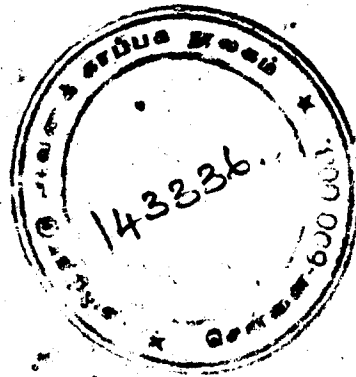


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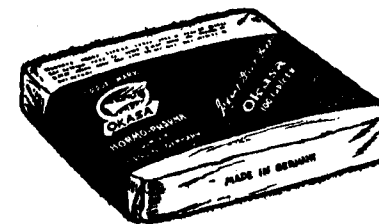
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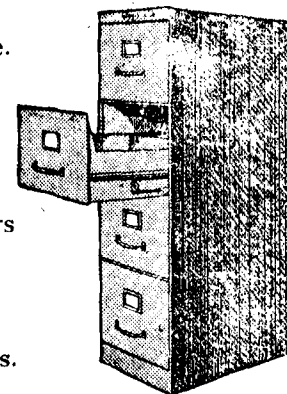
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THE STATUTORY RAILWAY BOARD

BY MR. GAGANVIHARI L. MEHTA, M.A.

THE proposal for the establishment of a Statutory Railway Board has been under consideration of the Government of India and the Secretary of State for some time and has evoked considerable public interest* and strong public criticism. It is, therefore, useful to recapitulate the history of this question and realise its implications.

It is interesting to recall that when the Montagu-Chelmsford Reforms were introduced, the Railway Board had, in fact, proposed that the Legislative Assembly should have nothing to do with Railway management and that the entire Railway Department should be a non-votable subject, but this suggestion was not approved by Mr. Montagu. In passing, it might be noted that the separation of railway finance from general finance, whatever its technical advantages, did definitely diminish the control of the Central Legislature over the Railway Department and the Railway Board.

The landmark in the evolution of this question, however, is the Government of India's Despatch on proposals for constitutional reforms submitted in 1930. It was emphasized in this Despatch

* Since this article was written, an important debate has taken place in the Legislative Assembly on the Statutory Railway Authority during the Railway Budget discussions. Sir Joseph Bhore, on behalf of Government, said: "His Majesty's Government had not yet decided whether legislation regarding the Statutory Railway Board should be by the Indian Legislature or by the British Parliament." The considered opinion of the non-official benches on this question was summed up by the President in the following terms: "I have been told that the object of the sponsors of the motion and that of the Independent, Democratic, Nationalist and Centre parties is, that they desire to convey their opinion that the Constitution Act should merely contain a clause requiring the establishment of a Statutory Railway Authority and that its constitution, functions and powers shall be subject to legislation, initial as well as amending, in the Indian Central Legislature."

Sir Joseph Bhore has promised to forward the debate to the Secretary of State for India.—Ed. I. R.

that there are certain purposes in which Parliament must continue to be interested so far as railways are concerned and it was, therefore, proposed that an authority for the administration of railways should be set up by Parliamentary Statute. The purposes in which Parliament was specially interested and which needed to be safeguarded were, according to this Despatch: Defence, Finance, the Services and the Anglo-Indian community. These were the fourfold pillars on which the mighty structure of a Statutory Board was to be erected. The proposal implied that a Statutory Railway Authority was to be constituted by Parliament largely independent of the control of the Indian Legislature. Although this Despatch foreshadowed a detailed enquiry into the question, the whole issue was later side-tracked and lost in a maze of secrecy.

The scene then shifts to the First Round Table Conference held in London. Although this subject was not discussed at all at any stage of the Conference or the Committees of the Conference, a recommendation regarding the Statutory Railway Board was smuggled into the Report of the Federal Structure Committee. When the stage of reporting came and Lord Sankey, the Lord Chancellor and the Chairman of the Round Table Conference, read out the relevant paragraph, four Indian Delegates, namely, Mr. Sastri, Mr. Jinnah, Mr. Jayakar, and Sirdar Ujjal Singh protested in turn that this proposal had never been discussed while His Highness the Maharaja of Bikaner also denied that he ever used the words "Statutory Authority" as alleged by the Lord Chancellor. Nevertheless, a recommendation which had never been made and discussed and which was surreptitiously introduced remained on record and passed through the three Conferences and the Consultative Committee and now finds a place in the White Paper.

Sir George Rainy assured the Assembly in February 1931 during the debate on the Railway Budget that nothing would be done on the sly

and that the Assembly would be taken into confidence in deciding this important question. Yet the Assembly was not consulted at all and one Brigadier-General Hammond was asked to prepare and submit to Government a memorandum on the subject of a Statutory Railway Board for India. He was not appointed at the instance of the Round Table Conference or any of its Committees, nor was the Assembly informed of his appointment. His report was published in August 1931 long before the Second Round Table Conference and yet it was never placed before that Conference. In fact, the existence of the Report itself was kept a closely guarded secret until in March 1932, that is, after nearly 6 months, it was placed before the Consultative Committee. Even the Consultative Committee, constituted as it was, ruled out the idea of Parliamentary legislation for the purpose and wanted to leave the constitution of the Railway Board to the Federal Assembly, only two members dissenting from this view. Since, however, there was no unanimity, the Government came to the conclusion that His Majesty's Government should decide the issue and accordingly the final decision was postponed. In the meanwhile, an enterprising Daily of Calcutta published a confidential circular of Sir Edward Benthall which stated that "railways and ports must be removed from political control"; while representatives of British commercial interests demanded during a full-dress Assembly debate on the subject in March 1932 that the new Constitution Act should provide for the establishment of a Statutory Railway Board and that they contemplated the same kind of status for railways as exists in the case of Port Trusts. This showed clearly that there was some kind of secret understanding on this subject between the Government, the Secretary of State, and the British commercial community.

In the White Paper, Paragraph 74 deals with this question and the relative portion reads as under :—

His Majesty's Government consider that it will be essential that, while the Federal Government and Legislature will necessarily exercise a general control over railway policy, the actual control of the administration of the State Railways in India (including those worked by Companies) should be placed by the Constitution Act in the hands of a Statutory Body so composed and with such powers as will ensure that it is in a position to perform its duties upon business principles and without being subject to political interference. With such a Statutory Body in existence, it would be necessary to preserve such existing rights as the Indian Railway Companies possess under the terms of their contracts to have access to the

Secretary of State in regard to disputed points and, if they desire, to proceed to arbitration.

The implications of this proposal will be considered later.

The last stage in the development of this question was the convening of a Special Conference in London to consider the question of the establishment of such a Board. The report of this Conference was published in August last and has been under consideration of the Government since then. It is understood that the Government of India propose to constitute the Board or the Railway Authority by an Act of the Indian Legislature instead of making it an integral part of the Constitution Act as originally proposed, but no final decision on this question has been made public. Such, in brief, is the outline of the history of this question.

Now what does the proposal, as embodied in the White Paper and developed subsequently in the London Conference, involve? It involves, in the first place, the establishment, through a provision in the Constitution Act, of a Statutory Authority which would be independent of the Legislature. The objection to setting up a body through a Parliamentary Statute is not a mere formal objection about procedure. For an Act of British Parliament would not be subject to revision, modification or amendment by the Indian Legislature unless the Statute of Westminster is applied to India, which is, of course, a futile hope at present. If British Parliament is to be the paramount authority in this respect, the Constitution Act would bind the future Government of India and fetter the powers and discretion of the Indian Legislature. The right to determine to what extent the Indian Legislature should control the policy or administration or finance of railways is to be reserved to Parliament: consequently the Indian Legislature will be free to exercise only such powers as are conceded to it by the explicit terms of the Act of Parliament constituting it, while all residuary powers will remain vested in British Parliament. It is superfluous to emphasize that no outside authority should have such a right to create a body which is to manage Indian railways over which the control of the Indian Legislature should be supreme and ultimate. A public utility concern of the magnitude of railways and of such vital importance to the economic life of the country cannot and should not be handed over to a body largely uncontrolled by the Legislature of the country and immune from public criticism. Even in America where railways are

owned by private companies, popular control is not eliminated and the Congress has the power to instruct the Inter-State Commerce Commission. The removal of such a vital matter of public concern from the purview of the Legislature through the creation of an autonomous body would go counter to the entire policy underlying the nationalisation of railways which has been accepted and is being carried out by the Government. It will, moreover, transfer real responsibility of railways from the Legislature to the Statutory Board and will thereby encroach upon the rights and privileges of the Federal Legislature. Besides, by vesting the financial control of the railways in the hands of the Statutory Board and also by restricting the right of voting supply by the Legislature, this project will divide financial control of the Government of India and weaken the powers of the Finance Member of the future.

Nor is that all. As a careful perusal of Paragraph 74 of the White Paper will indicate, it is not merely the Federal Legislature which is to be deprived of any power of control, but even the Federal Government are also considered a factor of political influence, which should be deprived of any vital authority over the railways. Despite the several safeguards, the special responsibilities, the reserve powers, the appointment of Counsellors, Financial Adviser, not to mention the composition of the Federal Legislature, even the Federal Government are not fully trusted and a clear distinction has been drawn in the Report of the London Conference between the Governor-General on the one hand and the Federal Government on the other as in the case of the Reserve Bank Bill. It is clear that the Governor-General and not the Governor-General-in-Council (or in other words the Federal Government) will have the decisive voice in the appointment of the members of the Railway Authority, while it will be the Governor-General who will have the power of dismissal and the power of fixing emoluments in consultation with the Federal Government. It is, therefore, clear that the final authority will not be the Governor-General-in-Council or the Minister of Transport and Communications, but the Governor-General who is responsible to the Secretary of State, i.e., British Parliament. In fact, as a result of safeguarding the existing rights of the companies working under contract with the Secretary of State, even the Governor-General is brushed aside and the arbiter will be the Secretary of State. It is impossible to understand why the Federal Court instead of

White Hall could not be referred to in any such matters of dispute with the companies, although it is not known what are the terms of the contract mentioned in this connection. This is unfair even to a semi-responsible legislature and is only comparable to the taking over of the Customs Duties in China as mortgage by the Western Powers. The portion relating to reservation of the existing rights of the railway companies and the obligation of the Railway Authority to approach the Secretary of State is seriously objectionable from the most moderate constitutional standards.

The two main objects which the White Paper sets before such a statutory body are that it should "perform its duties upon business principles" and that it should not be "subject to political interference". As regards the first objective it need only be said that if the aim is to secure efficient and economical management of the railways in national interests, that is as much the concern of the Indian Legislature and the Ministers as any one else. If the railways are not properly managed with the result that they are not able to pay either the whole or part of Rs. 33½ crores of interest charges which they have to meet, it is the Indian Minister of Finance who will be the first sufferer as his ways and means position would be upset and it will be the Indian Exchequer which will be placed in a difficult position. It is, therefore, in the primary interests of Indian finance alone, if for no other reasons, that sound management of railways is necessary and it requires no extraneous stimulus or restrictive safeguards at all. Railways have been built at huge expense to the Indian taxpayer who has had to pay guaranteed interests to the companies. Now that India is to have the boon of a Federal Government, the price is to be paid by handing over a vital and costly business for which the Indian taxpayer is ultimately liable, to a coterie of so-called experts. If the main lines of policy are to be laid down in advance, such as for instance regarding investment of railway reserves, provision of depreciation and sinking fund charges, contribution to general revenues, etc., either through the Constitution Act or some supplementary measure or Instruments of Instructions, it will involve a serious encroachment upon the rights of the Legislature and the Ministers and deprive the Legislature even of the meagre powers it has at present.

This statutory authority is to be constituted to avoid "political interference" which is otherwise

apprehended. In the peculiar terminology of India, freedom from political interference means giving the bureaucracy a free hand to do what it chooses. The influence of the Legislature and its meticulous control have all along been resented by the Railway Administration, who argue as though efficiency increased with irresponsibility to any democratic authority. All public discussion and criticism of the Railway Administration appears "political" and obnoxious to the bureaucracy. Only till very recently Indians were shut out from the Railway Board and if there has been some kind of check on the Railway Administration, it is due to the increased interest taken in railway affairs by the Legislature and public opinion. Moreover, in the peculiar conditions of India it is difficult to know what are and what are not "politics". To enact a measure by the Constitution Act and to keep the Statutory Railway Board under the thumb of the Secretary of State and British Parliament is not "politics", but to set it up through an Act of the Indian Legislature and to have it under its ultimate control is "political". But this is not all. Attempts have been made and pressure exercised on the Government of India through the Secretary of State to speed up railway development in India for relieving unemployment in England. For instance, Sir Alfred Mond, known later as Lord Melchett, said in the House of Commons a few years ago:

When I was Chairman of the Cabinet Unemployment Committee, a scheme was put forward and was under consideration by which by the use of the Indian Government credit, supplemented by our own, we could obtain orders for the Indian railway programme.

