emperor when His Majesty visited India in 1875 as the Prince of Wales.

The first classical subject he made over to canvas was Sakuntala's Love Epistle to Dushyantha. This brought him the Governor-General's Gold Medal in 1878. The picture was a mighty success and attracted the attention of the Duke of Buckingham who purchased it and adorned his home with the masterpiece. The next year, a life size portrait of the Duke was painted by Ravi Varma for the Government House. This is one of his most successful works and proclaims the genius of the artist. Paintings

of other Governors by distinguished European Artists hang side by side with Raja Ravi Varma's life-like study of the Duke. The Duke was deeply struck with the artistic excellence and life-like nature of the picture. He remarked with great warmth that though he had given no less than eighteen sittings to an eminent European Artist, he had not succeeded in painting such a true likeness of him. At the suggestion of the Maha Rajah, Ravi Varma portrayed Seetha's ordeal of Banishment by Rama. This picture pleased His Highness—himself an art connoisseur of the first water—most. Rajah Sir T. Madhava Row, saw the picture and purchased it immediately. It was placed on exhibition at the Poona Arts Exhibition of 1880 and won the Gaekwar's Gold Medal. Sir James Ferguson, Governor of Bombay saw the charming picture and almost fell in love with it. He wanted to have the portrait but was disappointed on knowing that it belonged to Sir T. Madhava Row and was not for sale. So Sir Ferguson requested Sir T. Madhava Row to get for him another picture of the type. Raja Ravi Varma was asked to produce a replica for the Governor. This was done and Sir James presented the Artist with a costly collection of the Photographs of the English Royal House as a token of appreciation.

In 1885, Raja Ravi Varma was invited to Mysore by His Highness The Maharajah to paint pictures of His Highness and Children. H.H. The Gaekwar of Baroda invited the Artist to his Court in 1888. Ravi Varma spent a couple of years at Baroda, contributing a number of excellent pictures to the Art Gallery of the Palace. The Portraits depict in true, enchanting colours some of the brilliant and picturesque scenes from Hindu Mythology. A fine set of fourteen first-rate Paintings adorn the Palace representing choicest scenes from the Hindu Epics, in all their divine glory and grandeur. The artist undertook an extensive tour throughout North India. In two years he finished the fourteen pictures. They were exhibited at Bombay. The pictures were hugely appreciated and many people wanted to have copies. Sir T. Madhava Rao wanted the popular artist to set up an oleographic press to meet the ever-increasing demands of interested people and to place copies of the pictures within easy reach of all. Ravi Varma's paintings were exhibited at Vienna and won for their author many gold medals and high-sounding encomiums, all of which he fully deserved. Mr. Dara, a European Trader at Alleppey, saw some of Ravi Varma's Paintings, which he sent to America, where they were welcomed most enthusiastically and highly commended by leading Artists and Art critics. In 1892 the famous Indian Portrait Painter sent a set of ten oil Paintings to the Chicago Exhibition. The American Press spoke in glowing terms of the Pictures. Two Medals and a Diploma were awarded to Ravi Varma. In 1900, Their Excellencies Lord and Lady Curzon visited Trivandrum. Ravi Varma had an interview with them. Lady Curzon was presented with two pictures by the gifted Artist. His art was appreciated by their Excellencies. Some time after he was nvited to the court of Udaipur to paint some pictures of the Maharana and four of his renowned ancestors. This work was done most splendidly by Ravi Varma. Maharana Pratap Singh's Painting by Ravi Varma is considered as a masterpiece. Sir Arthur Havelock's picture was painted in 1904 by Raja Ravi Varma for the Madras Government House. Lord Ampthill unveiled the portrait and remarked "there are a few artists of the eminence of Raja Ravi Varma who could perform such a feat so successfully or who would even dare to attempt it." Ravi Varma was honoured with the Kaiseri Hind Gold Medal in 1904. This was the first time when such an honour was done to an Artist. When H.R H. The Prince of Wales came to Madras, the then Governor, invited Ravi Varma and introduced him to the Royal Highness. The talented Artist was invited to Mysore in connection with the visit of H. R. H. and accompanied the royal party as the Court Artist in all Hunting expeditions. Ravi Varma painted scenes from elephant hunts and the camp life in Mysore forests. A number of renowned European Artists who went with the Royal party were favourably struck with the unrivalled genius of Ravi Varma. To give a catalogue of all his paintings and the multitudinous honours awarded to him by Maharajahs, Lords, Emperors, Artists, Art Critics and men of light and leading, is indeed an arduous task. "When righteous men rejoice there is great glory". Lovers of art, right and righteous, rejoiced in the pictures of Raja Ravi Varma, with rapture, ecstasy and sincerity.

It needs to be emphasised most that Raja Ravi Varma had no good training at all in his profession. In spite of that fact, he achieved wonderful success. His inherent genius, immense imagination, and tireless endeavour, so harmoniously blended in one person to make him world famous. His mind, great and noble it no doubt was, was like a fine camera fitted with a powerful lens, loaded with first-rate speed plates and operated by a master craftsman. He remembered many things and events with astounding cleverness and enviable acuteness, even to their minutest details. He was a keen observer and a profound learner. Anything that appeared before his far-seeing eyes, never went out of his prodigious memory. So strong and true it was. He visualised all imaginable themes and accumulated in his brain and heart all forms and shapes and whenever he wanted to draw, he simply transferred them in glorious colours over to the canvas with his heavenly brush. Such was the secret of his success. Raja Ravi Varma was pre-eminently an artist of inspiration and overwhelming creative genius.

