

Buy Iran.



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A suggestion has been made to us that in order to make the journal a more effective exponent of the Swadeshi Movement, it would be desirable to convert it into a weekly. On careful consideration, we feel there is considerable force in this suggestion. Arrangements will, therefore, be made to bring out the weekly in the near future; and in its present form this will be the last issue of the "BUY INDIAN" magazine. An announcement will be made in the Press before the commencement of the weekly. Subscribers and advertisers will please note that it is also intended to bring out a "BUY INDIAN" ANNUAL at the time of the second anniversary of the League in March next.

Editor.

Subscribers will kindly note that any amount due to them will be returned in due course.

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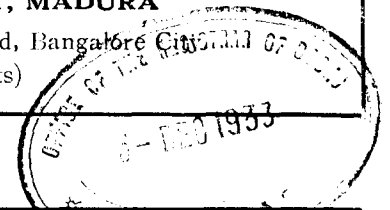
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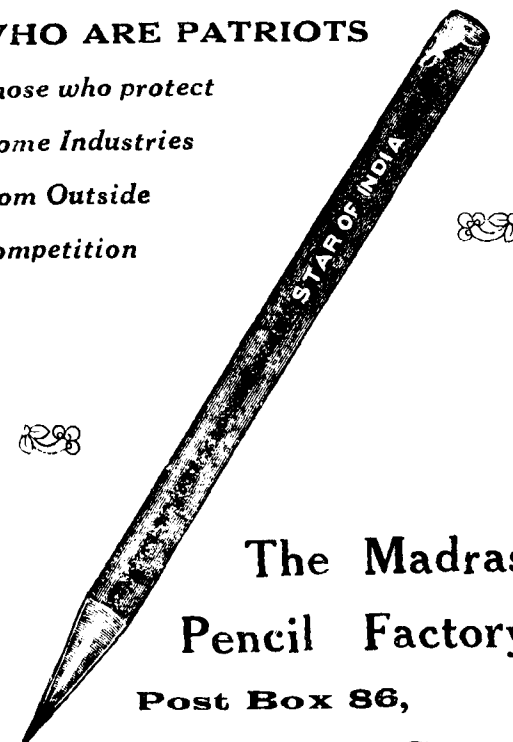
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October 1933.

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The Official Organ of the Buy Indian League.

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All communications with regard to Editorial matters should be addressed to the Editor. Contributions, preferably illustrated, on all subjects coming within the scope of this journal are solicited. A stamped addressed envelope should accompany M. S. S. for its return in the event of its being unsuitable. Communications dealing with Advertising and Distribution matters should be addressed to the Manager.

EDITORIAL COMMENTS

INDIA'S LOSS FROM OTTAWA

The latest returns of the British Board of Trade reveal the disastrous consequences of the Ottawa Pact in the matter of our external trade. Time and again it has been emphasised that there is nothing for us to gain from such Empire preferences and the so called concessions which are only one sided in nature. Those diplomatic agreements while serving no useful purpose for us have proved of the greatest advantage to Britain which has strengthened her position since then in the Indian market. Whereas the total imports from all countries into India fell during the three months ending June 1933, there was a decisive increase in the imports from Britain into this country by no less than four crores, or fourteen per cent. The exports from India into Britain during the same period fell by nine crores or 24 per cent, so that while this country lost its market in Britain by nine crores, the latter strengthened its trade with India by four crores.

This is a dismal state of things which has been forced on us in the teeth of public opinion. The Pact has enabled Britain to recover 'a big slice of its lost trade in India'; but there has not been any corresponding improvement on our side. Besides such undue concessions specially offered to Britain at the expense of our own national interests have made enemies of other countries which are by far the largest purchasers of our raw produce. It is time that the Government of India realised the situation and acted in a manner with a view to the future economic prosperity of our country which is fast disappearing as a result of discriminatory measures, special concessions and valueless pacts.

THE TEXTILE AGREEMENT

One is at a loss to understand Mr. Mody's real intentions in offering such

concessions to Lancashire which are detrimental to the Indian textile industry, and cotton growers in particular. The Agreement which he has entered into with the British Textile Delegation, while giving substantial reduction in the import duty in respect of British goods, makes not the least mention as to the consumption of Indian cotton by Lancashire. The cotton growers, already faced with the menace of Japanese boycott of Indian cotton, look up to the Indian mills as their only Saviour, and it is most unsympathetic indeed that the Mill owners should have left the cotton growers to shift for themselves.

Besides, the Agreement stands self-condemned for various reasons. At a time when the country is utterly against the importation and consumption of foreign goods, especially cotton, why should at all there be any concession which simply tends to increase the importation of foreign stuffs and spell disaster to the Indian textile industry? It is only recently that they had stopped crying bitterly for protection, their industry having been on the verge of ruin. It is a pity indeed that they should so soon have forgotten the lesson they had studied of late (the results of foreign competition and dumping), and acted deliberately or otherwise for reasons which it is difficult to divine. Such concessions are strictly detrimental to India's interests, and should never have been thought of where a policy of 'give and take' is totally absent.

JAPAN'S DUMPING OF RICE

Preposterous indeed is this kind of intrusion in the Indian markets. Japan has just recently sold to this country at considerably cheap rates one consignment of old rice of 7,000 tons—rice which she had purchased from Burma in previous years. Even already rice is here selling at such

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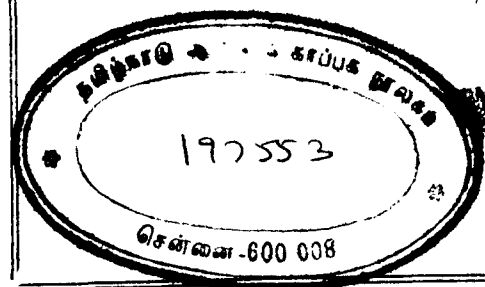
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bottom prices that both the land holders and the agriculturists alike have been driven to a most desperate condition. And this action of Japan has sent prices still further down, and has tended to upset the market. Added to this, there is the report that many more consignments of this sort from Japan are soon to follow. If this kind of dumping is to continue, it will ere long have proved a rider to our utter collapse. To avert such a calamity, the Government of India would do well to place an immediate ban on the imports of rice.

Ours is only a cry in the wilderness. The whole economic edifice of our country is helplessly crumbling down, with its numerous industries and trade—both infant and old—being shattered to pieces by foreign competition, especially by Japan. At such a time as this, when the Indian and Japanese Government delegates are putting their heads together to find out ways and means to foster healthy economic relations between the two countries, this kind of action on the part of Japan is to be deprecated. The Government of India on the other hand allowed them an extension of the Trade Agreement by a further period, which otherwise would have lapsed long ago to our great relief. But Japan is firm and adamant. There still exists the protective duty on pig iron, which since then has found no entrance into Japan; still continues her boycott of Indian cotton, at the same time her textile imports pouring in like anything into our markets; and having a complete embargo on Indian rice, she has of late begun to re-export old Indian rice purchased from us some years back—these are signs of her goodwill to better our mutual economic relations indeed!

"FORWARD" FIGHTING FOR THE UNEMPLOYED

The first practical step in the cause of the unemployed has been taken by the revived nationalist daily, "Forward," which has already thrown open two of its columns free for use for the unemployed young men of Bengal. Every day we find in those two columns well and even highly educated young men offering their services and making enquiries. There has been immediate response from the monied classes and businessmen who come into touch with these young men and help them as far as possible. Such propaganda counts far more than rhetorical writings on the miseries of unemployment. We have had enough of speeches and writings—what we want is action. "Forward" has struck the right path in allowing them such facilities which go a long way in enabling them to start in life.

These two columns bring out in bold relief the necessity for the immediate tackling of the unemployment problem. Young men with enviable degrees offering their services for a paltry sum per month bear ample evidence of their distressful condition. The case is not otherwise in other parts of India. For them closed are the doors of Government offices, factories and firms where drastic retrenchment is the cry of the day. Unlike in other countries, in India there are no statistics available of the number of unemployed. The Government and our Universities have not done anything so far to tackle this problem. The public has realised the seriousness of the situation. A comprehensive remedy is not possible all on a sudden. New avenues of employment should be found out. But in the meanwhile the active co-operation of the press like the one attempt now by "Forward" is necessary.

PROGRESS OF THE MOVEMENT

GANDHIJI'S MESSAGE

Gandhiji sent the following message to the Khadi Bhandar, Nagpur, which was opened by Mrs. Kasturibai Gandhi on October 1st.

"I am glad that the new Bhandar is going to be opened at Nagpur. Crores of representatives of Paridra Narayans can be served through Khaddar. No other activity can be compared with Khadi in this respect. My faith in Khadi is growing stronger with experience."

PANDIT MALAVIYA'S APPEAL

In the course of an appeal for the encouragement of Khaddar, Pandit Malaviya states:—

No service of greater value can be rendered to our people, who dwell in the cottage than to encourage the production and use of khadi by personally wearing it. It should be a matter of patriotic pride to every Indian to wear hand-spun and hand-woven khaddar produced by his own countrymen and countrywomen. It should also be regarded as a religious duty to help our people to earn a pittance by purchasing khadi produced by them.

MR. C. F. ANDREWS ON KHADI

In the course of a message sent to the Secretary, All India Spinners' Association, Tamil Nad, Mr. C. F. Andrews says:—

There is one way above all others by which we may help the poor and that is by the Khadi movement.

APPEAL FOR KHADI

Mr. A. Rangaswami Iyengar, Editor of the "Hindu", has issued the following appeal:—

"May I add my appeal to our countrymen to support Khadi? By doing so, they will be providing work which means food for the villager who is now on half ration because he cannot find work for half the year when he is not employed in the fields. The villager is the backbone of the nation and anything that raises his economic status must merit the earnest attention of the whole nation."

NEW SPINNING CENTRE

A "United Press" message from Cuttack dated October 10, says:—

"With a view to increasing the sale of Khaddar in the province, the Utkal Branch of the A. I. S. A. is going to open one more spinning and weaving centre in the flooded area in accordance with the Orissa Flood Relief Committee which has placed Rs. 1000 at the disposal of the Association for this work."

KHADI BHANDAR OPENED IN NAGPUR

A Khadi Bhandar was opened in Nagpur on Oct. 1st by Mrs. Kasturibai Gandhi, who in the course of a speech, observed that extensive purchases of khadi alone would remove India's poverty. Mira Ben, in the course of a speech in Hindi, said that by purchasing mill cloth they were only enriching the mill-owners, who were exploiting the poor labourers, while every inch of khadi purchased meant food to the farmer and helped to remove his poverty.

KHADI HAWKING IN KARACHI

Khaddar was hawked in Karachi on 2nd Oct. by prominent residents headed by Mr. Jamshed Mehta, Mayor of Karachi. A public meeting was held in the evening when Mr. Mehta and Mr. Purushotham, das Tandon spoke deploring the fact that the sale of khadi had gone down in the Punjab and Sind last year.

KHADI APPEAL

Door to door hawking of Khaddar was extensively carried on in Lucknow during the first week of October. A public meeting was held on the evening of the 2nd October in commemoration of Gandhiji's Birthday, when Mr. Gopi Nath Srivastava put forth a very emphatic plea for khadi. He said that khadi was the only solution for simultaneously solving the two most baffling problems—the country's self-sufficiency of cloth and relieving periodic unemployment of three-fourths of the country's population, that is, the agriculturists.