Similarly, Sir Charles Innes once admitted in the Assembly that pressure was exercised in the Imperial Economic Conference of 1923 to speed up Indian railway development to secure orders, which, presumably, is one of the objects for which railways exist in India and which is one of the real, though unmentioned, purposes in which British Parliament is specially interested. To utilise this pressure of Parliament or India Office or Imperial Conference is not "political", although when Indian Commerce or Indian interests are to be protected or benefited, similar action becomes "political". There is no doubt that under the cover of preventing "political interference", a stores purchase policy would be devised which would not tend to encourage indigenous manufactures or even purchase from the cheapest markets and the process of Indianisation would be checked on the plea of importing experts.

But the question is whether the independence of a Statutory Board from control by the Legislature would really ensure its freedom from "political interference". In fact a small body of experts or functionaries have often a greater temptation to degenerate into a clique or a bureaucratic coterie which will tend to serve only one particular set of interests which need not necessarily be national interests. This is not a hypothetical argument. Sir William Acworth has shown in one of his works that it is better for an administration to be run subject to Parliamentary control than that it should be free from that control if it degenerates into a clique. "For a Minister can at least be watched and exposed in Parliament by political opponents," observes Sir William Acworth, "while a Commission can take shelter under the cloak of its statutory irresponsibility". This is the final reply to the scare-mongers who repeat the catch-phrase "political interference".

What is objectionable in the scheme is not the constitution of a quasi-independent authority to whom the powers of technical management of railways might be delegated or to a reorganisation of the functions, powers and obligations of the Railway Board, but the deprivation of the Legislature of the final authority and supreme control over the railways. What is required is railway autonomy, not railway autocracy. On the railways depend, in a real sense, the future of industrial and agricultural development. Railways have assisted agricultural and industrial development in other countries in a variety of ways and can likewise do so in India. A Statutory Railway Board, as outlined in the White Paper and in the London Conference Report, would be an *imperium in imperio* and is therefore fundamentally objectionable. Even if the Railway Authority was to be set up through Parliamentary Statute, provision could be and should be made, as in the South African Union Act, to authorise the Federal Legislature to lay down detailed provisions to interpret Parliamentary enactment in this matter. In South Africa railways, ports and harbours of the Union are administered and worked under the control and authority of the Governor-General-in-Council to be exercised through the Minister of the State who is advised by a Board. The Railway Board is consequently an advisory body and the entire responsibility for the administration is vested in the Minister of Transport. If a body of technical experts is necessary to administer the Indian Railways, the Federal Minister for Transport and Communications should

have been made the supreme authority under whose control such a body should operate. On the other hand, the proposals as approved by the London Conference relegate the Federal Minister to a subsidiary and an almost advisory capacity with the Railway Authority as the ultimate Executive Head of the railway administrations under the control of the Governor-General who is not responsible to any authority in India.

The Government presumably feel that the present Assembly has been so amenable to its wishes and that they can carry through a Bill

constituting the Statutory Railway Authority, however retrograde it may be, as they have carried through the Reserve Bank Bill. It may be, however, that the history of the Reserve Bank Bill might be repeated in this instance and that essential powers would be reserved to the Governor-General and important modifications made impossible without the previous consent of the Secretary of State. It is, therefore, essential that public opinion should demand that whatever reorganisation of the Railway Board is to be made, should be done by the Federal Assembly of the future and not by the present Legislature.

The Eclipse of Social Democracy

By DR. SASADHAR SINHA, B.Sc. Econ., Ph.D. Econ. (LOND.)

LIKE conservatism and liberalism, social democracy aptly defines the view represented by the various labour parties of Europe. And indeed that is the term in general use on the Continent for the labour movement; while recently Mr. John Strachey in his book, "The Coming Struggle for Power", has extended it to the British Labour Movement as well—a name justified on more than one ground. In the first place, it expresses the basic similarity of working-class movement in all Western European countries; for not only did it arise out of similar necessities, but it also marks a definite stage in the evolution of European capitalism. Secondly, the causes underlying the unity of the movement are the same as those responsible for its present phase of disintegration.

During the last decade the labour movement has enjoyed shortlived glory. In Germany, social democracy has held a key position in the post-War government of that country, and was actually in power for some time. In England, the labour party has been in office twice, although no doubt in a minority. But the crucial question is, what really brought social democracy to power, and why did it fall so abjectly short of its professions? Is its failure due to its minority position, to lack of courage, or does the fault lie in the very nature of the movement? Whatever the force in the first two factors, they are both at best symptoms of the inherent instability of the social democratic movement. In the historical perspective, only the relation of social democracy to its economic background is the relevant factor in the situation.

In England, as elsewhere, social democracy arose in the heyday of capitalism, out of the

practical need for reform in the manifestly unsatisfactory conditions of the workers; out of the desire of the workers to share in the fruits of capitalism. From its very beginning it was reformist in outlook, and reformist it has always remained. Unlike the post-War radicals, who have broken away from the main body of social democracy, social democrats have never really questioned the fundamentals of capitalism. whatever may have been their theoretic professions. Social democracy has never been revolutionary, for it has sought its salvation mainly within the framework of capitalism. Indeed, in their actual party alignment, the social democrats have always been close cousin to the liberals, the only difference being their noisy flamboyance. In other words, social democracy has, in practice, never been anything more than a vigorous branch of liberalism. If this fact is firmly grasped, the reason for the decay of both liberalism and social democracy to-day will become clear.

The halcyon days of liberalism ended with the last war. This is not surprising, because the War also marked the end of the most prosperous period of Western capitalism. The disintegration of liberalism, however, meant, in England, for instance, an accession of strength to both conservatives and social democrats. The rise of social democracy to its post-War position of eminence is thus no riddle. It merely stepped into the gap left void by the liberals, because liberalism as a party in opposition ceased to pull its former weight. Social democracy took over all the responsibilities of the liberals, and soon discovered it could never fulfill them either.

Times had changed. Capitalist economy no longer possessed its former elasticity. Social

legislation, housing reforms, education, etc., which the liberals and even the conservatives had initiated in the past were possible only in the prosperous days of capitalism. In its crisis, they only clogged the smooth running of its wheels. Social democracy, when brought to power, had to face the same problems, but it had neither the authority, nor even the desire, as the record of the last labour government in England has amply shown, to effect any revolutionary change. The best it could do

was to look helplessly on, either marking time, or passing unimportant reforms, or actually going back upon reforms effected in the past.

The futility of social democracy is written in bold letters everywhere. In every major Western European country, it has been brought low either by the formation of dictatorships, or the abeyance of party government. In both cases, it is a desperate attempt to salvage the sinking ship of capitalism.

THE RAILWAY BUDGET—1934-35

BY PROF. L. A. NATESAN

(Professor of Economics, Scottish Church College, Calcutta)

THE Railway Budget for 1934-35 presented by Sir Joseph Bhore in the Legislative Assembly on February 17, will meet with mixed reception. It is gratifying to note that the railway outlook for the next year is distinctly more hopeful than that of the current year. When revenues have touched the rockbottom, even a slight improvement is a source of encouragement and relieves the strain. But the fact that the year 1934-35 will be the fifth year of continued deficits for railways and that the burdens imposed during the last three years continue to operate against the general taxpayer and trade and industry calls for criticism. We may refer to these aspects after dealing with the main features of the present budget.

A budget has been described as a report, an estimate and a proposal, and the Railway Budget for 1934-35 contains a report on the accounts for 1932-33, the Revised Estimates for 1933-34 and the anticipations for the ensuing year. The actuals for 1932-33 indicate the severity of what looks like the worst year of the depression. The gross receipts were the lowest on record since 1922-23. The economies enforced were insufficient to produce net revenues adequate to meet interest charges which stood at Rs. 32.91 crores. The contribution to the general revenues has been suspended and the resulting deficit of Rs. 10.23 crores, the biggest of the series, was met by a temporary loan from the Depreciation Fund.

The Revised Estimates for the current year justify on the whole the hopes inspired by the slight improvement in the goods traffic. But the passenger traffic has betrayed an ominous drop, with the result that not even the standard of

performance of 1932-33 looks like being attained. The receipts are placed half a crore less, while working expenses remaining at the budgetted figure leave net traffic receipts to the extent of Rs. 24½ crores. With interest charges at Rs. 32½ crores, the anticipated deficiency of Rs. 7¾ crores will be covered by a temporary loan from the Depreciation Fund. The one encouraging feature is that neither the earthquake damages nor the repair works of the Hardinge Bridge are likely to upset the budget estimate of working expenses for the current year, as the amount is to be distributed over a period of 10 years and as the present instalment is made up by a fall in interest charges.

The Budget Estimates for 1934-35 are based on the hope that the improvement in the current year will continue unchecked and that an increase of Rs. 2½ crores may be realised in the traffic receipts. Gross revenue are, therefore, expected to be Rs. 91¼ crores and total expenditure Rs. 64½ crores. With interest charges at Rs. 32 crores the total deficit should be approximately Rs. 5½ crores, to be met, once again, by a loan from the Depreciation Fund.

The prospect of the increased receipts underlying the budget for next year seems to revolve round the trend of goods traffic. As regards the earnings from passenger traffic, only a very slight increase is expected. The experiment of lower fares on the North-Western Railway should be welcome and may prove a stimulus to expand the revenues of the railway from passenger traffic, as the drop may, in all likelihood, have been caused by the reduced purchasing power of the average passenger. The only other important announcement in the Budget

is that pertaining to the programme of works to the extent of Rs. 14 crores, to be spent solely on open line works, excepting for a small item of construction on the South Indian Railway costing Rs. 11 lakhs. Beyond a mere reference to the Road-Rail Conference held last April, the Pope Committee and the Statutory Railway Authority, the Budget speeches of the Railway

Member and the Chief Commissioner of Railways have nothing else to state.

This brief summary of the present budget does less than justice to either the economic situation or the ability with which the Railways have endeavoured to weather the storm. A more accurate idea of the situation in perspective is offered by the following comparative table:—

INDIAN STATE-OWNED RAILWAYS

IN LAKHS OF RUPEES.

	1924-25	1925-26	1926-27	1927-28	1928-29	1929-30	1930-31	1931-32	1932-33	1933-34*	1934-35†
Mileage Open	27,002	27,107	27,726	28,149	29,224	30,798	31,117	31,558	31,702	31,707	31,712
Gross Traffic Receipts	1,00,13	98,94	98,42	1,03,43	1,03,73	1,02,70	95,10	86,63	84,43	86,50	94,25
Ordinary Operating Expenses	51,65	52,99	52,89	53,06	54,22	55,59	54,39	49,31	49,08	49,44	52,25
Depreciation	10,35	10,67	10,89	11,38	12,00	12,59	13,07	13,46	13,77	13,60	13,65
Net Traffic Receipts	38,13	35,28	36,64	38,99	37,57	34,52	27,64	23,86	21,58	23,46	28,35
Net Miscellaneous Charges	1,07	1,19	1,27	87	37	2	11	1	1,10	1,16	1,60
Net Revenue	37,06	34,09	35,37	38,12	37,14	34,50	27,53	23,87	22,68	22,30	26,75
Interest Charges	23,90	24,81	25,87	27,27	29,33	30,46	32,72	33,07	32,91	32,46	32,05
Surplus	13,16	9,28	7,50	10,85	7,81	4,04	5,19	9,20	10,23	7,78	5,30
Contribution to General Revenues	6,78	5,49	6,01	6,28	5,23	6,12	5,74	...	...	...	...
Railway Reserve	6,38	3,79	1,49	4,57	2,58	2,08	10,93	4,95	...	...	...

* Revised Estimates.

† Budget Estimates.