Raja Ravi Varma has done for art so much indeed, and it is no exaggeration to say that no one has eclipsed him in his field of action. He was, so to say, the first really noteworthy pioneer in his line. He achieved the highest mission of art, which is "not to copy nature, but to express her, to seize the spirit, the soul and the expression of beings and things." He was a pathfinder of a decidedly novel school of thought in painting, which now boasts of many a distinguished follower and eloquent advocate. Such a splendid institution owes its birth to his genius and its breeding to his whole-hearted and unselfish endeavours. Raja Ravi Varma largely drew from imagination. He conceived forms before him in flesh and blood as the result of his intense study, his deep scholarship and his extreme devotion. All the Puranic heroes and heroines, kings and queens, saints and prophets, politicians and ministers, war-lords and prelates, courtiers and servants, all appeared before him in their true colours. Who but a deeply pious soul could ever dream of such visions, visions that bring forth joy and bliss? Ravi Varma has pictured various scenes depicted in the great epics of Hinduism. All Hindu homes and houses of art-loving people are adorned with hosts of his pictures. The name Raja Ravi Varma is a Bye-word in Malabar. He is revered by all Hindus for it was he who drew for them their ideals. Ravi Varma Pictures are so famous and popular throughout the world.

The wisdom of the late Highness, a great patron of arts and literature, blended with the abilities of Ravi Varma, gave rise to the opening of the Art Gallery in the School of Arts, Trivandrum, which has always focussed all the attention of the art-world that visited Trivandrum. The School of Arts presents a splendid trio of paintings by the pride of our land. They are three Puranic subjects which are unique and of perennial interest. To create better works of art than these is something which could never be accomplished save by such geniuses of the type of Raja Ravi Varma the best known portrait painter. In one, a lovely and enchanting picture—an incarnation of truth, beauty and goodness—Sakuntala with all her sylvan companions is depicted most faithfully and superbly. Sakuntala, the love-sick maiden of sweet attractive grace stands before us as the perfect ideal of pristine charm trying to take off her sole a thorn, but with the real desire of catching a last glimpse of her retreating lover full of amorous airs and desires. The picture is most natural; supremely realistic and eminently captivating. It is in fact, pronounced to be the diadem of his masterpieces. In the portraiture of Sakuntala the artist's genius has found fullest expression. Another portrait represents the pompous, yet pathetic, Court of King Virata where the helpless Droupathi, escaping from the clutches of the devil Keechaka, prostrates before the Assembly in the immediate presence of her husbands the mighty Pandavas, who are incognito. This scene is exceedingly romantic. There is romance, pathos, despair and arrogance in this highly realistic study in oils. The last one exhibits Simhaka, the wickedest of villains, misleading Droupathi. Damayanthi and the Swan is another of his best pictures. She is the most perfect representation of lovely, bashful, amorous maiden in her teens. These beautiful pictures look very well against the walls and shine out with all splendour, which immediately helps and keeps alive the reputation of the artist. They are perpetual monuments of the genius of Raja Ravi Varma.

Raja Ravi Varma is universally known as a master painter of portraits in oil. In his later days he did water colour work also and gained marked skill. All his portraits have bright settings and are remarkable for life, vigour and realism. His conception of beauty was predominantly perfect and even to-day remains a serious problem to most of the artists. For grace, charm and personal elegance, his portraits are without a second. His portraiture of woman is unquestionable. His heroines are characterised by grace of form. Beauty was Religion to Ravi Varma and his pictures are visible manifestations of real beauty. He has expressed emotion which is beyond doubt the life breath of all beauty and art in his pictures. His women are hundred per cent Indian. Some of his masterpieces are Sakuntala, Seetha, Mahalakshmi and Saraswathi—all of which alike are superb ideals of divine beauty and excellence. For exquisite charm in manner and matter these pictures are non-pareil. Even at a very early age he had established his reputation as a sensitive artist of finest imagery and striking originality. In many respects his art is distinctly original and it has been placed on a lofty pedestal higher than any allotted to our present favourites. There is an amazing spontaneity about his paintings. It is the teeming spontaneity of expressing the highest in the most understandable manner. Every keen student of the many-sided creativeness of Raja Ravi Varma will indeed note, both in colour and form, the highly unusual expression of the outstanding individuality of the Master Artist. Verily he was not an orthodox follower of the old and conventional art of the East. Ravi Varma had noteworthy mastery of European Art. He chose Western mediums but his pictures are purely Indian to the very soul. With the powers of the European Art at his command, Ravi Varma created miracles of art. He spent much of his time in studying problems of light and colour, and achieved triumph in this difficult line. With his brilliantly analytical mind he succeeded in producing marvellous works of art. The beautiful light of Ravi Varma not only shone upon the flesh of his portraits but the flesh itself glowed with its own reflected light and in all his paintings there is the glamorous enchanting colour. So alive, so gracious, so lovely, so beautiful and so arresting his portraits are. His art sings with warmth brilliancy, spirit and joyousness of his great gift. The Oriental feeling is best expressed in his art. His masterly studies of the lofty Puranic themes are a valuable contribution to the art of India and has opened the eyes and hearts of many in the noble profession. He has depicted contemporary life in a few of his paintings. He was more influenced by the aristocratical bent and was more concerned with kings and queens and courtiers than the humble folk. He was not a painter of nature, but used nature as back grounds for his portraits. "The creations of Ravi Varma, stand for emotions, eternal and universal. Priceless in themselves they are but vehicles of the mysterious passions that govern life." So wrote an ardent and honest admirer of Ravi Varma.