KHADDAR HAWKING AT AJMER AND JUBBULPUR

In connection with Gandhiji's Birthday Celebrations, khadi was extensively hawked in Ajmer and Jubbulpore on October 2nd.

KHADI PROPAGANDA IN SHIYALI

It is understood that a committee of youths has been formed at Shiyaali to hawk Khadi in the streets and to stimulate public interest in the same.

STUDENTS' KHADI LEAGUE

A "United Press" message from Meerut dated October 9, says:—

The works of the Students' Khadi League exhibition are rapidly progressing. An appeal for funds and workers has been issued. Collections in the College hostels and city are being made vigorously. Invitations to prominent leaders including Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru and Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya have been sent.

STUDENTS TO PREACH KHADI IN VILLAGES

At a well-attended meeting held at Chapra on October 2nd to celebrate the 65th birthday of Gandhiji, Pandit Amar Natha Pandya and many others appealed to the students to go to the villages to popularise khadi.

MEERUT SWADESHI EXHIBITION

The Swadeshi exhibition at Meerut organised by the Students Khadi League was opened on the morning of Friday the 13th October by Sjt. Desabandhu Gupta, a prominent leader of Delhi. The exhibition continued for three days.

KHADI EXHIBITION AT HYDERABAD (SIND)

The Khadi Exhibition arranged in the Holmstead Hall in Hyderabad (Sind) was opened on Wednesday the 3rd Oct. by Mr. Purushothamdas Tandon.

PRABHAT SANGHA KHADI EXHIBITION

The Khadi Exhibition at Chandernagore organised by the Prabhat Sangha continued up to the 8th October and it concluded with a meeting under the presidency of Dr. Pratap Chandra Guha Roy.

KHADI PROPAGANDA AT MADRAS

At a meeting held on the evening of Friday the 6th October Mr. E. Krishna Iyer in the course of his speech on Khadi, pointed out that during the last two years, the sales of Khadi went down considerably due to people going in for mill-made goods but primarily due to their lacking in the "Khadi spirit." Viewed strictly from the economic standpoint, the amount spent upon Khadi remained in the land to provide work and food for the unemployed and the needy. Even the people of America, who were comparatively more well-to-do than the people of India, had now begun to realise the value of a cottage industry such as spinning and weaving; and he substantiated his statement by saying that the Department of Education in New York had itself introduced instruction in spinning in the industrial schools under its management. In an agricultural country like India particularly with a vast population without work for most part of the year, the need was greater, he said, for fostering such a cottage industry and it would be criminal folly for people to ignore the situation. The All India Spinners' Association with branches throughout India, was attending to this kind of constructive work, which required the patronage of all.

KHADDAR PROPAGANDA IN TRICHUR

"It is coarse; be it so. The ancient Hebrews did penance in sack-cloth and ashes. Let us like-wise expiate our national sins by wearing sack-cloth, if not ashes. Let us thus atone for the many sins

against the nation we have so long committed." It is thus that Mr. M. P. Paul, editor of the *Navakeralam*, concluded his vehement plea for the cause of Khadi, at a meeting held at Trichur under the auspices of the local branch of the A. I. S. A. The speaker said, "We love Khaddar for the same reason, why we love our children. We love our children because they are our own."

Miss M. Karthyayani Amma of the A. I. S. A. also spoke on the importance of Khadi from the point of view of national economy, and characterised it as a means of providing food for a few thousands of India's starving workers.

KHADDAR PROPAGANDA AT TIRUPPATHI

According to a correspondent, it is understood that the "moving" khadi stores of Narayanavaram was stationed at Tiruppathi from the 15th to 19th instant. All varieties of Khaddar were exhibited in the Co-Town Bank, Gandhi Road, Tiruppathi. Besides, Khaddar was also hawked from door to door and sold at cost price.

CHARKA DEMONSTRATION AT CALCUTTA

In connection with the 65th birth day celebration of Mahatma Gandhi, there was an impressive charka demonstration at Sradhananda Park on the evening of Monday the 22nd October in the presence of a very large gathering of spinners and other citizens of Calcutta.

TOTAL KHADI SOLD DURING "GANDHI WEEK"

According to reports received at the Central Office of the All India Spinners' Association from all parts of the country, it is understood that the total sales of Khaddar sold during "Gandhi week" which was over on Oct. 8, amounted to Rs. 1,80,000.

KANUMOLU BUY INDIAN LEAGUE

The statement showing the activities of the Buy Indian League, Kanumolu, for the months of August and September has just been received by us. The total sale of Khaddar, spun cotton and blankets for the two months together is, according to the statement, Rs. 135—6—0, and the total amount paid as wages and for purchasing yarn is Rs. 54—7—3. It is very gratifying to note that the League is showing steady progress month after month.

MUTTRA SWADESHI MUSEUM

From a letter published in the *Advance* dated 3rd October, we understand that a Swadeshi Museum has recently been opened at Muttra by the local Swadeshi League. The Museum is intended to give an idea to the public of the indigenous articles that are being produced in this country. Mr. B. M. Chaturved in his letter adds: "In view of the fact that Muttra is one of the most important centres of pilgrimage, people from all over the country pour in

here during the whole year. I hope the manufacturers and dealers in Swadeshi articles will take the advantage of this and kindly send their samples with prices etc., to the Secretary, Swadeshi League, Muttra, for the advertisement of their articles and for the benefit of the public to have an idea as to what all country made productions they can get at present in the country."

THE "INDIAN WAREHOUSE" AT TRICHY

The opening ceremony of a new swadeshi cloth shop named the "Indian Warehouse" at Trichy in the China Bazaar Road opposite the local "Hindu" Agency office was performed by Mr. S. Satyamurti on the evening of Friday the 28th September. Mr. Satyamurti in short speech said that the excuse that finer varieties were not available in Khaddar could no longer be levelled against the manufacturers, as goods were now available to suit all tastes. He appealed to his countrymen to purchase khaddar in preference to mill-made goods. He pointed out that the manufacturers of Indian cloth should cater to the needs of women and children, since it was they who absorbed a fairly large quantity. According to him, foreign made milk-foods should be discarded both from an economic as well as hygienic point of view, and pure Indian milk a much better food, substituted in their place. Besides, we should also encourage local fresh fruits and biscuits instead of tinned ones arriving from foreign countries. Our Indian doctors would do well to do the necessary propaganda in that direction for popularising our natural food stuffs and stopping the importation of artificial and other varieties from foreign countries. In conclusion, he advised the proprietors not to stock any but the most genuine swadeshi articles and also requested them to sell them cheaply and at a uniform rate.

ALL-INDIA SWADESHI SANGHA

Under instructions from Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya, the headquarters of the All-India Swadeshi Sangha has been transferred from Benares to Bombay, and that its affairs in future will be administered from Bombay with the help of Mrs. Lilavathi K. Munshi and Mr. Vaikunth L. Mehta as Joint Secretaries.

The Secretaries request All Swadeshi Sabhas, Buy Indian Leagues and similar bodies to communicate their progress, etc., to the Hon. Secretaries, All-India Swadeshi Sangha, Swadeshi Market, Kalbadevi, Bombay (2).

SCOUTS AND SWADESHI

Sixty boy scouts of the Seva Samiti Boy Scouts Association, and others from Mylapore and Triplicane, Madras, carried on Swadeshi propaganda in the city during the Deepavali week from 13th to 17th October. They were given 25,000 Swadeshi leaflets and 40 placards with Swadeshi slogans by the Tamil Nadu Swadeshi Certifying Board, the

Buy Indian League and the Servants of India Society. They did house to house propaganda distributing leaflets and exhibiting the placards appealing the public to join the Buy Indian League.

According to Mr. S. R. Venkata Raman, the Organising Commissioner of the Scouts Association, the propaganda could have been more effective if the placards and leaflets had been printed in Tamil or Telugu. We beg to draw the attention of the League and the Swadeshi Certifying Board and other Swadeshi propaganda workers to the above suggestion.

DASARA EXHIBITION

On the evening of Wednesday the 4th October, the distribution of cups and medals to successful competitors for their best exhibits at the Mysore Dasara Exhibition, came off at a well attended meeting in the Exhibition buildings under the presidency of Sir Mirza Ismail, Dewan of Mysore.

For the first time, the Indian Institute of Science and Burma participated in the Exhibition. The Directors of Industries of Assam, Bihar and Orissa, United and Central Provinces, and the State of Hyderabad sent in a varied range of exhibits. Amongst Indian manufacturers, who took part in the Exhibition, mention may be made of the Electric Clock Manufacturing Co., Bombay, Bharat Carbon and Ribbon Manufacturing Co., Bengal Electric Lamp Works, the Tata Oil Mills, the Calcutta Chemical Co., and the Godrej Soap Works. The Bangalore Chemical Works exhibited for the first time Indian made gas mantles, and the Model Industries, Dayalbagh, Agra, exhibited cutlery, Indian made fountain pens and grammaphones. Khaddar cloth was exhibited from all the important Khadi centres. The Buy Indian League, Madras, also participated in the exhibition.

The exhibition was a grand success, the demand for stalls beating all previous records, and a distinct progress in Swadeshi being evidenced by the various exhibits. Mr. S. P. Rajagopala Chariar, Chairman of the Exhibition Committee, said:

"Any one going through the Exhibition will be struck with the advance that has been made in the manufacture of Swadeshi articles; and in point of utility, durability and finish, the success so far achieved fills one with hope and encouragement that ere long, India will be able to hold her head high amongst the manufacturing countries of the world."

In this connection, it is very gratifying to note that the Mysore Dasara Exhibitors' Association, which was well represented on the Exhibition Committee, proved of immense help both to the exhibitors and the management.

According to the Chairman of the Exhibition Committee, the total cash receipts upto 3rd October from all sources came to Rs. 12,876—3—6. The

BUY INDIAN

gate collection amounted to Rs. 7,971—6—0 this year, whereas it was Rs. 6812—4—0 last year. This year's stall rent was Rs. 4602—6—0 as against Rs. 3947—0—0 last year.

In view of this year's unprecedented demand for stalls, the need for a better permanent building to which stall accommodation could be added, if necessary, was voiced by the Chairman of the Exhibition Committee, who hoped that the matter would receive favourable consideration at the hands of His Highness' Government.

The Dewan's Speech.

Before distributing the prizes, the Dewan made a strenuous plea for Swadeshi. He said:

It is now 45 years since the State of Mysore, began to promote Swadeshi enterprise through means of this Exhibition, and in the course of these years we have been able to demonstrate to what a very great extent India can supply from its own resources every requirement of the mind or body. But, Ladies and Gentlemen, it is not enough to demonstrate that you can supply these requirements. The time is come to show, not only that you can do so, but that you are doing so. It is, I believe, quite a common experience for people to come to this Exhibition, and when they see Indian made fountain pens and electric lights, delightful fabrics and sumptuous eatables, to exclaim, "I had no idea that things like these were made in India." I put it to you that such a remark is not a matter to be proud of, but rather a reproach. It is time to take stock of the situation and ascertain why it is, when so many delightful things are made in India, that the sales of them are as comparatively small, especially when compared with those of the foreign articles with which they are competing.

Continuing, he said that by purchasing Indian made goods, the money spent on them would be circulating only within our own country with the result that the prosperity of the masses would be raised. The Dewan also pointed out the duty of the Indian manufacturers when he said: "You cannot expect to send our goods unless you make it easy for people to buy them."