The toll of the depression is eloquently portrayed by these figures. In 2 years railway finances were thrown violently off their equilibrium by a sudden drop of Rs. 15 crores in their traffic receipts. The reserves accumulated out of the prosperity of the first 6 years after the separation of Railway Finance were wiped out by 1932. The Railways carried out their retrenchments, the contribution to the general revenues was suspended, and rates and fares were enhanced. There have still been deficits to which Rs. 27½ crores in all would have been borrowed by the end of the next year as temporary loans from the Depreciation Fund which should have stood at Rs. 39 crores instead of the present figure of Rs. 11½ crores.

There is no indication as to how long this facile method of falling back on temporary loans from the Depreciation Fund is to continue. The answer presumably seems to be, as long as the depression lasts. This is the most unsatisfactory feature of the Railway Budget. For one thing the Depreciation Fund is getting depleted at a dangerous rate and the temporary loans may join the category of the bad and doubtful debts of the Department.

The essential problem of the Indian Railways is to increase their net revenue. With falling receipts, there is no other means of balancing the budget than by cutting down expenditure. The prospect of further economies is considered by the Railway Member as something remote. The major retrenchments, he added, have all been carried out and further economies must come out of the results of job analyses now being carried out by Mr. Pope's organisation. It is true that there is a large proportion of inelastic expenditure consisting of the interest charges and depreciation. Of these two, the former has grown by approximately a third of what it was in 1924-25, and reflects the consequences of the extravagant capital programme since separation. Neither here nor in the case of depreciation can any relief be obtained. The reductions possible, and so far effected, are in the ordinary operating expenses, and even here a good proportion has been in the nature of postponements, which, as already indicated in the Budget, may not brook further delay. It is not obvious from a perusal of the statistics on the subject that the railways have done all they could. It is noticed that the Assam Bengal Railway shows,

as compared to its own record during the three years ending 1930, a positive increase of 8 to 9 per cent. in its working expenses. The same story is also told by the South Indian Railway. There are, again, different degrees of economies in 1932-33 as compared to the average of 1927-28 to 1929-30 ranging between 1.1 per cent. on the North-Western Railway and 12.2 on the M. & S. M. Railway. The instances quoted suggest that the scope for economies is not limited to those already achieved.

Somewhat different, but to the same effect, is the claim for an adaptation of the standards of working expenses to the new lower level of receipts which is likely to persist for some time to come. Looking back over a longer period, it is found that the rate at which working expenses have been growing is out of all proportion to that in the earning capacity of the railways. With the prospect of further lean years, one should have thought that the time has already come for a reorganisation of our railways. There may be some force in the argument for temporary loans in the case of one or two exceptional years. The borrowings from the Depreciation Fund and

the suspended contributions to the General Revenues have already come up to a total of Rs. 48½ crores. In other words, apart from the usual provision for interest and depreciation every year, the Indian Railways will have to face, when they emerge from the depression, the liability of paying back an amount that exceeds one half of the total gross receipts. Some definite pronouncement, therefore, was looked for in this year's Budget speeches as regards the reorganisation of the railways and their finances. Looked at from this point of view the Budget has been particularly disappointing.

There is no denying the fact that the situation during the last 4 years has been trying enough. That the Indian Railways stood the shock of the crisis as well as they have done is a cause for satisfaction. Mention should also be made that the Railway Member and his department have shown a wise restraint in the matter of further capital expenditure in face of the temptations of cheap capital. They have done well to make sure of the financial soundness of the proposals at the present time before making commitments.

INDIANS IN SOUTH AFRICA

IN our last Number we pointed out that there is complete unanimity of opposition to the scheme of sending out South African Indians to colonise some other country, that a considerable section of our countrymen had gone the length of expressing their disapproval by boycotting the Committee of Enquiry, and that the Agent-General himself, while giving evidence before that Body, was no less emphatic in his opposition. As we go to Press, comes the astounding news that the Committee which examined thirteen countries, have decided upon three that are farthest removed from South Africa. The repatriation scheme having failed to attract a sufficient number to India, it is now proposed to relegate the unwanted Indians to the remote and uninhabited wilds of Borneo, and New Guinea, and British Guiana!

Now Mr. P. B. Singh, after an extensive tour of the country, has described the woes of the repatriates in India. And there is so far no country that will have them. For in these days of depression each has troubles enough of its own. Why then persist in this vain search for the goose that lays the golden egg? Most of the Indian settlers are South African born. They know no other country. Their lives and fortunes, their hopes

and aspirations, and their dreams for the future are all centred in the land of their birth. What then is the obvious course but to accommodate them as an integral part of the country which they have helped to develop? They are proud of their heritage, and their rights to a place in the Union are as incontestible as the Whites'.

A South African paper received by the last Mail, gives a list of the Indian Agent's valuable work in the direction of affording relief to our countrymen and creating closer contact between Indians and Europeans. We are told that his achievements have been made possible by the goodwill and co-operation of the Minister of the Interior, Mr. J. H. Hofmeyr, a sympathetic and broad-minded statesman. Is it too much to hope that an extension and continuance of such goodwill and co-operation will avert a crisis that threatens to develop in South Africa, if the Union Government should persist in their attempt to get rid of the Indian settlers? For the fantastic proposals of colonization will be resisted with bitterness and it is up to South African statesmanship to avoid an ugly and unpleasant struggle, in the interest of peace and humanity and the good name of the Union.

President Roosevelt's Monetary Policy

BY MR. KEDARNATH KHANDELWAL, B.A., LL.B.

(President, Calcutta Stock Exchange)

IT is not easy for any one in India to form an accurate estimate of the success or otherwise of the many startling experiments which President Roosevelt has launched upon ever since he came into office. The reports which reach us are often too meagre and awfully behind time. Not infrequently they bear marks of transit through layers of inveterate prejudice. We in India have always to be on our guard against imbibing unconsciously the outlook of the City of London in international financial affairs. For intellectual *Swaraj*, we should assiduously cultivate a more direct access to the minds of non-British peoples. However that may be, enough is known by this time to enable us to form an independent judgment on the American President's industrial and monetary policies. For my own part, I am not uncritical of the President's measures. Some of them, especially those relating to silver, are too obviously of a vote-catching nature. Others seeking to introduce long-range "reforms" into the productive system of the country seem to be too sweeping and rather hasty in character and greatly complicate the situation. Nevertheless, I believe, the President's "recovery" programme is on the whole proceeding on right lines and I think the Government of India cannot do better than follow his fine example.

For about a year world prices have been more or less stable and there is a steady tendency on their part to be on the upward grade. Prices of staple commodities have definitely risen and 'industrials' are giving a greater yield and have advanced in price so as to be, in some cases, almost as attractive as gilt-edged. All this is interpreted in British financial circles as proving the essential soundness of the British policy of masterly inactivity as contrasted with President Roosevelt's hazardous and seemingly crack-brained experiments. I differ from this view. It is of course not possible to accept without serious modifications any of the rival theories that have been put forward as explanations of the crisis. The stocks of the economists have fallen heavily over this problem of the world economic depression. Indeed, people have begun to wonder whether there is a science of economics at all and whether there are not really as many economic sciences as there are conflicting

interests in the world. The President and his advisers have apparently acted on the semi-Marxian theory that the crisis is due to the deficiency of purchasing power in the hands of the working class or what is more popularly known as the under-consumption theory. There is undoubtedly a tendency in America to squeeze capital, to tilt at improvements and to make work by protective devices. Without in any way identifying oneself with any particular theory, one is bound to admit that America with her iron and steel production reduced to 10 per cent. of the normal, with the income of her agricultural population diminished from 12 to 5 billion dollars and with 12,000,000 unemployed sorely needed some such bold measures as those adopted by President Roosevelt. That explains why the President has got so much support from the people who have forgotten their party affiliations and have rallied round the banner of the Blue Eagle with a religious fervour usually found in war times.

Of special concern to America with her vast agricultural population was the alarming discrepancy between the prices of farm products and those of manufactured goods. The most important piece of legislation passed by the Seventy-third American Congress is not the N. R. A. but the A. A. A. taken in conjunction with the Farm Act. It is for the sake of saving her farmers and in order to establish an economy balanced between the forces of agriculture and industry that America is attempting to organise a self-sufficient national economy foregoing, if need be, the advantages of international trade altogether. The American experiment has great lessons for us in India if we are prepared to learn them. There is of course a great, almost fundamental, difference between the two countries. The problems arising out of rationalisation, too great and too extensive an application of science to agriculture and industry have not arisen in India. We are not confronted with technological unemployment and we shall not have to pursue the path of restriction of output, at least for some time to come. But like America, we have the capacity if we have the will to be self-sufficient. Self-sufficiency or 'autarchy' as it is disparagingly called will no

doubt mean the loss of the advantages of foreign trade but that loss will be more than compensated by the advantages of increased employment and of a stable price level enjoyed by our agriculturists. When I think of the colossal damage suffered by Indian agriculture and industry from causes not inherent in the Indian economic situation, I consider economic nationalism as a blessing and wonder why there is so much unthinking nonsense talked about it. If we are to make work for the millions of our unemployed and protect our 300 millions of agriculturists from losing two-thirds of their incomes through factors operating outside India, we should not hesitate to adopt the Rooseveltian gospel of self-sufficiency. We should minimize our dangerous contacts with foreign markets and follow a monetary policy which will be prepared to sacrifice stability of the exchanges in favour of the stability of home prices.

That brings me to the consideration of President Roosevelt's monetary policy. He has been accused of torpedoing the World Economic Conference by his refusal to stabilise the dollar exchange. But his critics have not given proper attention to the fact that the most pressing problem before him at that time was to reduce the internal purchasing power of the dollar speedily and sharply. The external value of a currency depends ultimately on the internal value and it would scarcely have been honest on the part of President Roosevelt to stabilise the exchanges as long as he carried the intention to devalue the dollar internally. It is extremely doubtful if international co-operation on the basis of stabilised exchanges would have succeeded in raising American prices to the extent actually accomplished or still contemplated. Certain it is that they would have been an insuperable obstacle in the way of the reforms introduced into American agriculture and industry. In India we have been agonised witnesses of the devastating effects of an artificially stabilised exchange on our agricultural classes during a period of falling and fallen world prices. It is the imperative duty of our Government to raise our agricultural prices by appropriate monetary and economic action instead of looking forward supinely to the international economic situation doing the trick for them. With that object in view delinking the rupee from sterling becomes a necessary preliminary and de-rating a very probable if not an inevitable sequence.

The Monetary Bill passed by the Congress in January this year is in one sense a continuation

of the measures adopted last year, in another sense it is a partial confession of failure. Let us look to the latter aspect first. Clearly the President has not been able to raise prices to the desired extent by industrial action alone. Since last autumn the progress of recovery has been arrested. The wage and working hour rules introduced by the N. R. A. have increased prime costs without reducing, as anticipated, the supplemental ones and production shows signs of stagnation. Recovery must come through an acceleration, not a slowing down of the productive mechanism. Without increased industrial activity the demand for and consequently the prices of farm products cannot rise. The farmers are therefore restive and clamouring for inflation. The huge public works programme adopted last year could not be put into action immediately as the bureaucratic machine required for the purpose was largely non-existent and corruption and spoils had to be guarded against. In the present year the President has determined to begin in earnest the policy of remedying the depression by putting purchasing power in the hands of the people through the direct agency of the Government. He has budgeted for a colossal deficit and intends to finance himself to a considerable extent by a revaluation of the gold reserves. Such revaluation is impossible without resorting to some definite measure of devaluation. He was authorised last year to devalue to the maximum extent of 50 per cent. Now the Monetary Bill enjoins on him a minimum devaluation of 40 per cent. That means the value of the dollar will be fixed somewhere between the limits of 50 and 60 per cent. of its old gold parity.

Being an uncompromising believer in managed currency, he has expressed himself on the problem of gold reserves with great vigour and lucidity. The transfer of gold in bulk, he points out, is only necessary for payment of international trade balances. "It would be a prudent step," Mr. Roosevelt remarks, "to invest in the government of the nation the title to the possession of all monetary gold within its boundaries and keep gold in the form of bullion rather than coin." In establishing permanent metallic reserves in the ownership and possession of the Federal Government, he claims that he can organise a currency that would be "simple and adequate". Such a system of currency is of course indistinguishable from the gold-exchange standard which has increasingly commended itself to the world ever since Ricardo first mooted the idea. To provide

himself with an adequate gold reserve so as to be able to fix the value of the dollar within the limits fixed by law as also to have as great a windfall as possible by revaluing the gold reserves, the President has been authorised by Congress to nationalise the country's monetary gold supply. To induce private holders to part with their holdings, gold is being bought at a little above the market price. The price offered is \$34.45 per oz. as compared with the old gold parity of \$20.67 per oz. which comes to a devaluation up to 60 per cent. In so far as the President's policy is calculated to draw gold out of its private hoards, nothing but good can come out of it. It is clear that under the regime of central banks and in an age in which State planning of industry is going to be the rule rather than the exception, the existence of large stocks of gold in private hands cannot but constitute a serious danger to the safety of a planned money standard. . . .