Raja Ravi Varma's great art has devoted friends and distinct enemies. It is true that one cannot pass his powerful paintings unmoved. They must appeal to

him one way or other. There is a definite and all powerful creativeness and appeal in his paintings which are certainly the best expressions of a new and significant school of Art. One of the important charges levelled against Ravi Varma by the present-day critics is that he did not care for the pure technique of the art and departed far from it. Some critics have remarked that his female characters lack "the innocent purity of the unsipped bosom." Mr. S. Aiyappan Pillai B.A., B.L., in his interesting and stimulating volume on "Ravi Varma and His Art" opines "Ravi Varma worked to please the millions of devotees of India without caring for the pure technique of the art. The average Indian has a craze for colours and tints and flamboyant settings of the various descriptions he is familiar with in his holy writ. Ravi Varma fully satisfied them. In works like *Vinayaka, Sesha Narayana, Sakti etc.* neither context nor emotion is depicted and we are prone to doubt whether they were ever painted by the great Ravi Varma and whether the great Artist understood the elements of proportion, perspective and the like." As it is always with men of real genius, with the development of his powers, came an ever-increasing demand for Ravi Varma's Paintings. Needless to say there was an increase in the output of work. *Painting* after painting followed in quick succession. As is quite natural all did not satisfy every strict requirement of art. A number of Masterpieces of invaluable worth, as well as Paintings with shortcomings were drawn by the dextrous hands of the heaven inspired Artist. Despite his limitations which are but few when compared with great qualities of his art, Raja Ravi Varma still deserves to be regarded as the Father of Modern Indian Art.

This enables us to put our finger at once on the fundamental quality of Raja Ravi Varma's art, just the quality which distinguished him clearly from other artists and gave him a very singular and [illegible] place of honour in the long sequence of the glorious age-long traditions of Painting. He mastered western art and adapted it most successfully and artistically to the life and literature of India with special reference to Hinduism. He stood for the [illegible] of the grand aristocratical style as against the simple back-to-nature style of modern Bengal". His, then, is an art which, in its constant reference to our inspiring Puranic traditions, affords us endless pleasure. His inventive fertility and magnitude of extraordinary gifts contributed to his firm seat of highest honour in the realm of art. Beyond doubt he was a part of the Great Creative Artist from whom he received all inspiration, all intellect, all imagination and everything, which made him an Artist of the first order. He was one of the greatest Poets and Singers of our great motherland, who wrote on canvas and sang in and through them.

Raja Ravi Varma was for the most part of his life at work and hated to be idle. He used to spend the greater part of the year at Bombay supervising the printing of his pictures. *Ravi Varma Pictures* have become very widely-known everywhere.

Their popularity never runs down the scale. His active work naturally undermined his health. This led to a speedier demise. Ravi Varma's fame and prosperity increased by leaps and bounds. And then shadow, deep and black, came into his life and he was snatched away at the zenith of his well-earned fame. Ravi Varma who was a Prince by birth, was possessed of a very pleasing personality which found an easy pass-port into the hearts of all. Always kind and genial, calm and calculating, humble and sincere, noble and loving, liberal and virtuous, Ravi Varma was one of those really great souls on earth who knew the pleasures and rewards of work. One outstanding trait in his character, which indubiably is the best test of truly great men, was that he remained most humble in spite of his fame having extended all over the civilized world. He was a profound Sanskrit scholar. His scholarship stood him in good stead in conceiving before his mental eye the personalities revealed in the great epics of Hinduism. Ravi Varma, the talented Artist, the distinguished scholar and the typical gentleman deserves greatest praise. His fame as Artist, scholar and man will be "an echo and light unto eternity."

Raja Ravi Varma first saw the light of the world on 29th April 1848 and after an eventful life of greatness of the first magnitude, gave up his mortal coil on the 9th October 1906. Though he is gathered to his forefathers, his work lives and will continue to live through all ages with untarnished brilliance and ever increasing importance, always inspiring and eliciting warm-hearted esteem from all genuine and honest-hearted lovers of real Art.

"For love, and beauty and delight,
There is no death nor change; their [might
Exceeds our organs."

The "Auer Dult" in Munich.

Not merely the foreigner, but a good many Germans themselves would, if asked if they had attended a "Dult," counter with a question: What on earth is a "Dult"? For although this institution is some 600 years old, it is purely South German and found now only in Munich.

Once it was an important fair and market, combined with various diversions and amusements, but to-day it has more the character of a "rummage sale," at which one finds the most extraordinary collection of old clothes, furniture, pictures, and second-hand articles of every conceivable description. These "Dulten" (plural) are held three times a year, the May "Dult" in the first week of May, the "Jakobidult" in July, and the third in October. Up to 1806 they were always held on the then meadow outside the Karlstor, but had to move from place to place as the city grew until they finally landed in the suburb of Au, hence the name "Auer Dult".

Here one finds scores of booths and tents, together with Punch and Judy Shows, round-abouts, peepshows, swings and other usual accompaniments of such markets. But not all the wares offered are on the junk order. The lover of antiques will often run across charming articles of furniture of the Biedermeier period, old porcelain, embroideries, paintings and engravings, hand-wrought iron, wood carvings, and other things. But the dealers know the value of these, and the day when one could pick up valuable articles for a song passed long ago. The most promising bargains are in old books. But such a "Dult" is worth visiting merely as an interesting sight.

The etymology of the word is still disputed. It is possible that it comes from the Latin *indultum* (dispensation), for these markets were in ancient days connected with church festivals, at which indulgences or dispensations could be obtained. More probable, however, is the derivation from the old Gothic "dulth," meaning market.

Government of India Notifications.

REGISTRATION OF ACCOUTANTS.

The 3rd June 1933.

No. 1 (5)-T. & E. (R. A.)—The following draft of certain amendments to the Auditor's Certificates Rules, 1932, which it is proposed to make in exercise of the powers conferred by sub-section (2) of section 144 of the Indian Companies Act, 1913 (VII of 1913) is published, as required by the said sub-section, for the information of all persons likely to be affected thereby, and notice is hereby given that the said draft will be taken into consideration on or after the 3rd July 1933.