AJMEER SWADESHI EXHIBITION

The opening ceremony of the All India Swadeshi Industrial Exhibition at Ajmeer was performed on the evening of Friday the 13th October by Colonel Ogilive, Agent to the Governor General at Rajputana and Chief Commissioner Ajmeer, Merwara. The ceremony was an impressive function, and such a large gathering which assembled on the occasion was, according to the correspondent, 'seldom seen in Ajmeer.' The Exhibition an formed an adjunct to the Dayanand semi-centenary celebrations.

Dewan Bahadur Harbilas Sarada, President of the Exhibition Committee, in welcoming Colonel Ogilive, referred to the Colonel's sincere interest

in the economic development of the country. Mr. Sarda expressed gratification that the Government of India had of late given proper attention to the protection of Indian industries and were consistently pursuing a policy rational protection. He mentioned the abolition of the cotton excise duty, protection of iron and steel, textile, paper, match and other industries as an earnest of the Government's interest. In concluding his welcome speech, he exhorted Indian people and Princes to devote some attention to improving the industries of the country.

Colonel Ogilive in declaring the Exhibition open, made a short speech in the course of which he assured the audience of his sympathy with all genuine endeavours to improve the economic condition of India. He said that genuine swadeshi, divorced from politics, deserved every support, and the Government was ever ready to give all legitimate assistance to indigenous industry and enterprise. He hoped that industrial magnates and well-to-do citizens would turn their attention to vocational and industrial education, by establishing colleges and institutes for the purpose. He appealed to all those present to carry the message of economic progress of the country to the masses, and encourage them to work for that munificent object.

The "Hindu" comments the above editorially as follows:—

It is significant that the far-seeing among high officials in the country recognise the need for encouraging the swadeshi movement. This is a healthy development, and if only high-placed officials like Col. Ogilive take genuine interest in the improvement of the economic condition of India, India's general progress will not be long delayed. "Genuine Swadeshi, divorced from politics," Col. Ogilive is reported to have stated, "deserved every support and the Government, who were deeply interested in the welfare of the people, were ever willingly anxious to give all legitimate assistance and encouragement to indigenous industry and enterprise." These words are welcome. If only Government will give up the tendency smelt politics in every effort at self-development on the part of the people and earnestly put in practice what they accept in theory. India's industrial development will ere long constitute a striking record.

NAGPUR SWADESHI EXHIBITION

The Nagpur Swadeshi Exhibition successfully ended on Friday the 29th Sept., when a meeting was held under the presidentship of Mrs. Rama Bai Tambe, Ex-M. L. C. Mr. P. M. Naidu, Secretary of the Exhibition Committee, informed that half the amount collected as gate fee would be given to the Nagpur Textile Union for the relief of the unemployed labourers, and the rest utilised for the expenses of the Exhibition. After a short speech by Barrister C. V. Deshmukh, President of the Swadeshi Pracharak Mandal, Mrs. Rama Bai Tambe in her concluding speech, said that women could advance

the cause of Swadeshi more than men. She emphasised the need of manufacturing toys in India so as to put a stop to the drain of money on foreign toys. Swadeshi, she said, should be their religion and they must be willing to sacrifice something in repaying the debt they owe to their motherland by paying, if need be, a little extra for Swadeshi goods, when compared with foreign stuff.

A correspondent of the *Forward* says that no less than 25,000 people visited the Exhibition.

BAGHBAZAR SWADESHI EXHIBITION

On the occasion of his visit to the above exhibition at Calcutta, Acharya Sir P. C. Ray delivered an instructive lecture on the economic needs of Bengal in particular and the country in general. Speaking on labour and its dignity, he referred to the dignity attached to labour in western countries, and showed from the lives of Messrs. Ramsay MacDonald, Mussolini, Stalin and Hitler, how they from an humble beginning rose to fame and fortune by sheer integrity and labour. In conclusion he advised all, especially the ladies to take to Swadeshi in right earnest, and to the young men to give up luxury, to learn discipline and to build up their health. Sir Kiran Chunder Dutt, in bringing the meeting to a close, referred to the practical application by Acharya Ray of all that he taught and preached, and said that "he is the priceless exhibit of all exhibitions, his past life having been such, while his present and future life being also an Exhibition and ideal to all the sons of the soil."

The function of the closing down of the Bagh-bazar Swadeshi Exhibition (Calcutta) was celebrated on the evening of Thursday the 5th October under the presidency of the Hon'ble Justice Manmanath Mukherjee. Referring to the industrial activities of the country for the last 10 years, Mr. Mukherjee said that there was no mistaking a new stir in the industrial life of India. The time had come when they should be sloth to turn to the West for anything—be it an article of commerce, or be it knowledge or education; they should rather strive to be independent in respect of all their needs. According to him, the greatest obstacle in the way of our fullest development was their incapacity to realise the dignity of labour.

SWADESHI EXHIBITION AT DELHI

Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh, M.L.A., (author of the Khaddar Protection Bill), opened on the evening of Tuesday the 10th October the Swadeshi Exhibition at Delhi. The following are further details given by an *Associated Press* telegram:

"Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh urged the development of such industries as depended very little on the machinery of foreign countries, and warned that the interests of the Indian Mill Industry should not be

BUY INDIAN

promoted at the sacrifice of the handloom industry. He referred to the growth of Japan in recent years and appealed to Indians to use Indian goods.

Mr. Bishen Sahai, Municipal Commissioner said that a special feature was the exhibition of arts and crafts, notable hand-made pictures, machinery and also khaddar bazaar where prizes were offered for the best handspun khaddar."

HOWRAH SANGHA EXHIBITION

The opening ceremony of the Howrah Sangha Art and Industrial Exhibition was performed by S. Nalini Ranjan Sarkar, who in the course of his speech observed that such Swadeshi exhibitions had a value not only for the people of the locality but also for the businessmen who had opened their stalls. The latter got sufficient opportunity for an exchange of ideas on these occasions, particularly with regard to the type of goods the people like. Mr. Sarkar dwelt at length on the effect of tariffs on local industries. He was of opinion that mere protection could do no good to our manufacturers. He said that our industries must be nationalised and the quality improved in order to stand the competition of foreign goods, like those of Japan which have flooded the country.

KARACHI SWADESHI EXHIBITION

Dr. Mahamud Alam in opening the All-India Swadeshi Exhibition at Karachi on September 6 before a large gathering said: "Countries abroad are redounding with slogans to buy their own things. They are free countries who wield the weapons of raising tariff walls for the betterment of their economic life. In such competition India has to face the world, handicapped as she is, in the backwardness of her industrial development." Concluding, Dr. Alam made a fervent appeal to support swadeshi, the only cure for India's economic ills.

EXHIBITION AT CALCUTTA

The exhibition at Shradhananda Park was opened by Acharya Sir P. C. Ray on the evening of Saturday the 21st inst.

NAINI TAL FINE ARTS EXHIBITION

The ninth Annual Exhibition of the Naini Tal Art Club was held in the ball-room of the Metropole Hotel on September 25, 26 and 27. About 300 exhibits from all parts of India were displayed. Crafts and arts were well represented. "The Wesleyan Industrial Mission Ikade, Madras, woven goods and linen, brilliant cushion, darned lace of exquisite delicacy, fine needle-work, lovely children's clothes and lace from Travancore, wooden inlay work from Mysore, scarves and handkerchiefs from Bengal Home Industries, and various other fancy articles from all over India were exhibited at the Show"

RAMAKRISHNA MISSION INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL, BELUR

On the occasion of awarding prizes to the winners in weaving, dyeing, tailoring and carpentry in the Ramakrishna Mission School, Belur, which came off on Saturday the 16th September, Srimat Swami Akhananandaji Maharaj, Vice-President of the Ramakrishna Mission, in a short speech, appealed for the encouragement of Indian arts and industries.

THE PRESIDENCY COLLEGE CHEMICAL EXHIBITION

The Ninth Annual Exhibition of the Presidency College Chemical Society was opened at the Presidency College Laboratories on Monday the 30th October by Mr. W. Erlam Smith, M.A., I.E.S., Director of Public Instruction, Madras. Industrial processes on small scale with special reference to India, hydrogenation of oils, dyeing, bleaching, enamelling, manufacture of pigments, paper, soaps, candles, fertilisers, cements, sugar and fermentation, and various other processes were exhibited.

HINDU MAHASABHA ON SWADESHI

Among the various resolutions discussed at a recent Committee meeting of the Hindu Mahasabha, one referred to Swadeshi. The details of the discussions are not available since the meeting was not open to the Press.

SONEPUR EXHIBITION

A United Press message from Patna, dated October 4, says :—

With the object of giving to the people a fair idea as to how the Swadeshi Movement is progressing and how our wants can be satisfied mostly by country-made goods, an All-India Swadeshi Exhibition is being organised at Sonapur during the famous Sonapur Fair in 'Kartik Purnima', when lacs of people from all parts of India assemble there on pilgrimage as well as to make large purchases of elephants, horses and cattle.

An extensive plot of land has been taken in the heart of the Fair to locate the Exhibition and accommodation for at least 250 stalls is being arranged. The Exhibition will be open on October 29 and as at present arranged will close on November 8.

The office of the organisers of this exhibition is at present located on the Patna Gaya Road, Patna. It is understood that manufacturers of indigenous goods, even from distant parts of India, are evincing great interest in the proposed Exhibition, and many of them have already applied for stalls to exhibit their goods.

MIDNAPORE EXHIBITION

At a recent meeting of the members of the Midnapore Industrial and Agricultural Exhibition, it has been decided to postpone the exhibition for a year.

ALL-INDIA SWADESHI EXHIBITION AT TRICHUR.

It is understood that the Yuvajana Samithi (Youth League) at Trichur has resolved to hold an All-India Swadeshi Exhibition at Trichur on the occasion of the ensuing famous Pooram Festival, which falls on the 25th April, 1934. In this connection it may be mentioned that the above League had held an exhibition on the same occasion in the year 1932.

BELLARY SWADESHI EXHIBITION

A correspondent of the *Swarajya* writes as follows under date October 4 :—

The Bellary Swadeshi Exhibition which is to take place in this December promises to be a grand success. It has already secured a very spacious ground in the centre of the town proper, Gandhi Nagar and Sathyanarayana Peth. The building in the centre where the committee intends to keep the general exhibits is a three-storied beautiful construction. The municipalities, the local boards and the co-operative societies in this district have been approached for financial and other help. The Bellary Municipality and the District Board have already passed resolutions to give financial help. The response from manufacturers seems to be very prompt.

SWADESHI EXHIBITION AT BADAUN

The Swadeshi League of Badaun is making arrangements on a large scale for holding a Swadeshi Exhibition in November. It is stated that the Municipal authorities have been approached for pecuniary help and that the Board has promised to give sympathetic consideration to their request.

Mr. Raghbir Sahai, Advocate, Ex-M.L.C., and Kunwar Rukam Singh are organising door to door hawking of Khadi in Badaun.

FARIDPUR SWADESHI EXHIBITION

A Swadeshi Exhibition will be held at Faridpur, on a much larger scale than the one held last year. For this purpose a strong committee has been formed with Mr. Jadu Nath Pal, President of the last year's exhibition) as President, and Dr. Rebati Kumar Bose and Mr. Nalini Bandhu Gupta as secretaries. Several sub-committees have been formed for the different sections in the Exhibition; and arrangements are in progress.