On the problem of stabilisation of the dollar, Mr. Roosevelt expresses himself with perfect candour. He observes that "careful investigation and constant study proves that in the matter of foreign exchanges, certain of our sister nations find themselves handicapped by internal and other conditions and that they feel unable at present to enter into stabilisation discussions based on permanent world-wide objectives". This is a cold douche to those who hoped for an early stabilisation of the dollar. The President's pronouncement is bound to cause much shaking of heads in England and France where opinion will rather accuse Mr. Roosevelt of unpreparedness, even of deliberate unwillingness. But I believe, Mr. Roosevelt is very serious about what he terms permanent world-wide objectives. The reformative side of the recovery programme is in his eyes all-important. "Lines have been definitely drawn," he says, "between those to whom recovery means a return to old methods—the number of these people is small—and those for whom recovery means the reform of old methods and the permanent readjustment of ways of thinking, and therefore of many of our social and economic arrangements."

"Civilisation cannot go back. We have undertaken many new methods, which it is our task to perfect and improve—and to alter when necessary—but in all cases we must go forward."

It is evident that permanent stabilisation of the dollar will hamper the consummation of many of Mr. Roosevelt's objectives, e.g., solving the problem of unemployment by providing "not

mere relief but the opportunities for useful remunerative work, especially publicly supported work"; to preserve the advantages of "useful, mechanical invention, machine production, industrial efficiency, modern means of communication and broad education", while at the same time preventing the "unnecessary expansion of industrial plants, waste of natural resources, exploitation of consumers of natural monopolies, accumulation of stagnant surpluses, child labour, and the ruthless exploitation of all labour, encouragement of speculation with other people's money". It is clear that there is bound to be violent disagreement between America and some of the 'sister nations' on the advisability of encouraging objectives such as these. In any case, as I have already remarked, a too early stabilisation of the dollar will be a serious impediment in the way of the fulfilment of Mr. Roosevelt's programme. In that sense, it is Mr. Roosevelt who is unprepared for stabilisation, and not the sister nations.

There are sufficient indications however to warrant the conclusion that sterling and dollar will be pegged to each in the ratio of something like \$ 5.00 to the £. If the dollar is devaluated to the maximum of 50 per cent. there is little doubt that sterling will follow suit. The chances of America and Britain entering into a war of currency depreciation are remote. As the rupee is pegged to sterling, the comparative stability of the sterling in relation to the dollar will mean little fluctuations in the trade relations between India and America. As America has adopted the policy of deliberately sacrificing her export markets in order to build a stable and self-sufficient national economy, there is little likelihood of her entering into an export trade war with other countries by means of currency depreciation.

From what I have said, it should not be inferred however that I consider stabilised exchanges as of no importance at the present time. On the contrary I rejoice to see that the fluctuations in the external value of the dollar will be confined within narrow limits. Stabilisation of the dollar is the inevitable next step. I heartily endorse the suggestion that the President should make a clear declaration that the value of the dollar will be altered only in accordance with international trade balances or with changes in the internal price level. That will give a much-needed confidence to trade and industry all over the world without in any way interfering with Mr. Roosevelt's reforms programme.

The Rt. Hon'ble Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru

By

MR. O. M. THOMAS, M.A., LL.B.

SOME men become a power in strange and unexpected circumstances. Caesar was a more potent factor after Brutus had carved him "as a dish fit for the gods". In our own time



Rt. Hon. Sir T. B. SAPRU

Gandhi has more than once "come back" with springy resilience after his cocksure critics had dismissed him as a spent force. The Rt. Hon'ble Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru, the true though not orthodox Brahmin that he is, really belongs to the class of the twice-born. His retirement from the Government of India was a sort of resurrection. As long as he remained in office, his name like his habitation was confined to India. Close upon his resignation, he revealed himself at the Imperial Conference of 1923 as a valuable asset of the Empire. Three years ago he withdrew from the Liberal party; and it was within this period of splendid isolation that he contributed a golden chapter to the remarkable history of Indo-British relations. It is just twelve months since he made the pathetic declaration that he is a "political orphan", and hardly before its doleful echo had died out in the distance of time, the New Year has welcomed him to the galaxy of His Majesty's Privy Councillors.

Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru may lament like Hamlet the "cursed spite" that drags him time and again to the limelight. He cannot avoid distinction, for it is his own inevitable shadow.

Rumour has it that he is kept out of Debrett on a pure point of law, but nobody can deny that he is a peer, or better still that he is peerless, in his own right. Indeed he is one of those rare men

Whose even threads the Fates spin round and full,
Out of their choicest and their whitest wool.

The balance and symmetry of his composition justly entitle him to pre-eminence. His fair complexion and handsome figure are such as would have delighted a Phidias or a Pygmalion. He combines a clear intellect with an inordinate capacity for work. Consummate as is his ability, his heart is equal to his head, and the two function in singular concinnity. And to these gifts are added the happier attributes of unfailing physical and moral health. In fact, all the fairies seem to have been bidden to his cradle and they have bestowed on him their best blessings. And fortunately for Sir Tej there was no malignant intruder to mix up a curse with every boon, as is said to have been the case with that erratic genius called Byron.

He was born in 1857 in a Kashmir Brahmin family that was more respectable than rich. After matriculating in his fourteenth year from the district high school at Muttra, he joined the Agra College. It is possible that the Platonic theory of education, with its insistence on Mathematics, may have repressed Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru, who had no taste for that subject, below the level of a mere mediocrity. Nevertheless he managed to pass the Intermediate examination by the skin of his teeth, and since then gave a fine display of his merit. He topped the list in the B. A. degree examination of the Allahabad University in 1894, with honours in English, and in 1895 he got away with a first class first in English Literature at his M. A. That record was all the more creditable, because in the same year he also passed the LL. B. examination. The crown of his brilliant academic career was the Doctor of Laws degree which he took in 1902. He joined the Bar in 1895. In 1913, he was nominated as a member of the United Provinces Legislative Council, and in 1917 to the Imperial Legislative Council. He was appointed as Law Member to the Government of India in 1920.

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THE RT. HON'BLE SIR TEJ BAHADUR SAPRU

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In 1923, he returned to the Bar, and was chosen as a delegate to the Imperial Conference. He took a prominent part in the Nehru Committee, in the three Round Table Conferences and the Joint Parliamentary Committee on Indian reforms.

As is clear from this brief outline of his distinguished career, the first and foremost fact about Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru is that he is a lawyer. The law has "made" him, and he has made laws. In the profession he did not rise with the flourish and rapidity of a rocket. He scaled the legal heights like an Alpine climber. The gradualness of his success is more than compensated for by the abundance of its measure at its best. "Where O'Flaherty sits is the head of the table." To-day where Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru sits is the throne of the Allahabad Bar. He has older colleagues, able men who have grown grey in their devotion to the law. But they have not the same claim as he has on the implicit and affectionate suffrages of all sections of a profession which is not noted for its astringent quality. He is a hero. He has fought giants like Sir Sunder Lal, Sir Rashbehary Ghose and Pandit Motilal Nebru, and proved himself a foeman worthy of their well-tried steel. He is a great lawyer and a great advocate. His mind is a many chambered mansion which his untiring industry is ever at pains to furnish with fresh materials. I once heard him trip up a distinguished British Judge who, by way of an *obiter dictum*, said that King George had gone into the witness-box in England. "No, My Lord," replied Sir Tej, "His Majesty was prepared to give evidence, but the Attorney-General, Sir Rufus Isaacs (now Lord Reading), advised him not to do so, and the advice was accepted." Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru added that he wrote to the *Times* office for the detailed reports of the sensational libel case to which the King was a party, and that he had them bound in his library. That clinched the matter. The instance is illustrative of his method and equipment. He is more solid than subtle, is more diffusive than direct. He rather crushes with the weight of a sledge-hammer than cuts with the sharpness of a sword. His range is so wide that he has a tendency to drape his elaborate arguments in tumid verbiage. Yet he does not lose his way in the labyrinths of digression. He marshals his law and facts with admirable skill. And in forensic endurance I believe he holds the record in India, and perhaps also in England. He argued the Saharanpur adoption case in appeal for twenty-eight days, a performance twice as

long as the famous Mr. Eardley Norton's in the Alipore Bomb case in which Babu Arabindo Ghose was implicated. It also beats by ten days the address of Sir William Jowitt, a former Attorney-General in the Labour Government, in a recent company case in England. All this is by the way. Long speech is not a basis of legal reputation, but Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru surely satisfies much higher standards. He is easily the best constitutional lawyer now in India. His knowledge in this branch is a kind of Klondike to him, for he gives advice to several Indian Princes for a fee that each time amounts to a modest fortune.

The law has given him its most glittering prizes, but it is in the sphere of affairs that he has established a larger and more permanent fame. His tenure of office as Law Member was a complete success. The times were very much out of joint, still he showed a mastery of men and measures. His share in the post-War elevation of the status of India among the nations of the world has not been sufficiently recognized by the public. One reason of it is that he does not care to cajole editors. While in office he did not mistake independence for intransigence or tact for easy pliability. By sheer reasonableness he won the confidence of Lord Chelmsford and Lord Reading. Some time back a legislator cynically remarked that when an Indian politician crossed the floor of the House, he left his conscience in the antechamber of the Assembly. The criticism does not apply to the conduct of Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru. One example will be enough to get an insight into his official mentality. During his membership of the Viceroy's Council, he did not hesitate to extend his hospitality to Mrs. Besant, then an agitator and an ex-internee, notwithstanding a hint from two of his colleagues to drop her like a hot potato. Nor did he surrender his judgment, in which Lord Reading concurred, to arrest Mahatma Gandhi when the Prince of Wales was in India. His whole outlook on life and politics could be described by changing a single letter in the saying of the great Preacher: *Sanitas sanitarum, omnia sanitas*. Sanity is the only altar at which he would worship. He is neither a dreamer nor a doctrinaire. His sense of justice and fairness makes him apprehend all points of view. A thorough nationalist, he is not averse to the necessary device of safeguards for minorities. It is this union of sober intelligence and catholic sympathy that has secured him the esteem of all communities and rival schools of political thought.

By common consent he is not only the greatest but also the most respected Indian statesman alive. He was undoubtedly one of the four dominant personalities in the Round Table Conferences, and except, when the Mahatma interposed, was the virtual leader of the British Indian delegation. Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru could see the casement and the sky, the trees and the wood, and so he strikes a middle course between vague idealism and commonplace practicality. His analytical faculty would detach principles from personalities. He treated the Sastri-Winterton episode as a regrettable personal incident and demurred to the boycott of the Empire Exhibition, which was threatened by a group of the Liberals as a step in retaliation. By the same token, one wonders why he refused to co-operate with the Simon Commission. The Liberals had pleaded for a statutory inquiry. That no Indian was included in the Royal Commission was rather a disappointment on a detail.