Any objection or suggestion which may be received from any person with respect to the draft before the aforesaid date will be considered by the Governor-General in Council.

Draft amendments.

(1) For clause (4) of rule 4 of the said Rules the following clause shall be substituted, namely:—

" (4) has been convicted by a competent court, whether within or without British India, of an offence punishable with transportation or imprisonment, unless the offence of which he was convicted has been pardoned, or unless, on an application made by him, the Governor General in Council has by order in this behalf, removed the disability; or".

(2) In sub-rule (1) of rule 14 of the said Rules—

(*i*) at the end of clause (*a*) the word "or" shall be added;

(*ii*) for clause (*b*) the following clause shall be substituted, namely:—

" (*b*) who is found to have been subject at the time of his enrolment or thereafter has become subject to any of the disabilities stated in clauses (1), (2), (3) and (4) of rule 4, or".

(3) In clause (*b*) of rule 22 of the said Rules—

(*i*) after the words "recognised for the purpose by the Governor General in Council" the words and brackets "(hereinafter referred to as a regular certificate)" shall be inserted;

(*ii*) for the proviso the following proviso shall be substituted, namely:—

"Provided that for a period of twelve months after the commencement of these rules a certificate of attendance for one academic year at an institution recognised by the Accountancy Diploma Board, Bombay (hereinafter referred to as a substituted certificate) shall be accepted as equivalent to a regular certificate, and that a candidate thus allowed to appear at the initial First Examination by virtue of a substituted certificate shall not be ineligible for admission to any subsequent First Examination by reason only of the fact that he is not in a position to produce a regular certificate, or".

(4) To clause (*b*) of rule 25 of the said Rules, the following words shall be added, namely:—

"or is exempt from service under articles".

(5) In sub-rule (2) of rule 38 of the said Rules for the words "seven years and" the words "seven years or" shall be substituted.

(6) In rule 55 of the said Rules—

for clause (*a*) the following clause shall be substituted, namely :—

" (*a*) if he is found to have been subject at the time of his appointment to the Board or thereafter has become subject to any of the disabilities stated in clauses (1), (2), (3) and (4) of rule 4, or".

T. A. STEWART,

Offg. Secy. to the Govt. of India.

Tariffs.

A Commerce Department communique states:—

In the communique issued on the 25th of July 1932, the Government of India announced their intention to refer to the Tariff Board the question whether, as a result of the depreciation of the Yen, the imposition of additional duties on cotton piece-goods, not of British manufacture, under the powers conferred by Section 3 (5) of the Indian Tariff Act was necessary. A summary enquiry was held by the Board and, after the consideration of its recommendations by the Government of India, the duties on plain grey goods were raised, as an emergency measure, from 4⅜ annas per lb. or 31¼ per cent *ad valorem*, whichever was higher, to 5¼ annas per lb. and 50 per cent *ad valorem* respectively. At the same time, the *ad valorem* rate on cotton piecegoods other than plain greys was raised from 31¼ to 50 per cent *ad valorem*—these increases taking effect from the 30th of August. These rates were calculated on the basis of an exchange of Rs. 106 to 100 Yen. The exchange value of the Yen however continued to decline, and from Rs. 106 at the beginning of August, fell to Rs. 83 towards the end of November last. The Government of India, however, refrained from making immediate further revisions of the duties to keep pace with these successive falls, partly out of a desire to avoid frequent revisions of tariff, with their disturbing effect on trade, but mainly in the expectation of the comparatively early adjustment of internal prices and cost in Japan to the depreciated currency, which would render unnecessary a further increase of the duty. That expectation has however failed to materialise, and although the Japanese exchange has remained in the neighbourhood of Rs. 82 per 100 Yen, during the past six months, the import of Japanese goods has continued on a large scale at prices which justify substantially higher rates of duties than those actually imposed in August 1932.

The Government of India have endeavoured to avoid taking any premature or precipitate action, but are now compelled to take steps to make the protection already granted to the cotton textile industry effective. The Government of India have therefore decided that a further increase in the emergency duties on cotton piece-goods, referred to above, is called for, and they propose to increase the minimum specific duty on plain greys from 5¼ annas to 6¾ annas per lb. and the *ad valorem* rate from 50 per cent to 75 per cent. A notification to this effect under Section 3 (5) of Indian Tariff Act will be issued in a Gazette Extraordinary on the 7th June.

The pressure of Japanese competition is not confined to the cotton textile industry. A very large number of Indian industries has been affected and it was found necessary to pass the Safeguarding of Industries Act early this year, as a temporary measure to meet the exceptional conditions. Steps were taken to denounce the Indo-

Japanese Trade Convention, which by virtue of its most-favoured nation clause precluded the operation of this Safeguarding Act in the direction in which it was most necessary. The Government of India desire to make it clear that it was with the utmost reluctance that they took the step of denouncing a commercial engagement, and that it was only the vital necessity of protecting the indigenous industries, in circumstances of exceptional competition, which forced them to do so. It has been suggested that an alternative line of action should be explored, namely, that of negotiation with a view to a settlement with Japan. The Government of India desire to say that they are prepared at any time to enter upon discussions with a view to a mutually satisfactory solution of the problems of Indo-Japanese trade. But pending the conclusion of such a settlement, they feel it incumbent on them to take such steps as lie within their powers to safeguard Indian industries.

TEXT OF NOTIFICATION.