RAIPUR EXHIBITION

It is understood that Mahatma Gandhi has consented to open the All India Swadeshi Exhibition at Raipur in the 3rd week of November, for which arrangement are vigorously in progress.

CAWNPORE SWADESHI EXHIBITION

It is understood that the Annual Cawnpore Swadeshi Exhibition organised by the Cawnpore Swadeshi League will be held on September 25th. The exhibition will run for 15 days. The last year's exhibition was a grand success.

ALLAHABAD SWADESHI EXHIBITION

A communique of the Allahabad Swadeshi League says that a plot of land has been secured opposite the B. N. W. Railway station in the heart of the city for the ensuing exhibition which will be opened on November 9 and closed on the 19th.

MADRAS SWADESHI EXHIBITION

The all India Khadi and Swadeshi Exhibition organised by the Madras Mahajana Sabha will be held at the "Congress House", Mount Road, on the 15th of December.

AYURVEDIC EXHIBITION

Along with the ensuring All Bengal Ayurvedic Conference, an Exhibition will be held of the various indigenous medicines, Indian medicinal herbs, Ayurvedic instruments and models, and old books on Indian medicine.

POULTRY SHOW

It is understood that a poultry show will shortly be opened at Chittagong under the auspices of the Chittagong Atsil Club which has been established with a view to diffusion of knowledge in the matter of poultry keeping on co-operative principles in Bengal villages.

UKIL'S EXHIBITION IN LONDON

An exhibition of modern Indian paintings, organised by Mr. Barada Ukil, secretary of the All-India Fine Arts and Crafts Society, Delhi, was opened in the first week of October by Sir Samuel Hoare, Secretary of State for India.

SILK INDUSTRY IN BENGAL

At a meeting of the silk manufacturers and cocoon growers of Bengal held at Calcutta on the 14th instant under the presidentship of Mr. Nurul Huq, Bar-at-Law, ways and means were discussed to develop the silk industry in Bengal. It was stated that from the advent of the East India Company the Silk Industry instead of occupying a prominent place in Bengal had miserably dwindled down. The industry used to supply, and is still capable supplying food to many, and thereby, was one of the greatest solvents of the unemployment problem in Bengal. The meeting resolved that every effort should be made to protect and develop the industry.

The Swadeshi Commercial Museum.

THE SWADESHI COMMERCIAL MUSEUM

The Manager, Swadeshi Commercial Museum, has written to us stating that the Museum has been shifted to the Albert Hall, College Road, Calcutta, on October 1, from its original location at Harrison Road. It is being daily visited by a number of people, the visitors exceeding 250 during the week ending October 15. A Museum Guide and an Exhibitors' List will be issued by about the middle of November. It is very gratifying to note that free space will be given for the exhibition of cottage and home industry products.

Opened by Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya on October 21, 1932, the museum was organised by the Calcutta Swadeshi Sangha which is having a very influential committee with Sir Nilratan Sircar, as President, and Capt. N. N. Dutt as Secretary. The Museum is intended for the display of Indian raw and manufactured products, as an information bureau for Swadeshi articles, as a meeting place

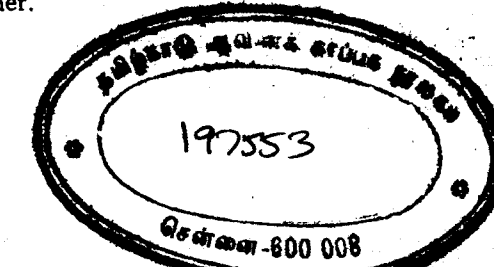
for manufacturers and buyers, and for doing intensive propaganda to promote the cause of Swadeshi.

The Museum has been divided into the following sections: Textiles; Metal products; food stuffs; chemicals, drugs, etc; paper and stationery; wood works; tobacco products; animal products and leather manufactures.

The Museum has set apart special days exclusively for women. It is a recognised fact that our women are the supreme factors in the matter of family purchases and if they adopt the principle of Swadeshi throughout, our economic salvation cannot be far off.

It is too late in the day to preach about the utility of Swadeshi museums. Briefly stated, they serve as standing monuments of the country's progress in Swadeshi. The various products displayed in them show to what extent we have succeeded in the various industries and trade. Besides they are the connecting links between manufacturers and merchants on the one hand and buyers and agents on the other.

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SWADESHI AND INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT

By Mr. C. Kunhiraman Nayar, B. A.

"Development and organisation would mean the over-coming of the disruptive and regressive force by the constructive and artistic drive." (James Winfred Bridges.)

CHAPTER I

THERE is no place for the self-interest in Swadeshi which enjoins the sacrifice of one self for the family, of the family for the village, of the village for the country and of the country for the humanity at large. When a nation becomes fully self-conscious, particularly of its economic and social orders upon a democratic basis, it naturally looks about for ways and means to become economically independent and self-sufficient. This national instinct has to be fortified by a collective desire, and consecrated by an intensive faith in the national development. The propagation of Swadeshi has to be considered as one of the sole means to this end.

The Swadeshi movement dates from about 1905 having its origin in Bengal and inaugurated with the ostensible object of advocating boycott of foreign goods. The movement was apparently divested of all sorts of political tendencies. If a Rip Van Winkle had since fallen into slumber and woke up only now, he would be greatly bewildered not only by the striking vicissitudes the movement had passed through but also by the material achievement the movement had secured in the interval.

It is not within the scope of this subject to trace the history of the movement from its very inception. Suffice it to indicate the unparalleled success it had attained during this short compass of 1931-33.

It was with the vision of an Oracle that Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya made his significant appeal in January 1932—an appeal which formed a ready and adequate response from the general public as has been demonstrated by the encouragement and the popular support with which the 'Swadeshi' came to be associated. It was in pursuance of this appeal that the Central Buy Indian League was formed the primary object of which was to increase the industrial efficiency of the country as a whole, "by creating and developing markets for Swadeshi products and by stimulating people who have got money and brains to put them into Swadeshi industrial undertakings."

In examining the various methods that contributed to the popularity of the movement, mention should be made of the noble patronage and well directed advice of some of the apostles of the movement like Sir P. C. Ray, Jamnadas Mehta, N. R. Sircar, Sir M. Visweswaraya and others who either through the press or the pulpit have emphasized time and again the obligation that devolves upon every Indian to utilise the existing circumstances for stimulating industrial and economic development.

The next step of progress may be found in the formation of several Provincial Swadeshi Organisations with able experts to guide their destinies. The Madras Association has been singularly fortunate in this for securing the valuable services of Mr. B. Shiva Rao whose untiring energy, unending zeal, and unstinted efforts were primarily responsible for the rapid spread of the movement not only in this province but outside it.

The formation of sub-divisional and minor organisations in certain important mofussil centres makes the third stage of development of the movement. They serve as connecting links to the Provincial Organisation and function on district agencies. It is their look-out to encourage local manufactures and local enterprises.

The most useful and important function of the Buy Indian League has been to organise several exhibitions, displays and demonstrations at different centres at different times, mostly on festive and carnival occasions that would attract large crowd of people. These exhibitions are eloquent in themselves for they plead for the thorough industrialisation of our tastes in all our requirements which are met by indigenous goods which in turn are the outcome of Indian skill, Indian labour and Indian resources. The establishment of permanent Swadeshi show-rooms and museums in selected centres would prove of immense educative and general value.

Propaganda work has also much to do with the development of the movement. This includes conferences to discuss the lines of working of several associations, lectures stressing on the need for using Swadeshi alone wherever practicable, sale of Swadeshi articles by interested representatives which may assume door to door hawking, carrying things for sale to the interior of the town or city through touring conveyances and the appointment of distributive agencies in all places where they are considered essential.

'The Buy Indian' Journal is the organ of the League. While the foregoing methods are calculated to be practical aids to the development of Swadeshi, the Journal serves as the spokesman of the League diffusing useful information that is conducive to the working of the several organisations and proffering timely suggestions and directions to enable them to keep a lively contact with the Provincial organisations and to work in close harmony among themselves. To achieve this purpose the Journal should not be merely in the form of a narrative, a review or an abstract but should be instructive, and informative and enlightening from the point of view

which it is contemplated to embrace. The aim of such an organ, therefore, should necessarily be to exhibit the strength and stability of an organised purpose and directed will.

CHAPTER II

In addition to these, I shall indicate a few more methods, which although would involve time and expenditure in their operation, are well worth trying to attain economic salvation.

These include taking stock of the redundant unemployed population in our country who are mostly thrown out of work. It is the duty of the capitalists as well as the Government to engage these workers in some new productive occupations and to convert them into valuable national economic asset.

A classification of our existing industries may be attempted. Unlike other industrialised countries where consolidation of a particular business is the process, in India our industries are diffused all over the country from the major organised ones of cotton and jute accommodated in big cities to minor ones of pottery and furniture which are located in residential areas. Such a classification would entail the taking of an industrial survey. This survey would expose the industries that are in a languishing state and which need pulling up by technical knowledge and monetary assistance as well as those industries the economic position of which is really solvent and wherein we have got a comparative advantage over other countries. This economic survey will comprise the collection of trade statistics which should be complete and reliable and capable of intelligent interpretation to the people, an accurate statement of our export and import figures and a correct estimate of the natural and potential resources in the country. All these need intelligent initiative, expert knowledge and technical direction which should emanate from a responsible body of businessmen and economists. Such a survey should be an infallible index to our industrial conditions.

Cottage industries which are the mainstay of our villagers who are well-skilled in handicrafts and whose deftness and artistic tastes cannot easily be made adaptable to other industries should receive proper attention. Organized labour and mechanisation should not jeopardize their interests. For this, young and intelligent enthusiasts with practical training who can formulate a well-planned line of social study may be deputed to make a separate survey of these minor industries showing the average per capita income or earning per worker employed in a particular calling, the labour conditions of a particular village or conditions peculiar to an industry.

In all these ventures the State should closely co-operate with private bodies or organisations and lend them all possible support either by advancing

state loans, or sharing a reasonable portion of the expenditure or by placing at the disposal of these private organisations the services of great industrial and technical experts who are employed under the State.

Not only the state but also our Universities have a leading role to play in the attempt at the economic regeneration. Time is ripe to modify the compartmental system of education by admitting within the fold of university studies a vocational type of instructions though we are having a narrow form of it without any beneficial results. The public will welcome the news of the appointment of a Special Committee, by the Madras University, to consider and report on the question of technological education in a few selected subjects of specific interest and applicability to this Presidency. One has to watch the result with eager expectations.

Without the co-operation of the educated no experiment can be sure of its success. The successful organisation of a movement is bound to crumble without business instinct and educated guidance. It is incumbent on all educated people of our country especially the youths to co-operate with and assist a private enterprise set on foot towards the creation of a new era of economic prosperity. For this they will have to overcome their present spirit of non-chalance and assume new responsibilities.

Technical inventions and novel experiments in other countries may be profitably spread wherever possible. For this, Japan and Canada more than others serve as our models.