Despite his indisputable eminence, it is not certain that Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru would make himself effective in the new dispensation for which he has striven hard at considerable sacrifices. He is the most eligible man for the difficult office of the Federal Prime Minister. But his present position reminds me of the reply of Meternich when informed of the arrival of the Emperor at Dresden—"Yes, but without his army." Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru has arrived without a national or a parliamentary army. He repeats with deliberate emphasis that he is a "political orphan". He has never been a party mugwump, but it is time that he assumed political leadership for the pioneer work that awaits him in the new era. Here he is in the clutch of a contradiction. The late Mr. E. T. Raymond speaks of a Victorian statesman that he "seems to have desired at once the superiority of rank and the superiority of being superior to rank". Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru at once likes the superiority of leadership and the superiority of being superior to leadership. He prefers to have the Parliamentary palm without the political dust. And he is too much of a cultured aristocrat to mind what a former British Premier contemptuously called "the Tom, Dick and Harry business" of party politics. His shapely skull has no bump of enthusiasm, and he cannot evoke that fine frenzy to which he himself gives a wide berth. Moreover, his mind is so attuned to a perpetual poise that he shrinks from the

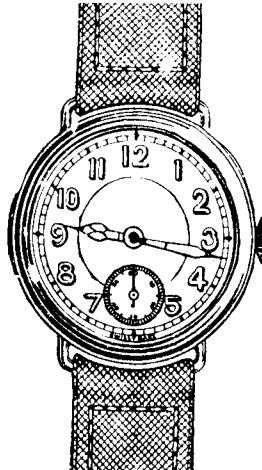
occasional disturbance of a decision. His pensive countenance suggests an incessant internal struggle between the pros and cons of vital questions. And he has a tell-tale chin. Pitt possessed an "aspiring" nose; Pandit Motilal Nehru had a terrible jaw that was as remorseless as a rat-trap. Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru's chin is somewhat indeterminate and is an index of his vacillation. Such a man naturally looks askance at the rough and tumble of politics. He shares the handicap with his friend and spiritual double, Mr. M. R. Jayakar. They form the Siamese twins of India by their similarity in temperament. On a total reckoning I am inclined to believe that there is point in the gibe of the *Morning Post* that Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru is "the white-headed boy (an Irish slang meaning favourite) of the Government". He owes his rise and renown to his nomination to two legislatures in succession. His patrician refinement would never have suffered him to seek election on the hustings. The result would have been a loss to constructive statesmanship had not Government rescued him from "the obscurity of a provincial lawyer"—to quote his own words to *Reuter*. He has not kicked the ladder by which he has ascended. His sense of gratitude is abiding. Loyalty is in his blood. His grandfather Pandit Radha Krishnan Sapru, who was a deputy collector, rendered signal services to the British in the Mutiny of 1857. And the grandson has shed lustre on the family tradition.

How is he as a speaker? I first heard him at Delhi early in 1924 when he presided at a constitutional convention. It was a small but select gathering which included Mrs. Besant, Mr. Srinivasa Sastri, and Lala Lajpat Rai. I looked forward to a feast of words from Sir Tej. His restrained rhetoric seemed to me to be as flat as decanted champagne. When I heard him on several subsequent occasions, he impressed me as a forceful and dignified speaker. His speech at the First Round Table Conference won the panegyric of the Prime Minister Mr. Ramsay Macdonald. Sir Tej commands attention in any assembly. His diction is adequate though not copious; his fluency is easy but not rapid and never rattling. He pays more attention to matter than to form and has no itch for purple patches. His words have no "spice of devil" to cheer, or "swell of soul" to inspire. He speaks like an advocate from his brief, with his passions kept in severe check by the bit and

bridle of reason and facts. Though inclined to be verbose, he yet sustains interest by his vigour and clearness. And he has a rich and resonant voice with a peculiar but lovable metallic twang.

His character is worthy of the highest respect. He does not provoke the least comment in any school for scandal, and his private life is an example for spotless purity. That fact is especially commendable, for he is a secularist as he once admitted to the Mahatma. His strong affection is borne out by the fact that, losing his wife at a comparatively early age, he has treasured her memory with tenderness and remained in "widower's" weeds. He looks upon life with subdued stoicism. A keen student of Urdu and Persian literatures, he has not altogether escaped the influence of the poet Omar. In spite of his sturdy optimism in politics, he has a vein of sadness which is reflected in his deep-set eyes and striking face. Not that he is a defeatist; far from it. He has a good digestion and extraordinary diligence. He would at once munch his matutinal egg and dictate a memorandum; would finish his breakfast and his Barriedale Keith together. His courtesy is beyond praise. He has laid to heart the old maxim that "Manners maketh the man". It is a pleasure to hear him say in the law courts, "Your lordships will be pleased to note" or "I most respectfully submit." He never causes a "breeze". When a nagging opponent resorts to pointless interruptions, he sits down with nettled abruptness and perfect calm follows, and in that chastened atmosphere he resumes his address. He has dignity without hauteur. He is scrupulous of the minutiae of social behaviour. I can never forget the way in which he apologised to me for keeping me waiting when I went to meet him punctually by appointment. His honesty is transparent. He does not run away with the fruits of other men's labour. He gracefully acknowledges the chance help that he gets from any other lawyer in the course of his arguments. "My learned friend so-and-so has brought to my attention a recent ruling of the Calcutta High Court on this point," he would say. Unless he discharges the debt there and then, he won't be happy. He is free from jealousy. Lord Rosebury says that "the ambitious man who can watch without soreness the rise or success of a contemporary is much rarer than a black swan". Sir Tej is ambitious, but he feels no pang of envy. His generous nature is ever ready to help

merit or to relieve distress. He is an enemy of extravagance, but spends freely on charities. He also yields to the call of culture and elegance. His is one of the best private collections of books. He does not strive for magnificent effect. His house and garden show the exquisite taste which is regulated by the art that conceals the art. His wondrous hospitality is a thing for legend. He has entertained Governors and Chief Justices and globe-trotting international celebrities at his beautiful though not showy Allahabad home. Withal he is modest. He runs away from publicity. I am told that he has resisted the flattering overtures of publishers, both British and Indian, for materials for an authoritative biography of his. It is a pity. Future generations will regard him as a patriot and statesman who served his country and the Empire well. I who am too near to him in time and place like to cherish him a *beau-ideal*, as one of Nature's undoubted gentlemen who played the great game of law and life with clean hands and a cleaner conscience.



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The Problem of the Polish Corridor

BY MR. M. V. SUBRAHMANYAM, M.A., L.T.

(Lecturer in History, St. John's College, Palamcottah)

"The Polish Corridor is the greatest political and economic absurdity of contemporary history."—Francesco Nitti.

"After Locarno had eased the situation on the Franco-German frontier, the Polish Corridor has become Europe's powder-box."—Lord d'Abernon

FOR some years after the War, the Corridor appeared to be a dormant issue to the outside world. To the Allied nations it appeared that Germany had resigned herself to the fate determined by the victorious Powers at the Peace table at Versailles and that she regarded the Polish Corridor as a settled fact. In reality it was not so. Germany never believed that the Corridor was made for perpetuity. In the first few years after the Peace Treaty, she was engaged in evolving order out of chaos and in recuperating her economic strength after the terrible effects of the Great War. With the revival of prosperity and the establishment of a strong Nazi government, the agitation for the restoration of the Polish Corridor to Germany has assumed serious proportions and unless the problem is solved satisfactorily,* co-operation between Germany and Poland will become impossible. The gravity of the problem will be realised when it is remembered that Marshal Foch, just before his death, prophesied that the Polish Corridor would be the cause of the next war. Lloyd George said once that Poland has five Alsace-Lorraines: the Corridor, Upper Silesia, Vilna, the Ukraine and White Russia, and of these the Corridor is the most hotly contested land. Hitler has made not merely the men-in-the street in Germany but even the child-in-the street conscious of the absurdity and injustice of the Corridor and has made Germany revolt against the Peace Treaty. In this article we shall state the Corridor problem and show how, in the interests of justice and peace, it should be settled to the satisfaction of both Germany and Poland.

It may be within the knowledge of students of history that Poland was partitioned among the three Powers: Prussia, Russia, and Austria. In 1772, Frederick the Great of Prussia annexed West Prussia and northern Posen. The territories annexed were important acquisitions, for as Frederick himself said: "Whoever has the river

* Germany and Poland have since agreed on a ten-year pact of non-aggression.—[Ed. I. R.]

Vistula and Danzig is more master of Poland than her ruling king." For nearly 100 years the Prussian rulers respected the customs and manners of the Polish subjects. But when Bismarck became the Chancellor, he Germanised Poland with his Kulturkampf. "Poland's independence," he declared, "would be tantamount to a French army on the Vistula... We cannot hold the Rhine if we have the Poles in our back." This Germanisation of the Polish provinces, happening as it did in the 19th century, the century of national revolutions, roused the patriotism of the Poles, and since the close of the 19th century the Poles had been working for an independent Poland under their leaders Pilsudski, Dmowski, and Jaworski. Then came the World War, and the independence of Poland became one of the 14 points of Woodrow Wilson. On January 8, 1918, Wilson told the American Congress: "An independent Polish State should be erected which should include the territories inhabited by indisputably Polish populations, which should be assured a free and secure access to the sea, and whose political and economic independence and territorial integrity should be guaranteed by international covenant." When Wilson declared that Poland should be assured a "free and secure access to the sea", he had no idea of the Corridor; he only wanted the internationalisation of the Vistula and the establishment of a Polish port at Danzig. But in the Hall of Mirrors at Versailles, Clemenceau the French statesman brought in the Corridor idea. The object of Quai d'Orsay was to set up a sturdy and independent Poland so as to weaken Germany in the East. If the Germans concentrated their fury on the Poles, Clemenceau speculated, they will have less time to think about Alsace-Lorraine and Saar. French wire-pulling finally led to the creation of the Polish Corridor. Poland was set up as an independent state, and among the provinces which went towards the formation of an independent Poland were the former Prussian provinces, namely, Pomorze—a narrow strip of territory connecting Central Poland with the Baltic Sea—and Posen.

If one looks at the map of modern Europe, one will see that the handing over of Pomorze and Posen to Poland has created a corridor between East Prussia and the rest of Germany and has thus destroyed the unity of the Reich. This

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THE PROBLEM OF THE POLISH CORRIDOR

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Polish Corridor is about 12 miles wide wherever it is narrowest and its population is in the neighbourhood of 1,500,000, of whom the majority are Poles.

It is this Polish Corridor which Hitler wants to restore to Germany. As remarked above, the Corridor separates East Prussia consisting of 2,500,000 Germans from the rest of Germany. Germans wishing to go to East Prussia, or return to Berlin from East Prussia, have to pass through Polish territory, travel in Polish trains and subject themselves to all sorts of inconveniences. German military transport trains passing through the Corridor are subject to special regulations. The military transport trains can travel only by day and two military trains cannot be in the Corridor at the same time. In one day not more than three military trains may be despatched through the Corridor and all of them should be reported to the Polish authorities 14 days in advance. What is worse, while Germany is disarmed, Poland which was born in the chaos of yesterday, is armed to the teeth. In the Polish Corridor alone there are 6 Polish Army Corps equipped with aeroplanes, tanks, and gas instruments. Germany, therefore, feels that she has been humiliated and that the Allied statesmen have amputated the living body of the German nation. The Germans say: "What would the French say if they had to traverse Swiss territory on their way from Paris to Marseilles? What would the English say if Birmingham were separated from Liverpool by a French Corridor? What would Americans say if Mexico had a stretch of land around New Orleans?" The German argument, it need hardly be said, is unanswerable.

The Poles say that if the Corridor is taken by Germany, Poland would be cut off from the Baltic Sea. To this it may be said that the mania for sea or as Pilsudski humorously put it, the "sea-sickness" of Poland is not a real one, but was put forward at the Peace Conference to obtain the Corridor. After all, the prosperity of Poland does depend upon her accessibility to sea. Czechoslovakia and Switzerland, though not having access to salt-water, are more prosperous than States having sea-coasts. If the Corridor is given to Germany, Poland can yet have access to the ocean highways through the Vistula, Danzig, Königsberg, and Stettin even as Czechoslovakia has obtained it through the Elbe and Hamburg.

Another Polish argument is, that the Poles form the majority population of the Corridor and that the restoration of the Corridor to Germany

would go against the principle of self-determination. But according to Dr. Hermann Rauschning there was a German majority before the Peace Treaty, but owing to a deliberate anti-German policy pursued by the Polish authorities in the Corridor, the Germans emigrated in large numbers to the Reich leaving the Poles the majority community.

In the first place discrimination was shown against German citizens in the matter of agrarian reform. The petition of Hans Ramm and Franz von Gordon, two Polish citizens of German ancestry, to the League of Nations shows that the Polish authorities deny the Germans permission to buy and if they do succeed in acquiring a piece of land, the State exercises its right of pre-emption. Again, an agrarian law was passed by the Polish government which authorised the expropriation of a certain amount of land for the use of the landless proletariat. The owner of expropriated land received 40 per cent. of the money in cash while the rest was paid in government bonds. A minimum amount of land, however, must be left to the previous owner and the minimum may be increased according to special needs. The law was worked to the detriment of the German owners of landed property. The Land Distribution Officers were all Poles, and they took the best land from the Germans and the poorest from the Poles. It is estimated that nearly 92 per cent. of all land expropriated under the Agrarian Reform Act in the province of Pomorze has been taken from the Germans. Another agrarian law entitles the Polish government to liquidate the properties of those who did not and could not acquire Polish citizenship. The owner is not given even the minimum land-holding to which he is entitled in the case of expropriation. Again, according to Article 256 of the Treaty of Versailles, the victorious nations were empowered to take possession of the landed properties of the German Princes, the German States, and the Reich. In pursuance of this Article, the Polish government started annulment proceedings in the course of which thousands of German settlers of government and princely estates had to vacate their homes at short notice. Thus this policy of expropriations, liquidations, and annullations resulted in the large emigration of the Germans from the Corridor to the Reich.