In exercise of the powers conferred by sub-section (5) of section 3 of the Indian Tariff Act, 1894 (VIII of 1894) and in supersession of the notification of the Government of India in the Department of Commerce No. 341-T (164) dated the 30th August 1932, as amended by Notification No. 341-T (5) /33 dated the 31st March, 1933, the Governor-General-in-Council is pleased to increase the duty chargeable under Part VII of the Second Schedule to the said Act on the articles specified in the annexed table to the extent set forth therein.

Article with number of entry in part VII of the second schedule under which duty is chargeable.	Present Rate of duty.	Increased Rate.
158. Cotton Piece—goods (other than tents of not more than nine yards in length)		
(A) Plain grey that is not bleached or dyed in the piece, if imported in pieces, which either are without woven headings or contain any length of more than nine yards which is not divided by transverse woven heading.—Not of British manufacture.	5¼ as. per lb.	6½ as per lb.
(B) Others—Not of British manufacture.	50 per cent.	75 per cent.

Mr. S. N. Pochkanwala on Reserve Bank.

An Associated Press Message of Simla dated June 3, states as follows :—

"It is not so much the constitution of the Reserve Bank as its relationship with the other Banks in India that is of the greatest importance in considering any scheme for a central bank, declared Mr. Pochkanwala, Managing Director of the Central Bank of India who is on a short visit to Simla. He said: "At present we have no scheme to go upon. But if the thread is taken up from where it was left by Sir Basil Blackett then it is time that the Indian delegates to the Reserve Bank Conference were warned of the positive dangers in that scheme."

"That Bill proposed to make the Imperial Bank the agent of the Reserve Bank. If this happens, the position of the indigenous banks would become worse than what it is to-day. All the banks would be required to keep certain deposits with the Reserve Bank who would, in its turn, allow the Imperial Bank to keep about 3 crores of its money free of interest. Besides, the Imperial Bank would no longer have the restrictions that are placed at present in the sphere of competition with commercial banks and would enjoy not only the prestige attaching to a Government banker but also the benefit of the free money deposited by the Reserve Bank which will represent largely the money deposited by the other Banks with the Reserve Bank. This position would be intolerable as it would enable the Imperial Bank to compete on most unfair terms.

"The solution to my mind is easy. Let the Imperial Bank be split into the three Presidency Banks from which it grew, and a part of its capital can be invested by the shareholders in buying shares in the Reserve Bank. This transition can be effected without difficulty and should, in fact, strengthen the banking position of the country, by promoting healthy competition on fair basis.

"With the Reserve Bank constituted in its true sense as a Bankers' Bank and a currency and credit authority, we should expect the Bank to pursue a national policy, which means that law should make it possible for the Bank to show some indulgence to indigenous banks. There are two directions in which this can be done. Firstly, in regard to the requirement of deposits by Banks in cash. Secondly, in the matter of discounting Bills. In the latter case, for instance, it could be emphasised that Bills should be discounted, say, up to 50 per cent of the paid up capital and reserves of a bank applying for accommodation. In a country where the smallest rumour may cause a serious run on a bank, a sympathetic handling of the situation by the Reserve Bank would be of the greatest importance to the indigenous banks.

"As regards management and direction of the Bank, it can be left to the Managing Governor and to a Directorate. But a Council of Experts must be associated with the Managing Governor. This Council must consist of experts who would be paid proper salaries. The Directorate will consist of men whose knowledge and other pre-occupations would make it difficult for them to interpret events in terms of their intrinsic financial and economic bearing on the larger interests of the country. The Council of Experts would provide this asset. The Federal Reserve Bank of America is a standing example of how the assistance of such experts has been able to safeguard the Federal resources from being misdirected or misapplied. In fact, no Finance Minister or Financial Adviser to the Viceroy or Managing Governor would dare take a step on his own responsibility unless he feels sure that he would carry with him the approval of such a Council of experts. We need British co-operation and help especially in the sphere of our international operations; we need in national interests a Reserve Bank at an early date. Let us then evolve a scheme which will avert the dangers felt genuinely by Indian bankers and financiers. There is limitless capital in India ready to be mobilized, but it cannot be attracted into modern banking channels unless confidence is created in the success of indigenous banks. And this confidence cannot be had until the Reserve Bank is ready to lend its weight and support to all banks alike which are run on sound principles. But if the Imperial Bank is given the position envisaged by the Blackett scheme, then banking development in India would be definitely retarded and the delegates who would be a party to such a transaction would be doing an irreparable damage to the cause of India's advancement, politically, financially and industrially.

"Mr. Pochkanwala is writing a memorandum on the position of Indian banks which he will shortly forward to the delegates in London to enable them to have full appreciation of the factors that will determine the success of the Reserve Bank Scheme."

Will Japan Boycott?

BY

J. S. PONNIAH, ESQ., M.A., Dip. Econ.

The topic of the hour is the relationship between India and Japan and the possible repercussions on both countries as the result of the former's tariff wall against the manufactured goods of the latter and the latter's threatened boycott of the raw cotton of the former.

The Bombay Mill-owners have complacently asserted that the threat is a mere bluff and that Japan cannot do without the cheap Indian cotton. Her mills have been specially built and adopted for spinning coarse goods and the short-stapled Indian cotton has been found extremely suitable. Can Japan afford to do without our cotton?

According to a recent Reuter's cable, the Japanese Cotton Spinners' Federation has already prepared to substitute cheaper grades of American cotton together with some Chinese and evolve a new mixture with a new technique for the elimination of the Indian product.