Any living organisation without continuous practical work cannot be a success. For such a continuous practical work, a limited number of direct and provincial organisations would be important. They must be supplemented by a net-work of efficient village organisations which are co-ordinated to one another as component parts of the district organisation, all converging to the provincial organisation at their head. Ideas, suggestions and plans should filtrate from the provincial centre to the mofussil stations and thence to villages. Thus in professing the economic aspect of national service, the journey must be from the centre to the circumference, and not *vice versa*. This then ought to be the true line of our new economic trend of reconstruction. To help the rural population in working out such a new economic development has to be regarded as the most salient function of a true economic votary.

This new evolution would undoubtedly raise the issue of finance. Money is the sinews of every economic activity and it is here that the Indian capitalists should come forward with their investments in industrial enterprises and help in partly solving the problem. The State has also a great part to play in the building up of a sound economic edifice. State aid to indigenous industries is a permanent need and even those powerful states who were once under the spell of

have broken their past traditions by initiative and co-operation and thus prepared their respective nation to acquit creditably in the international bid for industrial power. Let the Indian State take their lesson from the recent Japan menace and the ignominious treaties it led to.

But in the midst of the all prevailing craze for over-industrialisation the most important but primitive occupation of agriculture should not be neglected. Industrial regeneration means agricultural improvement; for agriculture is the feeder of almost all industries and once the supply of raw materials is stopped there follows inevitably the cessation of several industrial activities. India still adheres to her antiquated methods of agriculture. The wooden plough and the emasculate pair of bullocks still reign the fields. I do not mean that these should be condemned but to keep up an average level of agricultural knowledge and efficiency in proved methods in vogue in advanced countries

should be borrowed and if possible applied to, so that foreign competition and dumping can be bravely faced.

It may be asked whether this new economic self-sufficiency as contemplated herein should aim at economic isolation, i.e., should we have not something to do economically with outside world. Trade means free trade and unless nations should compose their trade differences and thus arrest the growth of evil competition, an amicable trade relationship can hardly be achieved. Let there prevail a smooth international industrial harmony.

"Base your policies on world experience, cultivate the team work spirit, maintain a high level of discipline both in private and business life and develop integrity of character in all ranks of the community. This done, no Indian need fear about a successful economic future of his country." —(Sir M. Visveswarayya).

LANCASHIRE—No Permanent Customer for Indian Cotton.

The possibilities of consumption by Lancashire of Indian raw cotton can be determined more definitely. During the three years 1929—30 to 1931—32, the annual cotton consumption in the United Kingdom was on an average 2275 thousand running bales, of which only a little over 200 thousand bales was Indian cotton. It may be argued that even though the present consumption is small it can be increased to a considerable extent. But the possibilities of so increasing it are certainly not hopeful in view of the general position of the Lancashire industry. It is well-known that Lancashire uses Indian cotton only for the purpose of mixing it with superior cotton for certain types of production. This means that Lancashire can absorb fair quantities of Indian cotton only when its price is in a certain relation to that of American cotton. If the Indian cotton prices stand above this parity, it does not pay Lancashire to buy Indian cotton for the purposes of mixing. Lancashire is thus not a basic, permanent customer for Indian cotton but one which can be depended on to take a certain amount of supplies off the market especially when the Indian cotton prices are particularly depressed. Not only is this the present position but it is also obvious that the situation in which the Lancashire industry finds itself will not permit it to extend to any material extent its consumption of Indian cotton in the future. Lancashire has during the last decade been fighting a losing battle in its Eastern markets and has now practically lost all its coarse trade to Japan, India and China. It is inconceivable that Lancashire can regain this

trade and it is generally admitted that only in the finer textile fabrics and in certain types of specialised production may Lancashire's high comparative costs best earn their keep. The development of the Lancashire industry, therefore, if any, will be in the direction of further relinquishing the production of coarse goods. And admittedly if this happens the consumption of Indian cotton in Lancashire will further decrease. Any way there are no prospects of its increasing.

The position could also be analysed from the supply side. It is obvious that Lancashire is a customer only for the superior qualities of Indian cotton, and nobody even pretends that with all the goodwill in the world and any amount of research it will begin to consume Indian coarse cotton. Now the annual production in India of long staple cotton during the three years 1929—30 to 1931—32 as estimated by the Indian Central Cotton Committee was on an average of 714 thousand bales, that is, about a seventh of the total average Indian production of raw cotton. Of this the Indian mills consumed during the same period 398 thousand bales on an average annually. This leaves only a little above 300 thousand bales for export. The Indian mills are rapidly increasing their imports of foreign cotton and the potential home market for long staple cotton is thus being increased. The conclusion is thus obvious that Lancashire cannot help us much in the sale of our surplus raw cotton and whatever help it can give us is in directions where it is least wanted.

—From the *Servant of India*.

COIR MANUFACTURE AS A COTTAGE INDUSTRY

By E. L. SHIPMAN

THE coconut-palm is one of the few trees of which it may be said that practically no part is ever wasted. The trunk of the palm, when split, is used for building purposes, and, when hollowed out, as a drain-pipe in paddy and other fields. The leaves are used for thatching houses, and sometimes, when green, as fodder for cattle. The flower-sheath provides an excellent firewood. The kernel of the nut becomes copra from which coconut-oil and poonac are obtained, and, finally—although this by no means exhausts the uses of the palm—the outer covering, or husk, of the nut, after suitable treatment, becomes coir.

Nature has provided an excellent shock-absorber in the husk of the coconut. Although the nut has frequently to fall from heights up to eighty feet, this husk prevents any injury to the nut itself. The husk is composed of a thin, tough outer skin, within which are contained thin fibres closely connected together with a juicy, pithy substance. These fibres, when separated from the pith, become the coir-fibre of commerce.

The extraction of the coir-fibre and the spinning of the fibre, either by hand or by simple hand-worked machinery, is a cottage industry largely in practice throughout the coastal districts of Malabar, Travancore and Cochin. The industry is a very suitable one for a cottage industry, since practically all the members of a family may be employed in it, as will be evident from the description, which follows later, of the methods of extracting and of spinning the fibre.

To produce fibre of the best quality, the coconut is not allowed fully to ripen. It is usually cut down when about three-quarters ripe. The nut is then husked. This is done by bringing the stem end of the nut sharply down on a flat, spiked piece of coconut wood with the other end buried in the ground. The husk being spiked thus into three or four parts, the resultant thirds or quarters are easily levered off as the skin of an orange.

When the husking is completed, the raw husks are taken to a place on the bank of a river or some other suitable place which is alternately covered and uncovered by the tides. There a pit is dug, preferably in mud, the husks thrown in and the pit covered over with mud. In a few districts the husks are not buried, but are confined in large nets moored in the water itself. The period for which this soaking, or "retting" as it is called, of the husks must be carried out, depends on the purpose for which it is intended to use the resultant fibre, and sometimes on the economic condition of the owner. The shorter the period of retting, the less the pith is loosened, and, the pith itself becoming red during the process, the redder and dirtier becomes the fibre. Fibre retted

for about three months, or less, and sometimes not retted at all, is beaten out by a similar process to that described later for the fully retted husks, and the fibre is spun by hand into yarns about as thick as one's finger. These yarns are used in the manufacture of the familiar bristly coir door-mat, for which they are suitable, as the presence of a fair amount of the pith increases the bristly nature of the fibre.

The actual period for retting the husks depends on the locality, as many places differ greatly in their retting propensities. A fair average time, however, may be taken as from six to eight months for the common thick hand-spun yarns and from eight to ten months for machine-spun and the finer thin varieties of hand-spun yarns and clean fibre; any period in excess of one year may cause the fibre to deteriorate. Opinions are many, and conflicting, as to whether it is better to ret the husks in ground covered by salt water or in that covered by fresh water. For the actual retting there is probably little to choose between the two methods. There is, however, the possibility that the one or the other method may improve the colour of the clean fibre. Also, owing to the presence of salt in the fibre, the weight of the fibre from husks retted in salty ground may be slightly the heavier, sometimes an important consideration when the fibre or yarns are sold by weight.

When the husks have been retted for the necessary period they are carried from the pit to a place set aside for beating. After rinsing the husk in water, the beater grasps one end of the skin of the husk, peels it half-way down, then turns it round and completes the peeling from the other end. If peeled from one end only a greater amount of fibre is likely to be left adhering to the skin, which means a loss of a fair amount of fibre when many thousands of husks are being dealt with. The beater then twists the peeled husk to wring out the water. It is then put on a block of wood, given one or two heavy blows with another block of wood, turned over and the process repeated, and then laid aside. Several husks are thus partially beaten. All the partly beaten husks are then taken on to the wooden block and beaten together for a few moments. The beater then lays aside the beating-block and, taking the fibre into both hands, shakes and teases it out from the now somewhat loosely adhering pith. If the fibre is to be used for the better quality yarns or clean fibre, it is important at this stage to see that the fibre is cleared as much as possible from the pith, although, without special picking of the fibre, it is not thus possible to get rid of the pith entirely. The fibre is now spread out in the sun to dry, after which it is ready for use.

There are several methods of hand-spinning coir-fibre, of which only two will be here described. In the first method, small quantities of fibre are taken, roughly pulled out to the proper thickness and rolled by hand on a board into short lengths of six to nine inches. These lengths are then open together in a double strand yarn, the two strands being hoisted in a reverse direction to the final hoist. As each short length of each strand is nearly finished a further short length is added to it. The other method consists of spinning the double-stranded yarn directly from the fibre, without the use of previously twisted lengths, fresh fibre being added, when necessary, and spun along with the strands.

When the fibre is to be spun by machine, or a clean fibre is desired, after beating and drying, it must be hackled. This hackling is done on a rather dangerous machine consisting of a centre hub from which radiate usually eight rows of knives with saw-toothed blades, there being generally six or seven knives in each row. At the top and at the bottom of the frame of the machine are placed each one row of similar knives in such fashion that their edges are opposed to the edges of the knives in the hub, and the knives in the hub, when revolving, pass between them. The hub of this machine is revolved as rapidly as possible by a handle passing through its centre, and fibre in small quantities is thrown on to the top of the knives. The greater part of any remaining pith is thus removed, and the fibre straightened out and cleared of tangles.

The machines used for spinning the fibre are made in pairs, the one being a stationary, and the other a travelling machine. Both are essentially similar, the only differences being in the provision of wheels, and a single spinning-hook instead of two to the traveller. Each machine usually consists of a wooden hub from which eight wooden arms radiate in the manner of the spokes of a wheel. The place of the tyre of the wheel is taken by a length of coir-yarn tightly stretched. This wheel is placed in a suitable frame, and in the frame, on each opposite side, at a short distance from, and in line with the wheel is placed a small reel, about the size of a cotton-reel, with an iron rod for centre. The end of each iron rod projects beyond the frame and is bent to form a hook. Over the centre wheel and the two reels is tightly stretched another length of coir-yarn. Thus, when the handle in the centre of the wheel is turned, the two reels are made to revolve rapidly in the same direction as the wheel.