Further, though Article 110 of the Polish Constitution provides that the minority communities in Poland have equal rights with other citizens to establish, control, and operate at their own expenses charitable, religious, social, and educational

institutions, to employ their own language and to hold their own divine services, this Article has been consistently flouted by the Poles. German schools are not encouraged and the teaching of German language is discouraged. Kurt Graebe, a leader of Corridor Germans, was sentenced to 6 months' imprisonment, because he attempted to prevent the discontinuance of German classes. When the Germans complain of their treatment at the hands of Polish authorities, the Poles remind them of their ill-treatment when they were under German rule. But the Germans can boast of having made Posen the standard-bearer of a splendid civilisation. In the Corridor, some of the heroes of German science, philosophy, and military strategy were born: Copernicus and Kant, Herder and Schopenhauer, Fahrenheit and Hindenburg. The Germans feel that their splendid work in the Corridor, while it was in their hands, is not recognised. On the contrary, they are subject to several disabilities and consequently they have emigrated in large numbers to the Reich leaving the Poles as the majority community.

The Poles say that the Corridor is more important for Poland than for the Reich, and they point to the East to West traffic across the Corridor which is less than one-third of the north to south Polish traffic. But the German point of view is that the north to south traffic has been artificially stimulated and that the Poles have forced the trade intended for Elbrug, Koenigsburg, Stettin, and partly for Hamburg, to take the road to Gdynia, the new Polish port.

It will thus be seen that the Polish Corridor is a great injustice done to Germany, and until the wrong is righted, the peace of Europe is not safe. Nitti, Lord D'Abernon, Lloyd George, Masaryk, Mussolini, Senator Borah and even Marshal Foch have pointed out the dangers inherent in the Corridor problem. Count Coudenhove-Kalergi, apostle of Pan-Europe, spoke of the Corridor as the 'peace-maker of war'.

Various have been the solutions suggested to end the Corridor controversy. One is to extend the Free City of Danzig to include the entire northern part of the Corridor, enabling the Reich to communicate with East Prussia through a friendly State. Another plan is to unite Poland and Lithuania and give the United Republic access to sea through Memel. In this plan Poland can have access to sea and the Corridor

may be restored to the Reich. Perhaps the best solution of the Corridor problem, which will be advantageous to both Germany and Poland, is that offered by Dr. Guido Bertrand. According to his scheme the Polish Corridor in the restricted sense that is Pomorze may be returned to the Reich, while the province of Posen may be retained by Poland. Danzig would lose its status as a Free City and would be re-united with the Reich. The Poles would acquire sovereign rights over the railway lines of Bromberg-Gdynia, Bromberg-Danzig and Warsaw-Mlawa-Danzig. A demilitarised zone would be established along the Vistula from the Netze district to the Baltic Sea. The port of Gdynia would be turned over to Poland. The League of Nations should be authorised to execute the plan and it should have the right to appoint a High Commissioner to assure its observance.

Now that Hitler and Poland are drawing closer together, we hope that the Corridor problem would be settled on the lines suggested by Dr. Guido Bertrand by frank exchange of views instead of by a resort to arms.

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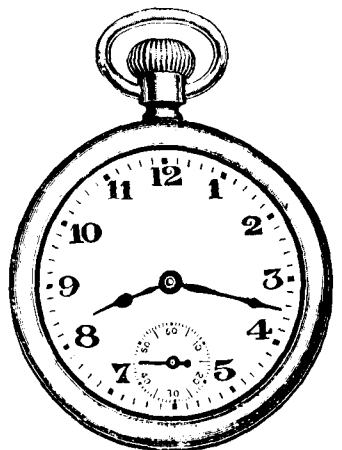
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GERMAN VOLUNTARY LABOUR SERVICE

BY

MR. FRANZ SELDTE

(Reichsminister for Labour, Germany)

AN immense wave of unemployment is sweeping over nearly all countries of the modern world, representing perhaps the most deplorable misfortune of the present time. This root of economical and moral decay has very justly been brought into comparison with the sinister plague by which the existence of humanity has in past centuries reiteratedly been threatened. A great number of reasons account for it. Whilst some of the causes of unemployment refer to all the countries concerned without exception, others are of a more individual nature regarding exclusively one or the other nation. It is, however, not my task to dwell upon theoretical considerations, but rather is it my duty to face hard facts, endeavouring to find ways and means of reducing the number of unemployed.

Not only in Germany, but also in several other countries Voluntary Labour Service stood the test, proving to be one of the most efficient means of relieving the youngest unemployed from moral and social need and misery. Voluntary labour service is not a new institution in Germany; in various forms it exists ever since the end of the war. The national organisations were at that time the first who conceived this idea and tried to carry it out. The present national German Government has energetically taken this matter into its hands, and presently about 250,000 young men are incorporated in voluntary labour organisations. The beneficial effects of the institution are already being felt. Economical as well as moral considerations are just such a service. In this connection I wish to dwell, above all, on the moral side of labour service. One can hardly conceive what a hard blow it is for hundred thousands and millions of the young generation to be, when beginning to face life, excluded from the possibility of work, for years to come, perhaps for ever.

The blessing of work without which every man, even the best and most willing, is likely to decline morally, should not be taken for any length of time from the young generation. It is therefore inconceivable for the German mind that the respective department of the disarmament conference at Geneva should have taken a decision against the extension of the labour service, indispensable in our estimation for

the moral salvation of German youth. For it must be remembered that the main tasks of labour service are pedagogical and educational, moral and, above all, social. People in Germany are really unable to understand that these clear and simple fundamental principles should be so frequently misinterpreted in other countries, chiefly in France. The German Government does by no means intend to use labour service as a means of a preliminary military training. Those who visit our German labour camps will at a glance see that these organisations are merely aiming at the training of the young generation to work and that they are, in spite of the necessity of rigorous discipline, not serving any military purpose. The said service has not been introduced to serve such purposes, but merely to help the young unemployed people in order to save the German people from future moral decay.

Understandably enough we must use methods in Germany that are in harmony with the character of our young generation and the peculiar qualities of the race. To that effect we are always pleased to avail ourselves of the practical experiences of other countries as was the case with Bulgaria, this nation having, compelled by need, organised voluntary labour service on an extensive scale. If the idea of such a voluntary service has by this time penetrated into all spheres of the German people, having become a general and national idea, such community of purpose fills our hearts with hope for the future of our young people. Nobody in the world has the moral right to frustrate such a hope. All classes of our population have joined, at the time of great need, in order to work jointly to the benefit of the people and the moral salvation of the young generation. The student works in collaboration with the tradesman and labourer, farmers with townpeople, the educated with the rough and simple man from the so-called low spheres of society, all united in the will of serving the great common aim. It is one of the foremost aims of voluntary labour service to demonstrate that unjustified social prejudice and the antagonism of social classes is futile and in its effects destructive. Germany wishing under Hitler's leadership to abolish class antagonism, the voluntary labour service spontaneously serves this

aim; active work shall lead to spanning a bridge over the existing social contrasts by which men, created by God to live together, are only likely to be separated.

Whilst placing the main weight of voluntary labour service on the moral and educational side, we have no reason to deny that we are at the same time trying to solve economical tasks. I emphasize the word *economical* because we must endeavour to organise the service in such a manner that it does not become a competitor of private enterprise. All countries have by this time understood that free individual trade is in itself not fit to solve all the tasks pending solution in an economical community aiming at moral ideals. Private enterprise is in all cases unable to fulfil all tasks, being compelled to operate on the basis of a sufficient profit margin without which the possibility of work is excluded for all concerned, the employer as well as the workman and employed. To quote a few of such tasks, the fertilising of arid land, draining of moist soil, irrigation of dry land, construction of roads and all similar enterprise serving the national community, can by individual concerns, especially during the time of an economical crisis, not be executed at their own risk. But on the other hand it must be borne in mind that these works are, apart from their national importance, also important from the point of view of private economical enterprise. If once arid land has been made fertile and new means of communications have been established, the foundation is

laid for various activities of individual enterprise. The work undertaken by the voluntary labour service renders the occupation of many thousands of busy hands possible who would otherwise be out of work. Thereby the voluntary labour service has its share in reviving to a certain extent stagnating economical activity employing labour, means of production and stores of goods. Therefore the voluntary labour service does in no way impede private enterprise, but rather stimulates the same by creating new possibilities of labour. As far as such work is subsidised by the State, there is no essential change; the work carried out by the voluntary labour service is of the same kind as that effected in all countries and at all times by the authorities; private enterprise could not venture to undertake such a work for the simple reason that it does not leave an immediate profit. Whilst it is a grievous fault if the State carries out great economical tasks during an economically flourishing period, it is equally imperative that the Government should, during the present period of stagnation, do the utmost to revive economical activity. This principle is energetically applied by the German national-socialist government, and in such a connection the activity of the voluntary labour organisation is of the greatest value. I consider it a privilege to act in my capacity as German Labour Minister also by the means of the voluntary labour service in the sense and spirit of our leader and chancellor Adolf Hitler.

The Late Mr. A. Rangaswamy Iyengar

BY MR. C. R. SRINIVASAN

(Editor, "The Swadesamitran", Madras)

MR. A. RANGASWAMY IYENGAR was the elder son of Mr. Narasimha Iyengar, a landholder in the Tanjore district, who had the rearing of a large family of four daughters and two sons on his modest holding. Mr. Narasimha Iyengar was a practical farmer who took direct interest in the cultivation of his lands; he had a shrewd sense of values which helped him to tide over his responsibilities without running into debt; and he was widely respected for his character and eagerly sought after for advice on men and things. Mr. Rangaswamy Iyengar was fortunate

in his father, but he was even more fortunate in his mother; she was a sister of the late Dewan Bahadur Srinivasaraghava Iyengar; she gave her family a prestige and position not to be despised in those days. The relations, near and remote, of the late Mr. Srinivasaraghava Iyengar, owe him a deep debt of gratitude; for in him they found an inspiration and around him an environment, calculated to draw the best in them. A man, well placed in life and that, as a result largely of his character and equipment, gathers round him budding talent and gives it the necessary dynamic

energy to realise itself. That Mr. Iyengar should have come under the influence of a man of his type in the formative stage of his life was fortunate to himself as to his country; the habits he formed and the ideals he cherished may well be associated with this period; the late Dewan Bahadur was a man of wide culture and of an infinite charity; of a studious turn of mind he was ever to be found among his books when he was not engrossed in his files; reading to him represented not merely a pleasure and a pastime but had developed the proportions of a passion; and it strikes me he read more books in the latter half of his life than in the earlier half; and his range of reading was astonishingly wide; the modesty and the humility of the truly cultured were ever to be found in him; that example was inspiring and in the case of Mr. Rangaswamy Iyengar, laid the cultural foundation for a career he had no glimmering of at the time; that association likewise colored his outlook on life; the other wordly character he often showed in the mundane affairs of men may well be reckoned as an influence of this period; he was apt to take people on trust and rate them at their best and although repeatedly let down to the last, his enduring impulse was to extend a helping hand to every lame dog that sought his aid.

Mr. Rangaswamy Iyengar entered life as a clerk in the Secretariat and after a short spell of it set up practice at Tanjore, having meanwhile qualified himself for the legal profession; neither as a quill-driver in the Secretariat nor as a word-spinner at the Tanjore Bar, did he find that ease of mind and buoyancy of spirit which comes to a man who is giving the best in him; measured in terms of material success, I dare say he would have scaled the highest rungs of the ladder in either profession, but as I have said he would not have made the best use of his talents; and his country would have been the poorer for such wastage. By way of illustration let me quote an example. Sir C. V. Raman entered life in the financial service and it requires little imagination to foresee he would have finished up as an Accountant-General of some Province and retired in due course; few would have hesitated to rate it as a successful career; luckily for the world, Raman found himself out of tune with his career; that still small voice in him would not be silenced and smothered in a career of effortless ease; therefore when opportunity came anon and the choice lay before him between affluence and

accounting on the one hand and competence and congenial work on the other, the Raman effect asserted itself first on him before it was discovered for the world. To Mr. Iyengar gathering up a practice at Tanjore which, for a junior of his standing, was not inconsiderable, an opportunity came presently offering fuller play for his talents but with little else to recommend it. Few of his friends and none of his relations could see any rose tints in a career of journalism which, on the evidence before them, suggested but a precarious struggle for existence. Mr. Kasturiranga Iyengar, his uncle, had just taken over the *Hindu* from Mr. Veeraragavachariar and in the adventure had risked his all; when the proposition was put to Rangaswamy Iyengar to come over and help him, I fancy the scales were somewhat weighted down, for the ties that bound him to Mr. Kasturiranga Iyengar were something more than avuncular and carried besides a lurking sense of obligation. However that may be, the fact remains that he threw up his practice and came over to Madras to begin life once again as a journalist.