This is not a mere bluff. It is within the realm of practicability. Our agriculturists have every reason to be anxious for their Rs. 20 crores worth of raw cotton now exported to Japan. Further, there are alternative sources of supply for Japan. Korea and the new State of Manchukuo have vast arable land suitable for the production of cotton to the extent of 1,200,000 bales, very nearly half of the total production of India. Manchukuo has rightly been styled as a land of cotton. These are sources of supply of cotton at her very doors. Furthermore, she could import from the United States of America. She has been steadily increasing her import of American and Egyptian cotton as will be seen from the following table:

Year.		America.	Egypt.
1912	—	395,000 bales	22,000 bales
1913	—	425,000 „	16,000 „
1920	—	709,000 „	21,000 „
1926	—	882,000 „	35,000 „
1927	—	1,132,000 „	46,000 „
1929	—	1,100,000 „	40,000 „

The Japanese mills need not close down for lack of raw cotton. There is a super-abundant supply of this raw material in the world markets to-day. Japan may have to pay an enhanced price, but she can have cotton anywhere and there can be no doubt about the success of her boycott of Indian cotton. But the whole question is

"Where will Japan market her goods ?" At present, India takes full one-third of the cotton goods manufactured by Japan.

Country of destination.	6 months ended June 30. (in 1000 sq. yds.) 1929	1930	1931
British India ...	266,319	255,834	189,697
China	252,043	237,034	136,217
Netherlands East Indies ...	105,807	81,401	88,972
Egypt	56,054	43,458	59,381
Hong Kong	37,801	47,962	33,444
Kwantung Province ...	33,712	25,849	18,370
British Malaya	13,707	18,825	21,178
Philippine Islands ...	14,119	16,379	20,091
	779,562	726,742	567,350

Since India takes ⅓ of Japanese goods, the problem that faces Japan is to find an alternative market. All the wide world over there are higher tariff barriers more difficult to surmount than the Indian. Surely, to this extent of ⅓ of her present production, Japanese mills will have to be scrapped, if Japan boycotts and we retaliate.

Nay! worse. If the boycott threat materialises her other industries, silk, wool, iron, steel and several others would be threatened very seriously if we organise an intense and nation-wide propaganda as the Congress did during the civil disobedience movement against the British goods. Is Japan prepared to such a crisis ?

What of the loss to our agriculturists? Prices would slump for the time being; but reduction of acreage and substitution of other crops is a comparatively easier solution than the scrapping of machinery that Japan has to face.

The Indian mill industry will have an era of prosperity owing to cheaper raw materials and wider markets for the finished goods.

Government Technical Examinations.

April 1933.

SHORTHAND.

HIGHER GRADE—FIRST PAPER.

Time for dictation—Ten minutes.

Time allowed to the candidates for transcription—Two hours.

INSTRUCTIONS TO THE SUPERINTENDENT.

1. *The following passage is to be dictated to the candidates* ONCE ONLY, *in a loud and a distinct voice, no word or phrase being repeated and no punctuation stops mentioned.*

2. *The passage is to be dictated at the rate of 120 words a minute. It is marked into portions of one minute's duration, and each of these is subdivided into quarters. The reader will read with a watch in his hand and notice at every quarter minute whether he is strictly adhering to speed.*

3. *As soon as the dictation is over, the candidates should be told to transcribe into longhand what they have written. At the end of the time allowed for transcription, both their shorthand and longhand performances should be given up to the Superintendent.*

4. *Before commencing dictation the candidates should be told that they should take down the following passage in the reporting style of phonography.*

5. *They should also be informed that no candidate will be allowed to pass who makes more than 4 per cent of errors or omissions in his transcription.*

His Lordship, in a lengthy judgment, affirmed the award of an arbitrator in a special case stated in a dispute between insured motor-car owners and an insurance company. The | point of the case was whether a provision in each of two insurance policies that the insurers would not be liable in the event of the damage being covered by | | another insurance had the effect of making the insured unable to recover under either policy.

Mr. Justice Rowlatt, in giving judgment said that in the motor-car policy issued by | | | the respondents, the Road Transport Company, to Mr. Justin Weddell, clause 4 and section 2 were material. The claimant's brother, Mr. Laurence Weddell, while driving the insured car with the (1) claimant's consent, had an accident, and the claimant made the request referred to in section 2.

The brother also had a car, in respect of which he held a policy | of the Cornhill Company, which contained the following provision. (His Lordship read section 50 of the second policy, and continued.) The policy contained no rateable proportion clause. The question was | | as to the position between the claimant and the respondents, the Road Transport Company. The brother could not recover against the Cornhill Company because he omitted to give notice within | | | three days, which by his policy was a condition precedent to liability.

The arbitrator held that the Road Transport Company was liable, but by reason of clause 4 only for (2) a rateable proportion, treating the Cornhill policy as being "another existing insurance within clause 4. For the claimant it was argued before him (His Lordship) that he was entitled to | recover in full and the first point made was that the Cornhill policy was not another existing insurance," because owing to the omission to give notice of the accident liability | | under it could not be enforced. That was too obviously unsound to require further notice. The position was to be regarded before the time for giving the notice expired.

The | | | second point made was that the Road Transport Company was liable notwithstanding the proviso relating to collateral insurance, but only on the footing that, according to the decision of Mr. (3) Justice Roche in Gale *versus* Motor Union Insurance Company, Limited, that proviso was cut down by the operation of the rateable proportion clause, and that the Cornhill Company were not | liable because in their case there was no rateable proportion clause. Therefore, the argument concluded, the Road Transport Company being alone liable there was no "other existing insurance," and they | | were liable in full.

It was to be borne in mind that the risk covered by the clause as to a relative or friend was an extension of the scope | | | of the policy. It gave protection to a person other than the assured. So, too, the clause in the Cornhill policy covering the assured when driving a car not belonging (4) to him was an extension of the primary purpose of the policy, which was to cover risks to and in connexion with a particular car or cars mentioned in the | schedule. The general purpose of the proviso seemed to be to make such extensions operate only as secondary cover available only in the absence of other insurance regarded as primary, | | not including, it would be supposed, other insurance also of a secondary character.