To spin the coir-yarn by machine, the spinner, after tossing the hackled fibre with a small stick to get rid of dirt and small pieces, rolls it into a large bundle with one end open. While a small boy turns the handle of the stationary machine, two spinners, each with a bundle of fibre under one arm, pull a little fibre partly out of the open end of each bundle and hold it each to one of the hooks protruding from the reels, to which it immediately becomes attached. They then walk backwards away from the machine,

pulling out the fibre and regulating the thickness with the fingers, and allowing the fibre to twist into two strands. If a strand breaks, the machine is stopped and the strand either knotted or spliced, the latter being, of course, the better practice. After the requisite length of the strands has been attained, the travelling machine, which has previously been placed ready for the purpose, is reached. The spinner, after breaking it from his bundle of fibre, now hands over his strand to his companion, and takes his stand at the handle of the traveller. His companion allows the ends of the two strands to twist to form one long strand doubled, and the end of this he attaches to the hook of the traveller. While the first man turns the handle of the traveller and slowly pushes it towards the stationary machine as the twisting shortens the yarn, the second man walks slowly back to the stationary machine with a wedge-shaped piece of wood held between the strands to keep them apart in front and properly twisted behind. When he reaches the stationary machine both machines are stopped, the yarn is removed from the hooks of the stationary machine, and the traveller is given a few turns in the reverse direction to take out the excess of twist and prevent the yarn kinking. Next the yarn is also removed from the hook of the traveller. When long yarns are spun one of the spinners then winds the yarn into a hank. When shorter yarns are spun, two yarns are usually wound into each hank. After a sufficient supply of yarn has been spun the hanks are rolled into bundles of about one maund each.

Coir-yarn, whether hand or machine spun, is generally sold in small quantities to local dealers, either by weight or by the number of hanks. These dealers, in their turn, then sell in larger quantities to exporting firms in Cochin, Alleppey or Calicut, who either export the yarn in long lengths after baling it in hydraulic presses, or use it in the local manufacture of coir-matting.

Coir-fibre or yarn readily takes almost any kind of dye and may, therefore, be beautifully coloured. Before dying, however, the fibre to be of the best quality should be of a light golden colour. White is less esteemed, and the various shades of red are inferior in proportion to the depth of their colour, while black fibre is nearly unsaleable, except when spun into the very cheapest hand-spun yarn, when it is frequently sold to local shopkeepers for tying up their goods, or is used on roofs when thatching.

The pith, from which the coir-fibre has been extracted after retting, is often burnt and used as manure for coconut-trees. For this purpose it is very useful, although it cannot be used on other crops owing to the large quantity of salt it contains. Nor is it advisable to use it in an unburnt condition as it then often causes the trees to throw out undesirable suckers.

The usual standard used for weighing coir-fibre and yarn is the candy of twenty maunds. The weight of this candy, however, varies from six

hundred to seven hundred pounds, that is, from thirty to thirty-five pounds to the maund.

Cocoanut-husks differ much in size, so that no hard and fast rule can be laid down for the number of husks required for the production of a candy of coir yarn. With husks of fair size, however, this, on the average, may take three thousand five hundred husks for a candy of machine-spun yarn and three thousand husks for a candy of moderately clean hand spun, the latter requiring fewer husks owing to the quantity of pith contained in the yarn. Machine spun yarns are never of uniform thickness throughout their length. Their sizes are usually taken on the average, and this varies from three-thirteenth of an inch for the finest quality to three-eighth of an inch for the coarsest yarns. Owing to the lack of uniformity in both thickness of yarn and weight of fibre, no definite figure can be laid down for the number of hanks of machine yarns contained in a candy. A fair average, however, should be from two thousand eight hundred to three thousand hanks for the finest down to fifteen hundred to two thousand husks for the thickest yarns.

Beaters, spinners, etc., when employed by others, are paid usually as follows: Beaters, per thousand husks (counting three sections to a full husk) from one rupee four annas to two rupees and spinners from

fourteen annas to one rupee per hundred hanks for the finest, down to six annas per hundred for the coarsest yarns. The boys turning the spinning machines generally get two annas per hundred hanks spun of any size. There is no fixed rate for hackling the fibre, some districts compelling the spinners to hackle their own fibre or to have it hackled at their own expense; where separate payment is given, this is usually based on units of a hundred pounds of clean fibre, and the payment depends on the local rate for coolly labour. The final bundling of the hanks into one maund bundles is paid for at the rate of one anna per bundle, or one rupee four annas per candy.

The market rate for coir-yarn varies from time to time, but can be ascertained from the market reports from Cochin, Alleppey and Calicut. Machine-spun yarns are usually known as "Superior Anjengo," "Anjengo" and "Parur"; the finer hand-spun yarns as "Ashtanudi," "Aratory," etc., and some of the common varieties of these are "Beyapore," "Kallai," "Chowghat," etc. Unsoaked yarns are "Fine unsoaked," "Ariyaloor," etc., and partly soaked yarns "Parapanangadi," "Ppg." "Pg," etc. The common and the finer varieties of yarns may, of course, be distinguished from the differences in their market prices.

Indian Boots and Shoes Industries

The textile industry is the one which has suffered the greatest set back as a result of the continued and aggressive dumping by Japan; but there are numerous other industries in which Japan has secured a more or less equally strong foothold in our country. One such is the boots and shoes industry. In an article on the subject, "Japan captures Boots Imports" which appeared in the September issue of the *Sva-deshi*, the writer ("Ennes") clearly points out by facts and figures how Japan has obtained the lion's share of our total imports of boots and shoes into our country. The following figures will be of interest.

	1932-33	1931-32	1930-31
	(in lakhs of Rupees)		
Total Imports	52	65	88
Share of Japan	32	49	77

The writer adds:

"Most of the shoes imported were rubber-soled with canvas uppers. Though there has been a heavy decline in Japanese imports also, they have learnt a lesson from it and have stopped trying to sell leather or other shoes but are concentrating on canvas shoes. These latter are so cheap that, even with the high duties imposed on them, they are sold at about as. 8 per pair wholesale, while some with g'aze uppers are sold at as. 12 per pair.

During four months ending July this year, the position is more in their favour as will be seen from the figures below:

	1933	1932	1931
	(in lakhs of Rupees)		
Total Imports	20	22	28
Share of Japan	14	15	24

Though there is a fall in price there has been no fall in the number of shoes which was 2.6 millions, the same as in previous years.

Even in the case of shoes made in India, a good part of the actual manual labour is done by Chinese workmen who have settled in large colonies in the principal cities of India.

It must be pointed out that there is one essential distinction between our shoes imports and textile imports from Japan. In the latter case, they at least buy our cotton in exchange, but in the former case they buy nothing from us in the form of raw material to prepare the shoes.

While it may be argued that the Japanese canvas shoes do not hit the Indian industry, it must be remembered that a cheap substitute is a more dangerous rival than the real article. A canvas shoe sold at annas 8 per pair is more likely to destroy our own shoe making industry than a Bata shoe sold at Rs. 2-8-0 per pair."

Dis-harmony of the economic Trinity, viz, the Pound, the Dollar and the Franc

By J. C. Joshi, B.A., Secy., Bank of Hindustan, Ltd.

A review of the economic position of the world at the termination of the momentous two years ending with 30th September 1933, brings to the forefront, the individualistic or nationalistic policies adopted by the countries governed by the above respective currency units. We would start with the activities of the £ sterling which stands as the father in our analogy of the trinity. The dollar stands as the son and the Franc will be the first holy ghost. Readers will remember that owing to causes now known all over the World, England had abandoned the gold standard in September 1931. Since then we have been reading more than enough of the matter relating to gold currencies and gold parities and so many other like things. Six months back the dollar also followed the sterling and went off the gold standard. The franc still retains the gold standard. To put clearly to illustrate the analogy, we would say that Great Britain and its currency unit the £, i. e., the father, first abandoned the gold standard. The son viz., the dollar, followed suit with the father, and the holy ghost the franc retains its sanctity of continuing the gold standard. The father adopted this course with a definite objective of encouraging its export trade by the currency depreciation involved as a result of the breaking off the gold standard. The effect of this was perhaps not known for sometime to the other countries. But when England was able enough to score over other nations in the matter of its exports by the advantage it gained as a result of delinking the sterling from gold, the son retaliated by a more offensive scheme of devaluing its dollar and increasing the internal price level. England could hardly dream that America would ever come forward with a scheme of that kind and perhaps priding on its own venture, Great Britain thought it would secure permanence of its policy without any adverse effect. President Roosevelt had all the while probably his scheme and when he found that as a result of over-valuation of the dollar in terms of sterling the trade of the United States suffered, he immediately declared America off gold and delinked the dollar from gold. The trade recovery campaign and the various courses prescribed by such campaign, all collectively aim at one thing viz., increasing the industrial and manufacturing activities with a view to absorb the unemployed men and increasing the internal price level of the commodities. The objects of the United States Government have been set in very clear terms viz., that they are concerned more with the internal value of the dollar rather than with the external. The Economic Conference ended in non-committal results and the talk about stabilisation also did not fructify. Subsequent efforts at arriving at an agreement on the point of stabilisation of the pound

and the dollar have also not materialised and it looks as if each nation has set its mind upon working individually from its own point of view irrespective of thinking about external value of their monetary units. In between the two, France has been obliged to stick to the gold standard though countries of gold standard would very much desire that France also joins their party so that there may then be the possibility of their arranging for stabilisation rates between each unit.

Along with France we have got Germany, Holland, Belgium and Italy, still sticking to the gold standard. As such these countries are at a distinct disadvantage in the matter of their trade and apart from the paper currency holders on the gold resources of these countries, their position at any time is feared to be pregnable, and it looks as if it is a difficult problem for any country to withstand the continuous attacks on this gold reservoir.

A study of the various continental exchanges particularly the London Paris Cross Rate and the London New York Rate and the market price of gold in London, revealed in no uncertain terms the result of the depreciations of sterling and the dollar. That also proves that gold is an indispensable metallic standard.

We have thus a triangular fight in the field of economics between the Pound, the Dollar and the Franc. There is on one hand the sterling area comprised of the British Empire; on the other hand we have got America with its policy of devaluation of the dollar; and thirdly we have got gold standard blocks—France, Belgium, Holland, Germany and Italy.

The hopes entertained at the Economic Conference did not materialise and things looked drifting apart from day to day and it is difficult to anticipate when any reconciliation would be made between the conflicting policies adopted by each of these nations. Reduction of the tariff rates with a view to enable free movement of goods was the principal objective to be achieved at the Conference and failure to do that is an admission of the presumption that representatives of those countries who gathered at the Economic Conference, had really no sincere intention of achieving any concrete result. The economic co-operation which was wanting is difficult to achieve and the whole structure looks as if it is based upon isolated uni-lateral policies.

India being a subject nation to Great Britain has to share in the fate of the depreciated sterling, and the Indian rupee therefore has to meet with the fate of the sterling. If sterling depreciates, the rupee also depreciates; and if sterling appreciates, our Indian rupee also appreciates.

While it is apparent that the countries referred to above, have adopted the policy of currency depreciation with a definite object of increasing the internal price level of their countries, India has not adopted that policy. Indian rupee is still over-valued at 18d whereas it ought to have been much depreciated. In fact the exchange must be aimed to adjust to the price level and with that view the price of the commodities must be raised to double its value.

To a lay mind the working of the continental exchanges becomes puzzling. But one thing is

simplest to understand and it is this: there has been a scramble and desire for hoarding gold and the price of that gold, consequent upon depreciation of sterling has gone up. The exports of gold from India were as a result of its high price in London consequent upon currency depreciation. Unless therefore there is reversion to the gold standard, the price of gold will be uncertain and much higher than what it ordinarily should be on account of its being treated more or less like a commodity.

SWADESHI

By S. Satyamurthi.