The *Hindu* passed into the hands of Mr. Kasturiranga Iyengar in 1905. It had already completed 25 years of service and its Silver Jubilee was celebrated in 1903 with great eclat; but those in touch with the paper at the time were not disposed to bank much on its longevity. The conductors of the paper were really parting with their interest in the concern, because they had struggled too long against financial embarrassment which showed little signs of alleviation or abatement. It was not therefore to be wondered at, that when Mr. Iyengar took up the concern, the prevalent impression was not so much that Mr. Iyengar had done well for himself but that the paper had been lucky to secure a further lease of life. Even at this distance of time, I am unable to appreciate what led Mr. Iyengar to hitch his chariot to such an unpromising adventure. Here was a man, past his prime, untrained in business, and fresh to the technique of journalism, who boldly aspired to succeed when men who had devoted a lifetime to the work were content to cry quits. It was not altruism, a passionate urge to serve heedless of consequences. It is my firm conviction that he entered on the adventure after reckoning up the possibilities and potentialities of the business with a shrewd calculating eye. The man who dares deserves all that he gets and, if an unexpected element of luck intervened, few will grudge him the recompense that he deserved having regard to the great risks he ran and

the lean days he lived through. If ever a man needed an assistant whose loyalty was unquestioned and character beyond reproach, that man was surely Mr. K. Iyengar in 1905, and Mr. Rangaswamy filled the bill to a nicety. His secretariat training and knowledge of law gave him the right equipment for his new job; his early penchant for constitutional law and comparative history found full and free scope here; he brought to his task a reserve of abounding enthusiasm and unflagging energy which was not to be denied scope and play.

He joined up as Manager and Assistant Editor but I doubt very much whether his duties as Manager, with a masterful personality holding command of the show, amounted to anything more than acting as a buffer between the employer and employees. Mr. K. Iyengar had a shrewd idea that the weak spot in the *Hindu* lay in its management and therefore kept the reins tight in his hands. Temperamentally a soft hearted man, the corrective of responsibility might conceivably have hardened Rangaswamy Iyengar into a hard-headed business man, but a position which left him in effect to soften and smoothen the decisions of his uncle, while it might have helped to develop his latent gifts of diplomacy, was hardly calculated to provide that leaven of grit which might have made him a successful man of business in the conventional sense of the term. I am not personally sorry for it; much that was lovable in him would have been squeezed out in the process; his sympathy for the underdog, his charity extending even to the undeserving, his faith in humanity which survived all exploitation—these are qualities of enduring value which I should not have liked to see sacrificed at the altar of Mammon. Mr. Rangaswamy Iyengar's real forte lay on the Editorial side. That was work after his heart and the very efforts that were needed to stabilize a struggling paper called forth his reserves to sprout and shoot, bloom and blossom. His knowledge of constitutions as a prize scholar of political science led him to attempt a critical examination of the origin and development of the Indian Constitution and the book he brought out later on the subject, as a result of his researches, was recognised as an authoritative exposition on the subject and gave him a standing which would not normally have come to him so soon otherwise. It must be recollected that in those days the race of politicians proper had not come into existence. Politics was yet a pastime of the spare hour and

there were many who would fain spare themselves the labour of thinking. I have noticed many aspirant to political fame seek out Mr. Iyengar ostensibly to discuss political issues but really to pick his brain; not that Mr. Iyengar was unaware of it; but he was content that an atmosphere should grow where the dilettante of to-day would graduate into the propagandist of the morrow; and he was not far out in his expectations, for, shrewd observer as he was, he recognised early signs of the gathering storm. . . . Political developments were fast changing the even tenor of listless life in India. The well defined objective of the Calcutta Congress, the Surat split, the Bengal Partition, the Swadeshi Movement, the wave of repression followed by the Morley-Minto Reforms, the Great War which provoked in its turn a movement for self-expression—these led to a great awakening in the country and called forth the efforts of every patriot to play his part in canalising and consolidating public opinion. Need it be wondered that Mr. Iyengar felt a sub-conscious urge for playing a fuller part than the conditions of his work permitted in the public life of the country? The ties of loyalty and devotion which bound him to his desk were also progressively losing their force, as his uncle turned the corner and found himself in easy street.

There is a divinity they say that shapes the life of men. I am content to accept it in Mr. Iyengar's case. The same Providence, that snatched him from a career at the Tanjore Bar, got busy with him once again and translated him from the *Hindu* to the *Swadesamitran*. There can be no two opinions now, as to whether he was well advised in leaving a safe haven, endeared by close association and enriched with memories of common perils shared; at the time however, the news came as a bit of surprise to the many friends of Uncle and Nephew. I am clear, however, that the break when it came, whatever its causes, were all to the good, judging by results to himself, to the *Swadesamitran* and to his country. I will go further and say that the interregnum of a dozen years in his connection with the *Hindu* represent the most fruitful period of his life. Mr. Iyengar joined the *Swadesamitran* in 1915 and with characteristic zeal applied himself to his new duties. It did not take long for the readers of the *Swadesamitran* to realise that a new force, potent and pervasive, had invaded the placid atmosphere of Vernacular Journalism and that the new management will not be content with sailing in the backwaters.

It is difficult to describe in brief compass the many sided improvements effected by Mr. Iyengar in the *Swadesamitran*, but it would be easy to gather some idea of it by comparing an average issue of the *Swadesamitran* before 1915 and after; if to-day the *Swadesamitran* can stand comparison with any newspaper in the country for comprehensive and up-to-date news service, if to-day the readers of the *Swadesamitran* can challenge comparison with the readers of any other paper in the country for their knowledge and grasp of factors and forces working in the country, all credit is due to Mr. Iyengar for the way he laboured to raise the dignity of the Vernacular, to study the needs and requirements of his readers and to enthuse and energise them in the service of the Motherland; the time factor was in his favour and while it would be invidious to compare the special gifts which Mr. Iyer and Iyengar brought to their task, one psychological factor deserves notice. Mr. G. Subramania Iyer, when he addressed himself exclusively to develop the *Swadesamitran*, was a soured man who had lost his illusions in the cumulative disappointments that were his lot during the better part of his life. Caution grounded on experience cramped his efforts, and when the tide set in his favour, advancing age and weakening health had sapped away all the energy and enthusiasm of the fighter that he once was. It was a conscious perception of his own disabilities that led him to seek out Mr. Rangaswamy Iyengar and persuade him to take charge. Mr. Iyengar brought to his task that optimism and assurance which were needed to stabilise the services of the *Swadesamitran*, then on the crest of a great opportunity. He had just seen his uncle turn a greater hazard to success and had played no mean part in it. That success inspired and enthused his efforts and a further, and in my opinion, a greater success followed him.

Mr. Iyengar was endowed with one natural gift which lightened whatever task he attempted. He had a winning personality. His affable temperament, genial manners, keen humour and ready wit made it a privilege to talk to him and a pleasure even to disagree with him. He was an easy master to serve and easier yet to please. His sense of fair play and equity was so magnanimously conceived that more often than not, I have found him assiduously searching for extenuating circumstances to account for lapses which an ordinary employer would not have tolerated. Need it be wondered in the circumstances that service lost its sting where

he was the master, and that those who served him brought to their task a measure of enthusiasm which once the business was re-organised, considerably lightened the burden he was carrying. Mr. Iyengar found he had time to serve the country in other fields, and in the quickening atmosphere of political evolution opportunities were not slow in offering. Politics was fast becoming a whole time job, but knowledge and equipment were wanted to conserve and direct the energy that was released all over the land. The newspaper man, in the circumstances, as the most well-informed man, had almost a duty cast on him to render further service in regions beyond his legitimate sphere of work. Mr. Iyengar played a great part in the days of strenuous agitation that followed in the wake of the Home Rule Movement. He was a good platform speaker and possessed the additional advantage of being able to address his audience in English and Tamil. He was a familiar and respected figure at every political gathering, small or great, cultured or common; and it was but to be expected that his services should have been sought to co-ordinate and conduct the political movements of the day. He was General Secretary of the Home Rule League in its most active period; he was invited to England as a member of the Congress deputation when the Montague-Chelmsford Bill was under consideration. When the Swaraj Party in the Congress was formed, he was the Secretary of the Assembly group of that party and as the right hand man of the Leader of that party, commanded universal esteem. When the Swaraj party took over the machinery of the Congress, Mr. Iyengar found himself, by easy transition, the Secretary of the Congress for successive terms. The decade that succeeded his translation to the *Swadesamitran* found Mr. Iyengar a man of All-India reputation and one of the few leaders respected by Government and people alike. His entry into the Assembly as representative of two of the most politically advanced districts in the Presidency, defeating at the polls an ex-Judge of the High Court, commanding influence and prestige in those districts, showed the real love and esteem he commanded among the people whose cause he served; and the record of his party in the Assembly was such and his share in its triumphal march was so well recognised that his election for a second term for the same constituency followed as a matter of course.

In 1928, Mr. Iyengar was called upon to take Editorial charge of the paper where he had learnt his craft. It was a call he could not ignore; and it was a call he felt emboldened to accept, as he felt that the *Swadesamitran* would not suffer in the process. He was ever available to guide it should need arise, and his confidence was not misplaced as the recent celebrations of the Golden Jubilee of the *Swadesamitran* amply demonstrated. Of his work as Editor of the *Hindu* during the past 6 years, it is difficult to assess its volume and magnitude. The *Hindu*, when he took charge, had already developed almost an institutional character among the people of this Province; on that firm foundation Mr. Rangaswamy Iyengar built a reputation for the paper which transcended not merely the bounds of this Province but also this country. The contacts he had established with men in authority, in the counsels of the people as of the Government, stood him in good stead in the further responsibilities he shouldered as Editor of the *Hindu*; and as and when opportunity came for his services to be sought in extra-journalistic spheres, neither Government nor people were slow in approaching him. He was invited to serve in the Second Round Table Conference by the Government and in the same Conference, Mahatma Gandhi invited him to serve as his political adviser. I consider that the most signal tribute to the happy blend of idealism and realism that Mr. Iyengar symbolised. As interpreter of Mahatmaji's political views

in England, he achieved curious as it sounds a bigger reputation than even the author of the views commanded—so unassuming was his presentation, so disarming his opposition, so impressive his mastery of details, and so striking his grasp of essentials. The unfortunate developments that followed the return of the delegation caused him acute misery and although invited to the Third R. T. C. he declined; approached again to serve on the Joint Parliamentary Committee and buoyed by a fugitive hope that something may yet be achieved in a darkness that was visible, he again went to England last year. He returned broken in health and spirit. There was nothing doing there; there was nothing to cheer him here, and sickness when it came overwhelmed him. South India has produced many great men in the past—great jurists like Sir T. Muthuswamy Iyer and Sir V. Bhashyam Iyengar, great statesmen like Sir T. Madhava Rao and Sir K. Seshadri Iyer, great journalists like G. Subramania Iyer and S. Kasturiranga Iyengar. For the first time she has produced one who combined in himself great qualities each of which was enough to ensure the respect and esteem of his countrymen. A great constitutional lawyer, a man of statesmanlike outlook, a journalist of outstanding ability—need it be wondered that his unexpected death has released a flood of tributes to his memory whose volume and intensity has come as a pleasant surprise to assuage the misery of those near and dear to him.

IMMORTALITY

By Mr. E. H. D'ALWIS

Oh, some day Death will call me, and I know
I shall be dust blown by the wandering breeze
Hither and thither through the silent trees,
Past hope of dreams or waking evermore.
Then I shall go no longer gypsying
With you, most dear, nor watch the stars at night;
Nor see the shadows dance in pools of light;
Nor hear loved voices, or the birds that sing.
Nay, we shall conquer every age unknown,
Till April wooes no more the lustrous rays
Of bygone sunsets lost a million days,
And earth forgets the beauty it has borne;
O, till that timeless dawn our songs shall be
Undying still—our Immortality!