It was unreasonable to suppose that it was intended that clauses such as that should cancel each | | | other (by neglecting in each case the proviso in the other policy), with the result that, on the ground in each case that the loss was covered elsewhere, it was (5) covered nowhere. On the contrary, the reasonable construction was to exclude from the category of co-existing cover any cover which was expressed to be itself cancelled by such co-existence, and | to hold in such cases that both companies were liable, subject of course in both or either case to any rateable proportion clause which there might be.

In other words, | | it was true to say that the relative or friend was "not entitled to indemnity under any other policy" within the meaning of the Road Transport policy, and not "afforded | | | indemnity by any other insurance" within the meaning of the Cornhill policy, when the other policy negatived liability where there were two policies. At that point the process must cease. (6) If one proceeded to apply the same argument to the other policy and let that react on the policy under construction one would of course, reach the absurd result that | whichever policy one looked at, it was always the other one which was effective.

In those circumstances, he came to the conclusion that the Cornhill Company (apart from the omission | | to give the notice) was liable, notwithstanding that their policy contained no rateable proportion clause, and he confirmed the decision of the arbitrator. It did not escape him that in | | | the result the Cornhill policy was disregarded for the purpose of section 2, but not for the purpose of clause 4. The considerations applicable in each case were, however, different (7).

HOUSE OF COMMONS,
November 5th.

SIR,

Mr. Speaker has appealed to Members of Parliament not excluding Ministers, to curb their loquacity. The appeal is opportune. Most of the two hundred | new members who come fresh from the electors with points of view to put before the house must remain mute inglorious spectators unless we change our ways. In these circumstances | | may I recall in your columns two suggestions which I put forward three years ago and which there will be no early opportunity of repeating on the floor of the | | | House?

In the first place let the loquacious members and the whole House be made aware of the extent of his loquacity. Let Hanzard note the time of his uprising. (8) This is done in transient fashion on the 'ticker' in the smoking and dining rooms. It is done also on the informal and unpublished record of business which is kept | by the door keeper. If done also in the official record any conviction of loquacity stands before the world and especially gives excluded members the means to apply that gentle private | | pressure upon the offender which counts for so much in Parliamentary life.

In the main speakers fall into two categories the great body of members in the general class and | | | the special class of Ministers, ex-Ministers and experts whom the House would wish to hear without restraint as to time. Let Mr. Speaker and the chairmen of committees encourage intending (9) speakers in the general class to have their names entered on a fifteen or even ten-minute list. No one would wish to hamper the freedom of the occupant of | the chair to choose whom he thinks fit and when he thinks fit. But within that freedom and in the general class the ten-minute men might be given preference | | over men of unlimited words. At least twice as many men would have the chance of speaking, and, as they would have to cut out superfluous preludes and percrations, their | | | real points would emerge with precision and effect.

Experienced parliamentarians can recall many occasions when the public interests have suffered from an unnecessary restriction of debate.

Yours faithfully,
PERCY HURD. (10)

Government Technical Examinations.

April 1933.

SHORTHAND.

LOWER GRADE—FIRST PAPER.

Time for dictation—10 minutes, viz., 7 minutes for the passage and 3 minutes for the letter.
Time allowed to the candidates for transcription—One hour and a half.

INSTRUCTIONS TO THE SUPERINTENDENT.

1. The following passages are to be dictated to the candidates ONCE ONLY *in a loud and distinct voice, no word or phrase being repeated and no punctuation stops mentioned.*

2. The passages are to be dictated at the rate of 80 words a minute. They are marked into portions of one minute's duration, and each of these is subdivided into quarters. The reader will read with a watch in hand and notice at every quarter minute whether he is strictly adhering to the speed.

3. Before dictation is commenced the candidates should be told to take down the following passages in the corresponding style of phonography.

4. As soon as the dictation is over, the candidates should be told to transcribe into longhand what they have written.

5. They should also be informed that no candidate will be allowed to pass who makes more than 5 per cent of errors or omissions in his transcription.

6. At the end of the time allowed for transcription, both the shorthand and long hand performances of candidates should be given to the Superintendent.

Sir, I agree with the theories put forward by Mr. Spence just now; but I cannot agree with the definite | proposition in which he suggested they should be given effect to. For what did he propose? He proposed that we | | should keep exactly the same old rates as we have at present in practice; in other words as my Honourable friend, | | |

Mr. Innes, pointed out, we should make no money at all over our letters. I do not think that is (1) sound. I do not believe myself that when we have once given the country back its cherished quarter-anna postcard, | anybody will blame us if we make something over the letters. I believe myself, that knowing that we now have | | to make some sacrifices, the public will not resent our placing an additional burden on the shoulders of those members | | | of the public who use letters. After all it is quite clear that the poor man can no longer be (2) seriously affected. We have heard varying arguments as to the reasons why people use the letter instead of the postcard. | It is stated on the one hand that they use the letter for greater secrecy. Other members have doubted this. | | I fancy that if any body had a secret to impart, or had some highly confidential matter to send to | | | a relative or a friend he would not grudge spending one anna upon it. For what after all is the (3) anna now? Mr. Neogy referred to the arguments used by Government in support of cheap postage in the past. Well, | I claim that one anna now is after all only the equivalent of the half anna of those days. Take | | the country as a whole: in some cases professional incomes have gone up and in other cases wages have gone | | | up; but taking the country as a whole I claim that there is very little difference now between the one (4) anna of to-day and the half-anna of those early and happy days when the old rates of postage | were introduced.