It is a sad sign of the decadence of our race that Swadeshi has got to be preached again and again. Other countries are not only Swadeshi but madly so with the result that fresh wars are threatening in Europe and in Asia. The most potent cause of these wars is the undeveloped industrial state of countries like India or China whose market these warring nations hope to capture solely for themselves. Apart from her own economic needs India has, therefore, become economically stronger in the interests of world peace.

Moreover, even according to the orthodox economic doctrine of each nation producing only those articles for which it has a special natural or other facilities, India has so many fields of industrial expansion, for example, cloth, iron and steel, stationery, leather goods, motor cars, railway requirements, soap and perfumery, glassware, sugar, etc. A national Government in power would have long ago taken steps to promote these industries. It is some consolation that the Government is now taking some steps in this direction.

But India cannot afford to wait till the national Government comes into being and takes steps in this direction. Swadeshi must, therefore, pervade throughout the country and help these industries on right and sound lines. Swadeshi is not a political shibboleth, but a sound economic proposition. There is a danger, however, of capitalists exploiting the Swadeshi spirit for their own private advantage. We must prevent to the extent to which we can the inevitable conflict between capital and labour, or at least soothen it by timely measures. Indeed, if properly cultivated, the Swadeshi spirit may be so canalised as to develop cottage industries as distinguished from mommoth factories except where they are inevitable.

Women, children, students, teachers, merchants and leaders of communities can help a great deal if they will. A special appeal ought to be made to them to do so. A Swadeshi India will not be a menace to any other nation. On the other hand, it will be a powerful force for goodwill on earth.

The Fraud of Artificial Silk

"Whatever issues may be controversial at the cotton talks," says the *Sunday Times*, "on one point there cannot but be unanimity among all sincere people—and that is the stoppage of the imports of artificial silk."

The paper adds:

It is, of course, cheap and looks very nice. So people readily go in for it. Silk clothes of the same fineness and brilliance cost far more. So artificial silk has a tremendous attraction for the poor and middle classes.

And what is the result? The investment is as good as wasted. By the time the cloth is washed once or twice, it becomes useless for wear and has to be thrown away.

Artificial silk may have a place in other countries where clothes are not washed often. Not so in

India, where even the poor are accustomed to wash their clothes often, daily if possible. That being so, artificial silk must be kept out of India.

There is, of course, a high import duty on it even now; but that hardly suffices. The import must be stopped. At least the duty should be so increased that it becomes an article of luxury which can be indulged in only by the rich.

When India has so much of surplus cotton, when our weavers and mills can produce durable wear for our people, is it sense to permit the import of a flimsy stuff that defrauds our people by its false appearance?

Science has inflicted considerable injury on humanity. And in the invention of artificial silk, it has been most cruel.

INDIAN SHIPPING—Rate War and Deferred Rebates

By B. B. K. Murthy, Vizagapatam.

THE prosperity of India primarily rests upon its commerce. The nation's maritime activities contribute a great deal in this direction. India has a vast sea-board, and the possibilities, therefore, of her becoming one of the greatest maritime nations in the world and attaining its past glory are numerous. But her age-long political and economic tutelage is mostly responsible for the stagnation of indigenous enterprise. Coastal trade of India is at present monopolised by British owned and managed companies. Enjoying monopoly by Government grants and licenses, they prevent by aggressive competition the growth of a Mercantile Marine in India which is the second line reserve of the Nation's defence. If this vital industry is allowed to continue to be a vested interest, there is no knowing when it would be possible for India to stand on her own legs. Further the invisible character of imports of the shipping profits adversely affects the balancing of accounts of the import and export trade of India. Fresh avenues of employment are denied to Indians as facilities of training in Navigation and Marine Engineering are not freely extended by the foreign companies to them, and almost all the lucrative appointments are monopolised by their own nationals while the children of the soil have to be content with the lower jobs.

The most ordinary weapons employed by the foreign companies to crush competition from others are the rate war and deferred rebates. During the time of opposition they reduce the fare and freight indiscriminately and would even go to such lengths as conveying the passengers at a free or negligible rate, and at times virtually bribing them with presents like handkerchiefs and by giving them free motor rides. When the opposition companies die out, the rates are raised to a level even higher than those existing previously.

The system of Deferred Rebates is being practised in the cargo service which requires economy and safety. A Shipping Ring or Conference is practically a combination of shipping companies to restrict mutual competition in order to enjoy greater profits. Each such conference concentrates upon a particular trade route, area or trade between specific ports, and it has nothing to do with any other conference that the same company might enter into with any other company. Large economies result from such combines; and the ship owners can also compel the loyalty of the shippers by practising this Deferred Rebate system, which indirectly compels the shippers to ship their goods by the liners of the members of the Conference, so far as the shipments within the area of the Conference are concerned. Usually a rebate of 10 per cent is allowed to all such loyal shippers and the companies enjoying these Conference benefits bear their due share of this rebate individually. For this purpose they ordinarily divide the year into two equal periods. The rebate

at the specified rate accruing to the shipper upon goods shipped by him by the Conference liners loyally throughout the first period shall not be paid at the end of the period but credited to his account during the second period, and, if at the end of the second period it is found that during the whole of the second period also he has not patronised any other company not included in the Conference, he shall be paid the full amount of the rebate that has accrued to him for the first period at the commencement of the third such period. But even for the slightest disobedience on his part during the second period the shipper shall not only lose the rebate accruing to him on his shipments by the Conference liners up to the time of such a lapse, but also be disentitled to the first period's rebate benefits. Moreover such a shipper is treated vindictively by the Conference Lines, which may refuse him space in their Steamers afterwards when such a necessity arises for him again. This practically restricts the shippers' freedom of action and renders it difficult, if not impossible, for any indigenous fresh enterprise to thrive. Shipping Conference temporarily reduce the rates to drive out the new enterprisers in business, who cannot naturally afford to work at a loss for long; and those that survive these unfair tactics and harassment will very soon be drawn into the shipping Ring as the organisers and share-holders of such a company find it to their advantage to work in the Ring.

Time and again, it has been urged that the rebate system tends to maintain a regular, frequent and efficient service; but even the Imperial Shipping Committee, with its undisguised attempt to safeguard the interests of the British ship-owners who were crippled during the Great War, had to acknowledge "that the Deferred Rebate System is plainly open to certain objections, and although the agreement system is equally open to objection, we recommend that it should be given to shippers as a running option." America declared such Shipping Rings illegal; but still the coastal and international traffic is regularly served unhampered, thus giving the lie direct to such arguments of interested parties. India should follow suit; otherwise the monopoly of the non-national companies can never be broken and a national merchant marine created in their stead.

The Agreement system is certainly not a whole-some alternative to the Deferred Rebate system; but it simply helps the ship-owners to circumvent the provisions of the legislative measures against the latter. Under it the obligation to prove that the shipper had not been loyal to it falls upon the Conference, which, therefore, will be entitled to scrutinise the books and papers of the shipper bearing on the point; and this surely causes not a little inconvenience to the shipper. However, therefore, the name might be altered, any system which perpe-

tuates the evil tie shall have to be summarily rejected by a nation which yearns to have a national mercantile marine. Independent countries as well as the Dominions of the British Empire have already legislated against such systems; but India has been persistently denied this legislation though the public and the commercial organisations of the country have been crying hoarse for it.

This, therefore, is a very unfortunate state of affairs which should be remedied in all possible ways and especially by Governmental interference and legislation in the interests of India. Government should stop paying a huge subsidy to the British India Steam Navigation Company to carry Mails. In fact no monopoly should be allowed to grow, and least of all a monopoly by a foreign company in India. The ideal should be to reserve the coastal trade of India exclusively to Indians, as we see the principle most scrupulously adopted by all such independent and most powerful countries as Great Britain, U. S. A., Japan, France and many others. Having this as the ideal, the Government should adopt the recommendations of the Mercantile Marine Committee for a licensing board and devise ways and means to secure adequate representation of Indian interests in the coastal traffic which they promised to do as long ago as 1929.

There is no question of commercial discrimination in this at all. What all India wants is that she should maintain and foster her own Shipping Industry and Trade. To consummate this end we should start with fixing up the maximum and minimum fares and freights. It might be argued that if these rates were fixed by Government, service efficiency would be compromised and that business would ultimately be influenced by the country's politics. But shipping services are as much public utility services as Railways or Tramways which are under public control, and yet are very efficiently served in the interests of the public. Moreover even under the present state of cut-throat competition, service efficiency is not at all secured, since the competition is not run by the attraction due to service efficiency but by such unfair means as Rate War and Deferred Rebates. Many are the disabilities that the deck passengers suffer from in the steamers that are engaged in the coastal traffic of India; and the treatment meted out to them is simply nauseating. Moreover, the principle of fixing up the rates, as in the case of inland water traffic, was also accepted by the Government. Even so, all such arguments against the fixing of rates in respect of the Shipping Industry cannot carry any weight. It might be said that the best solution of the problem would be to bring about some sort of a working compromise between the British India Steam Navigation Company and the other Indian Companies. But experience has proved that shipping rings would be formed by adopting this procedure, which would in their turn join to kill fresh competition.

Now that the fixing up of the minimum rates has been conceded by the Government, the legis-

lators should concentrate upon its complement, namely, the fixation of the maximum rates also in the interests of the consumers and the travelling public. But this could be done when there is adequate representation of Indian interests in the coastal traffic. For this fixing up of the maximum rates, the Government should appoint disinterested experts so as to safeguard against the possibility of getting quotations, which are much lower than even the barest minimum, from the foreign monopolists whose only interest is to thrive on the ruins of indigenous enterprise. Rates must be justly fixed after taking into account the statistics of the minimum working expenses consistently with efficiency.

The need for the fixation of the maximum rate also is all the greater because Shipping Rings might be formed with those Indian Companies that have somehow survived the deadly competition of the foreign vested interests, and these Shipping Rings might jointly increase the rates to an unprecedented extent so as to continue to earn their fabulous profits.

It is high time that India is allowed to take her rightful place among the Self-governing nations of the world by adopting constructive measures to build up a strong merchant marine within as short a period as possible; for, the present state of India's Merchant Marine is most unsatisfactory not only from India's point of view but also from the Imperial point of view. It is generally recognised by the Imperial authorities that every unit of the British Commonwealth of Nations should be self-sufficient in all respects; for on the strength of the various such units depends the strength and solidarity of the British Empire itself. It is evidently on the recognition of this principle that Australia and Canada are allowed to pursue their own shipping policies.

Therefore, such measures as would discourage and completely stop the Rate War, Deferred Rebates and such other Anti-Indian vagaries, as preferential treatment to their own nationals engaged in the Export and Import trade of India, should be forged out on the Legislative anvil. A certain maximum and minimum rate should be fixed consistently with justice to both the public and the companies engaged in the trade. Otherwise there would be no bright future to the Shipping Industry in India. The majority of the members of the Indian Deck passenger Committee have maintained in their recommendations that "it is common knowledge that in the past, attempts have been made to enter the trade and have failed generally partly owing to the Rate War"; and they further stated that "It is a fact that one or two Shipping concerns at present hold the monopoly of the passenger trade in Indian waters, and the committee consider that, if the Rate War could be obviated, a stimulus could be afforded to fresh enterprise, and that this would lead to the amelioration of passage conditions generally, a result which competition has brought about in the case of the emigration trade from European countries."