Sir, I have no more to say on the abstract or general aspects of this subject. I only | | appeal in conclusion to the House to consider those administrative difficulties to which Mr. Innes referred. There is no doubt | | | whatever that the public will resent our going back to the half tola postage. I remember the difficulties caused by (5) the half anna system. I remember seeing letters continually coming to my servants surcharged or overcharged: I know the trouble | that people had to take to assure themselves that their letters should be of the exact weight. It is undoubtedly | | harassing to the sender of the letter to have to assure himself that his communication does not exceed the legal | | | weight; it is equally harassing to the recipient to be charged double for it on account of the mistake made (6) by the sender. It will be a mistake to reintroduce a system of that kind. On the other hand, take | what we propose to do; we propose to take a good lump all round weight of $2\frac{1}{2}$ tolas which | | will admit any kind or class of letter. From the administrative point of view, it is an easy solution of | | | all our difficulties. I would ask members to follow me and plump for one anna for $2\frac{1}{2}$ tolas. Cheers (7).

RADHA AMMAL STREET,
MADRAS December 10, 1933.

SIR, To be a freshman at Madras is a thing that | you can only experience once; the first term 'up' will be one of the events by which you will measure, | | in the future, your course of life.

That is one reason why you will want to have a photograph of | | | yourself 'taken the year I went up to Madras.'

Another equally good and pressing reason why you should be photographed (8) without delay is that a portrait is a pleasant and personal form of Christmas gift.

Although your first impulse may | be to deny it, there are sure to be at least two or three people—your mother, your sister, or | | very close friend —who would like very much to have a photograph of you this year.

We have had the | | | pleasure of photographing members of the University for over fifty years, and we are told that our work has always (9) been of the highest class of craftsmanship. Modern ideas and modern equipment have kept it up to date.

Perhaps you | will give this matter consideration, and we will soon hope to have the opportunity of serving you, as we have | | served your predecessors in the University. We can supply photographs mounted or unmounted on postcards or in minature form for | | | placing in lockets. We make a speciality of enlargements, and shall be pleased to execute your orders.

Yours faithfully,
HOPETOWNS (10).

REVIEW.

Vocational Education

BY

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Mr. N. S. Subba Rao, the author of this interesting booklet needs no introduction to the public. If, as Principal of one of the leading colleges in South India, (we mean the Maharaja's College, Mysore) he endeared himself to the students, as the Director of Public Instruction in a model State like Mysore, he has made himself lovable by all the teachers. He is one of the very few officers in the Mysore state whose scholarship and reputation have spread not only beyond the limits of the State but also that of British India. In a word he is to-day a man of international reputation.

The author, as is always characteristic of him, is very modest in his aim. In his own words, this book is merely a starting point for detailed discussion. But, as is often said, the first stroke is half the battle. As a starting point for a study of vocational education, this book is the best in the field. Mr. Subba Rao is one of those who combines in himself an acute knowledge of economic theory and educational practice. He is aware, more than anybody else, of the influence of snobbish democracy on education, as a result of which education has come to mean that which makes a man seem like a gentleman. Many things of little or no utility to the citizen as such are taught in schools with a view to make the scholars genteel.† The greatest controversy in education to-day is between those who favour the cultivation of the individual mind and those who are for the production of a useful citizen. Between Gœthe and James Watt, the pendulam is swinging towards the latter. In the opinion of Mr. Subba Rao, the failure of educational schemes so far planned, has been due not a little to the lack of a proper economic interpretation of the educational needs. He is perfectly right when he says that great care is necessary in giving a vocational bias to our education. "It is not as though we were taking a malleable raw material like steel and converting it into various forms to be used for different purposes. It is with human beings we have to deal, and two difficulties have to be met, or rather, it is a combination of two difficulties which present themselves to one in administration."

It is strange, educational matters should have been felt as a forbidden ground by economists so far. Mr. Subba Rao, is, perhaps, the first educationist who has realised the province of the economist in educational theory and practice. "While certain tracts of the field of vocational educa-

† Betrand Russel—Education and the Social Order.

tion belong to the educationist and the psychologist, there is a large area that is prominently the province of the economist or the leader of industry." Thus he is responsible for pushing to the foreground the subject, Educational Economics. In his opinion any system of vocational education in a country should be planned in terms of its economic needs. To ascertain the economic needs of a country, Mr. Subba Rao suggests the need for conducting economic surveys on the completion of which alone any programme should be chalked out. "The first preliminary, therefore, of educational re-organisation is a careful economic survey of the country, not merely in its static, but also in its dynamic aspects."

Though keen for a vocational bias in our educaional system, the author, being himself a deep scholar, has not closed his eyes to the importance of culture. "Life is more than livelihood and no amount of vocational education can compensate for the denial of culture." The workman, he is anxious, should not have the capacity for culture atrophied by the lack of the essential tools of culture. He is anxious that the pupils trained in vocational schools should not develop a purely 'artisan mentality'.

He suggests the division of the standards and the curricula of studies in a secondary school into two groups based upon the destination of the students, according as it is the university or the technical institution. "The problem of high school organisation is to sort its pupils out and check the growing stream of inappropriate talent towards the arts and professional studies in the universities." He, therefore, postulates a high school course of four years. At the end of the first two years the students may be divided between technical institutions and university examinations. Although this task of selection will be difficult, attempt has to be made in this direction.

The concluding chapters of this book are equally interesting. In the opinion of the author, there is no more time to drift. The immediate necessity in India is a comprehensive scheme of educational expansion to prepare the country for effective participation in the economic revival that is sure to come. Although we cannot agree eye to eye with one or two suggestions of Mr. Subba Rao, there is no doubt about the excellence of this book. Matter and style seem to compete with each other for superior merit. It should find a place in the shelves of all interested in 'educational economics.'

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