POPULARISE SWADESHI

By C. F. Bancroft

The following are extracts from the speech recently delivered by Mr. C. F. Bancroft at the Calcutta Swadeshi Exhibition :—

With the failure of the World Economic Conference, we are witnessing a return to the international madness of high tariff walls, economic reprisals, and cut-throat nationalism. It is a case of "Buy American," "Buy British," "Demand Danish," "Refuse Russian," "Select Swedish," "Argue for Argentinian," and what not. Nothing could be more ridiculous or more contrary to the best international thinking of the times. Carried to its logical conclusion, it would mean every Province using its own products, every city its own, every suburb its, until the bootmaker's grandmother would refuse to wear his products, but would try to make her own. The very foundation of society is division of labour, and until this division is placed upon an amicable international basis, there will be no international society.

But India is economically ill—ill unto death, and if she does not bend her every thought and effort toward recovery, it will soon be too late. I would go so far as to say that Swadeshi buying in this country and at this time, is not a matter of taste, experience, or even of intellectual conviction. It is a moral matter, and I truly believe that the Indian or the foreigner who derives his money from India and then buys Italian ties, American soap, or British cloth is nothing better than morally delinquent.

I hope I have made my point clear : That national buying on general principles is to be condemned, and to be viewed both as moral selfishness and blind economics where countries in normal circumstances are concerned; but in the case of India to-day, for a number of reasons with which we are all familiar, it is nothing less than a moral obligation.

INDIA BUYS, BUYS, ONLY BUYS NOW

Now to my main point. It is hard for us now to realise, but there was a time when India was the treasure-house of the world, and it was for purely economic reasons that the present rulers came to her. They were not the first. The wealth of the Indies is proverbial, and in ancient times she served not only as the principal exporter of beautiful and costly objects to the rest of the world, but as national entrepreneur for the disposal of articles from the Far East to the West.

But to-day she no longer does so. Instead she buys, buys, and buys, and in return ships away the very raw materials which she cruelly needs.

I am not entirely satisfied with what I see in this Swadeshi Exhibition. In the first place, a large portion of the goods are merely limitative. This is

natural enough. For certain reasons, a widespread taste in Western articles has grown up in India and it is not likely to decrease. Swadeshi industry should go even further in duplicating every single product for which money now goes to Europe or America, for in so doing she gives work to her own people and also puts a stop to the drain.

But this is not enough. There is an old saying among sportsmen, that the best defence is a good attack, and the sentiment is applicable to many fields other than those of sport. If India really wishes to recuperate economically, she must drastically increase her export trade, for only that nation which succeeds in establishing a healthy balance of trade is on firm economic footing. This can obviously not be done solely by producing articles in imitation of those which the West can already produce better and more cheaply. America will never use Indian soap, Italians will never wear Indian ties, and Englishmen will not eat with Indian silver.

INDIA'S SPECIAL PRODUCTS

There can be a demand, however, for those things which India and India alone can make, and it is here that more emphasis should be laid. The old deftness of finger which produced Dacca Muslims is still in the racial stream of India. The ordinary Indian village woman has an aesthetic taste capable of producing articles which could charm her more sophisticated sisters the world over. India's craftsmen still design and contrive jewellery which would grace the ears, neck, and wrists of any women on earth. And cloth is being produced in Benares, in Ahmedabad and in Calcutta which could turn any home-spun Western girl into a veritable queen. Furthermore, there are household ornaments, a thousand and one gift articles, book-bindings, and more articles than can be mentioned, which could find a market in the West. Let not Indians feel that because we cannot make some of the beautiful things they can, we are incapable of appreciating them. After all, beauty is beauty, and we are human, though we may not always seem so.

With regard to the Western market, the principal thing to be borne in mind is that we are sick unto death of mass production. I have known girls to leave dances because they found another belle attired in a frock exactly like that sold them by an exclusive modiste who swore on a stack of Bibles that she had produced only one on the model. Our gifts are factory-made and standardized; our clothes are cut to pattern; our houses are furnished with the same furniture and papered with the same designs. Our life has become like one huge Ford

community, in which every family has a life as much like the next as the poor Siamese twin girls whom I have seen in one of your stalls here. Of all things, we crave individuality, anything personal which will seem to have come from a human being and not from a machine.

CAPITALISTS PROSTITUTING PATRIOTISM

India can give us these things, and they can come from those people who need the money worst—I mean from the villages. It is not my purpose to speak against your Swadeshi factories, although I must confess that I feel not a few greedy Indian capitalists are prostituting patriotic feeling to their own personal enrichment. This must go on, and can be eliminated only when the demon of capitalism is eliminated from the world as a whole. But meanwhile, if any wealthy young Indian would wish for a lifework of the deepest fascination and national service, he could do nothing better with his time and money than to study the cottage industries, to study the foreign market, and to set about encouraging, subsidizing, and managing the productivity of the one for the satisfaction of the other.

CARRY INDIAN SAMPLES TO WEST

This leads me to my final point, which is also my principal suggestion. Every Indian who is an Indian who leaves this country in the next ten years, ought to carry a little trunk. I do not care whether he be a student, a political delegate, a tourist, or a business

man; he should have his little trunk. And in it should be a set of the choicest samples he can beg, borrow or steal. Wherever he goes, he should informally exhibit these samples, and take orders. If he stays in one place for a year, he should leave behind him a little agency for Indian Swadeshi goods. When I go to America, I am going to take this little trunk whether or not I have a single anna in my pocket or a clean handkerchief in my bag. I am proud of what India can produce and I am anxious to do my little part in helping her to become what she can and must become. I am sure enough of my friends and countrymen's good taste to know that many of the simple but talented Indian villagers will be appreciated. And I shall take along some factory-made goods as well, and if any profits accrue, will devote a good share of them to combating the system which underpays labour and pours the lion's share of human profits into pockets already bulging with the superabundance of wealth.

This is all. India must make. She must make for herself and for others. Her simple people must and can make what a world market must and will buy. And every Indian leaving Bombay or Calcutta must have his little box. And every foreigner who considers India something more than a place to be economically or religiously exploited, must also have his little box. These boxes will contain the wealth which will allow India to contribute her cultural wealth to the rest of the world.

Buy Indian and enrich yourself!

(By J. Haldar, M. Sc., Editor, SCIENTIFIC INDIAN)

Paradoxical though it might appear it is not as difficult to manufacture any given article in India to-day as it is to sell the same at a profit.

It is a happy augury that industries are growing in every part of the country. But these must be established on a secure foundation.

Infant Indian industries have to face severe foreign competition; they have to hold their own against tremendous odds. They will wither away without proper nurture by way of generous patronage. They must be assured of a wide and steady market for their products. It becomes, therefore, the duty of every Indian, true to his salt, to buy only swadeshi articles.

In exhorting the general public to buy Indian, appeal is usually made to their spirit of sacrifice. For, oftener than not, the buyer of a swadeshi article has to accept inferior quality at a higher price. Apparently he loses money in this transaction.

A little clear thinking will show, however, that he does not really make any sacrifice. The little extra he spends in buying Indian adds to the national wealth. The distribution of the profit dividends increases the *per capita* income of his countrymen. Ultimately, his own money returns to him.

Thus, far from having to make any sacrifice he actually enriches himself when buying Indian. This aspect of the question should be clearly realised.

On the other hand, those who purchase cheap foreign goods on the plea of economy have to make many ignominious sacrifices. They sacrifice their conscience, their patriotism, the welfare of their countrymen, ah! even the honour of their Motherland for a mean, base consideration.

Be proud, therefore, to buy articles which bear that charming stamp below the maker's nameMADE IN INDIA.

Be proud to BUY INDIAN.

WEALTH OF REFUSE

The waste materials of towns and villages if properly utilised would provide ample manures for the permanent fertilisation of our country side. It is a fact that the mineral fertilisers improve the soil only temporarily, but the organic manures obtained from wasted materials of towns and villages improve the soil permanently. In an essay in the "Indian Finance," on the subject, "Wealth of Calcutta Refuse," Mr. Debigiwan Banerji, M. A., gives a detailed account of the economic aspect of the problem. He compares the qualities of the above two kinds of manures. "If mineral fertilisers be used from year to year, it has been found that the increased yield of the crop is not maintained from year to year. That is, even with the addition of mineral manures regularly, the yield has been found to diminish. It is best to use the organic nitrates, I mean, the organic manures obtained from the nitrogenous waste materials, which would impart a permanent improvement to the soil. I visualise that, if this wasted material all over the country be utilised, it would bring about an economic revolution."

Unlike in various other countries, no regular analysis of our soil has ever been made. But the following figures regarding the yield of different staple crops which the writer quotes from an address delivered sometime back at Madras by Sir Alfred Chatterton, gives us an idea of the appalling unfertility of our soil which has been the cause of the lowest agricultural yield in our lands.

Comparative crop yields per Acre
(in lbs)

	Wheat	Rice	Cotton	Sugar
India	605	1,295	87	2,400
Japan	1,526	3,040	180	3,340
Egypt	1,530	2,780	371	3,378
Canada	1,246			
Great Britain	2,200			
America			155	
Java				11,988
Hawaii				18,799

The agricultural department advocates the case of mineral fertilisers, with the aid of demonstration farms; but, as the writer points out, 'no real, lasting work has been done as yet, because it has been fully demonstrated that the use of the mineral fertiliser improves the richness of the soil during that very season only, for the minerals, which are soluble in water, are washed out in a large measure by the rains.'

The waste materials, which is converted into valuable manure by the process of activation, are the sweepings of house-holds, streets, stables and cattle-shed, factory and workshops, and carcasses of dead animals. The Sewage-water is another source of rich manure, and its proper disposal for irrigating farms adjoining the city makes them uncommonly fertile.

After discussing the economic aspect of the problem very elaborately with reference to Calcutta, the writer concludes by quoting a beautiful paragraph from Victor Hugo's *Les Miserables*, where that greatest French novelist makes a fervent plea for the utilisation of the sewage in Paris in terms which bear no comparison at all. "Paris casts twenty-five millions of Francs annually into the sea; and we assert this without any metaphor..... Twenty-five millions are the most moderate of the approximate amounts, given by the estimates of modern science. Science, after groping for a long time, knows now that the most fertilising and effective of manures is the human manure:..... There is no guano comparable in fertility to the detritus of a capital, and the large city is the strongest of stercoraries. To employ the town Sewage, in manuring the plain, would be certain success; for, if gold be dung, on the other hand, our dung is gold..... Do you know what those piles of ordure are, collected at the corners of streets; those carts of mud carried off at night from the streets; the frightful barrels of the night-man, and the fetid streams of subterranean, mud, which the pavement conceals from you? All this is a flowering field, it is green grass; it is mint and thyme and sage; it is game; it is cattle; it is the satisfied lowing of heavy kine; at night it is perfumed hay; it is gilded wheat; it is bread on your table; it is warm blood in your veins; it is health; it is joy; it is life!"

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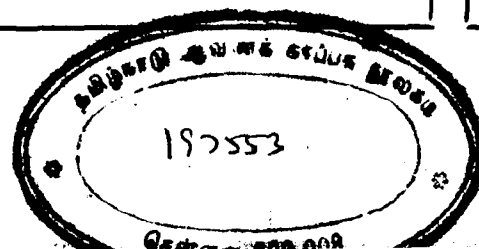
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