An Indictment of Examinations

BY PROF. M. M. GUPTARA, M.A. (Oxon.)

EVER since I read Maeterlinck's famous essay on "the tragical in daily life", I have lived with "terror and pity", of which one of the chief objects has been the pathetic army of martyrs who are, year after year, led to the annual *battue*. . . the vast hordes of victims of chicanery and ignorance who ever come to the examination-halls, sometimes indeed overflow into the corridors. It is they who unwittingly cause the whole trouble. The vast numbers inevitably condition the system. To deal with ten, fifteen, or twenty thousands of examinees at a time, eight, twelve, sometimes even twenty examiners are needed. Therefore, in addition to a single examiner's moods, vagaries, and whims, we get the inevitable variation between the individual judgments of examiners working at top pressure. . . (and remember the season, too), with their model answers before them, racing against time to maintain their daily number of answer-books examined. The problem naturally and habitually becomes one of applying a more or less inelastic code. And the only "markable points" cognizable at a glance and sufficiently objective to ensure uniformity among a body of examiners are—*facts and standardized opinions*. These, therefore, determine the papers set, and they in turn the methods of teaching—an unescapable circle of vice. Why is clause analysis an unfailing question in the Matriculation? Because of its *proportional* (and unvarying) importance, or because it is EASILY MARKABLE?

Our examination factories annually discharge their standardized output, the mass-production of fifth-rate products. (If some can escape the machine, the credit goes to them—or to luck.) These sheer memory-tests are an unqualified failure, unless indeed our sole object be to teach industry and cramming. What we want is an index to comparative intelligence and all-round ability; something which can develop discrimination and appreciation and bring out nascent critical powers, fostering individuality, which was to Richter "the source and fountain of everything good".

Some will say: "Make the questions wider in scope, more intelligent; introduce the element of surprise more", etc. This cannot go far enough. The questions, after a time, are bound to follow a fairly beaten track. Our aim must be to eliminate as far as possible unintelligent memorising, with its seasoning of bluff and trickery. But the sad

confession has to be made that any system which sets out with the essential aim of supplying summarily hall-marks of certified value to vast numbers of articles *cannot* but be mechanical and lifeless. It is common knowledge that good candidates do not always obtain the class they are expected to, while frequently one observes a sheep among the goats. Recently Prof. Valentine has been making interesting investigations as to reliability of examinations as tests of *examinable ability*,* which of course is not, as everybody knows, the same thing as ability. He gives instances of examination luck which make one stop and think. Again, "The School Certificate Examination . . . report of the . . . investigators appointed to enquire into the S. C. examination"† gives an instance (P. 101) of how the ingenious checks devised do not always serve effectively as a safeguard against individual variation. "One examiner was, on the evidence of a few scripts (= answer-books), judged to be over-lenient, whereas he was capricious; his marks were lowered by a flat rate; . . . injustice to those he had marked severely." *Even in Mathematics*, American investigators found that one hundred "experienced examiners" gave marks ranging from 28 to 90 to the same answers in an actual examination paper.‡ And the result of an experiment in English at Durham was notorious. All the English "scripts" from one school were marked independently by seven experienced examiners. The results showed a wonderful and fearful diversity, not only as to the relative order of merit, but also as to the class of examinees, e.g., one was failed by three, passed by one, and awarded by the remaining three a pass with credit!—"The marking of School Certificate English", in the "Journal of the A.M.A." Dec. 1931, p. 319.) Even the vaunted "great progress in recent years in the standardization of marking" amounts to—a reduction of many years of education to a scheme of markable points! Dr. Williams gives a case where fifty compositions, intended to represent all degrees

* "The Reliability of Examinations"—University of London Press. 7s. 6d.

† Published by His Majesty's Stationery Office, 1932. 2s. 6d.

‡ Dr. G. Perrie Williams, in "Northamptonshire Composition Scale", quoted by D. W. Harding in "Psychological Aspects of the Examination System" (article in the September 1933 issue of the "The Human Factor"—Journal of the National Institute of Industrial Psychology, Aldwych, London, W.C. 2.

of merit, marked by 199 experienced examiners (who worked to a specified scheme, assigning allotted proportions of marks to "thought", "structure", "mechanics") produced not only a feeling of uneasiness, but "a sense of dismay". Composition number two was ranked in almost every position from first to forty-sixth, and marked from 16 per cent. to 100 per cent; and in almost every case there was exhibited a very considerable variability in assessment, even in grade. Supposing here somebody comes forward and says: "The remedy is easy. Adopt the median judgment," let Mr. Harding provide the answer: "Fluency in genteel-romantic journalese secured good marks for the majority, whereas individual judges may have discounted or penalised it."

The result is a scramble to proclaim result percentages, often faked or manipulated,—“statistics can prove anything,”—in prospectuses of schools and in headmasters' reports on speech-days. In practically all schools and colleges, especially the private or aided ones, the teacher's efficiency is judged by his results. What other criterion, indeed, of his efficiency, can be found easily? Why is it, to take an example, that Sanskrit is becoming increasingly unpopular and indeed obsolete as a subject of choice? Not a step in the educational ladder is free from the baneful influence—the *sirocco* of examination-fever. The machine works in a circle,—university, training-college, school. . . How can the boys be treated as individuals, guided to discover their own interests and master their own requirements, under such conditions? They are stuffed to choking with information;—and the result? When they come to me at College, hardly five in a hundred can even take down lecture-notes tolerably. If I mention a date or a fact—the pens scratch in twitching St. Vitus's dance; if I try to discuss a poem intelligently, the faces wear a look of puzzled wonder, as if they had been cheated. I pull myself up, warned by the signal, or sometimes with averted gaze and a guilty feeling in the heart, persevere. Such are the beings expected to study and think for themselves!

The whole system is saddled with artificial impositions, and twisted by a wrong point of view. It is fundamentally and thoroughly NON-EDUCATIONAL. It is, I grant, administrative—and convenient. It fosters cramming; and the teacher helps, often, it may be, unconsciously, or even when deliberately, out of a mere kindly feeling or perhaps a conscientious effort to help students

along. What are the moral and psychological results of the frantic efforts to satisfy (or defeat) examiners? In some teachers, utter subservience and timidity; in others, a complacent conviction of self-righteousness that "something is being done" along with cynicism and inertia in fundamentals. In students, inculcation of an inherently wrong attitude towards study; a narrowness of approach, with a ruthless rejection of everything that can not yield marks; a belief that "to work=to memorize"; the development of a technique of minimum effort and maximum gain; conformity in opinion and hypocrisy in expression. In both teachers and students, examiners and examinees, staleness and strain. . . and a mortal distaste for at least those parts of (say) literature which have anything to do with the Juggernaut of examination. The "examination-paper method" of study is a favourite, and earnestly advised by well-meaning and innocent teachers and crib-makers. Who does not know the chances of questions especially in logic and Indian History—(I write from experience as examinee)? "Deduct last year's questions from the five years' average" is the formula. Boys are trained like horses before a race, and the teacher becomes a tipster, on the accuracy—and good luck—of whose guesses and forecasts depends the boys' future. The great majority of questions set—even, for the M. A.—are factual; and, to crown the infamy, marks *have* to be given when "the points" are there. Otherwise the examiner is "partial", prejudiced, given to favouritism—or even venal. Lecture-notes are doled out, often even dictated verbally, and (however hashed in the process of being taken down) got up with a perfunctory reference to the text; or a book is laboriously worried, all the jolly little allusions chased to their holes, the teacher leading, the pupils panting far behind. The teacher is fairly driven to it; the pupils will cram themselves sure enough even without him. No wonder in after life we never return to that greatest bore of all—Hamlet, and satisfy our tastes for reading with Charles Garvice and Edgar Wallace!

Annotated editions, with a full array of "critical introductions, exhaustive notes, summaries, model answers, specimen questions"—mostly a *rechauffe* of old editions with a little addition of recent examination questions—appear with sidereal punctuality in the wake of each new syllabus; they are often, needless to add, by authors who are (at least "sometime") "examiners

in. . . .” Lastly, how much good work is prevented by numbers of able men spending a month or even more each year! The deadening effect of examining in bulk even for three days has to be experienced to be believed. It is well known, further, that individuals often undertake at least three times the examining they can properly do in the time. And being cogs in the great wheel, they cannot delay a single batch of results, except on pain of being instantly mulcted. I do not mean to say, of course, that there are very many who are not diligent and conscientious and even anxious to make the machine as human as possible. But my whole endeavour has been to show the total indefensibility of the system. I know that examining fees are regarded as a regular supplement to their salaries by many teachers, and in fact that many of them would be sorely distressed if this source of income was to be cut off. But why cannot a Central Examining Board be created, which should pool compulsory declarations of the work undertaken by each examiner, that is if the examination system must continue? It should be a permanently debarring offence to conceal relevant information

from the Board, which could be organised by the Inter-University Board or some such institution.

What are the *palliatives* I propose—tentatively and provisionally, and in all humbleness? Among others (a) Psychological texts, on the lines of the National Institute of Industrial Psychology, which, though in its infancy, has been already recognized as doing most valuable work.

(b) A much larger and *vital* introduction of oral examinations—not the perfunctory "viva"s that prevail.

(c) A summation of fortnightly reports, combined with fortnightly class tests, instead of a single examination "lump".

(d) A more real system of "inspection".

(e) A more intelligent and less factual questioning.

But this is matter for a separate article; to-day I was simply attacking a conspiracy of cynical silence fortifying a dead weight of inertia.

But, if the examination "stimulus" is withdrawn, "will not both teachers and pupils slack?" If this shows all that we have been able to achieve in eighty years of education, the only possible cure for slacking can be free and compulsory illiteracy.

The Musical Genius of Tagore

BY MR. SOMANATH VELLATORE

AT one of the exhibitions of his paintings held in Europe recently, Rabindranath Tagore is reported to have made a statement that his pictures are his gift to the world, while his gift to India is his poetry. Unfortunately even in India till 1913 very little of Rabindranath's poetry is known outside Bengal and what little is known later on is only through translation into English prose albeit done by the poet himself. Translations from one language into another however perfect they may be, make full literary understanding and enjoyment impossible. To understand the supremely spiritual utterances of Rabindranath Tagore, one must read him in the original Bengali because in Tagore 'poem and music are inseparably one'.

In one of his plays the "Phulguni", the Watchman asks Chandra: 'Is it your custom to ask questions in songs?' Chandra replies: 'Yes, otherwise the answer becomes too un-intelligible.' Watchman: 'Then do you think your songs intelligible?' Chandra: 'Yes, quite, because they contain music.' (He sings.) Rabindranath's poems and plays are saturated with his personal-

ity. They bear the stamp of the experiences of his inner and outer life. Not only that. They are the self-expression of his genius woven into subtle songs of rare charm and melody.

We are concerned here not with his literary or artistic achievements but with his musical creations and his contribution to the Renaissance of music in India.

Writing about the present state of music in India, Dr. Arnold A. Bake says: 'There are two conflicting currents in India, a strong growing current of imported music and musical notions and a decadent art-music showing however signs of a renaissance during the last forty or fifty years specially owing to the interest of amateurs. Side by side we find the folk-music with the treasures for the most part unknown but living still.'

Let us try to know how these three currents influenced Rabindranath's musical genius. He was born in a family which always opened its doors to new forces. In his early youth he had a great opportunity to study European music both at home and in England. And in his early poetry a definite influence of Western music is seen. Writing about a

play of his called "Valmiki Prathibha" written in that period, Rabindranath says: 'Several of its songs were set to tunes originally severely classical in mode, some were composed by my brother Jyotindra, a few were adapted from European sources. At the same time he was well versed from his early youth in the classical Ragas and Raginis. The following passage from his reminiscences illustrates it: 'On other afternoons we would drift along in a boat, my brother Jyotindra accompanying my singing with his violin. And as beginning with the Ragini Puravi we went on varying the mode of our music with the declining day, we saw on reaching the Raga Behag the Western sky close the doors of its factory of the golden toys and the moon in the East rise over the fringe of the trees.'

The art music of India, which flourished in the past under the patronage of the ruling princes but which is fast decaying in the hands of professional musicians who are mostly un-educated and are ever opposed to any change in the modes of music, did influence Tagore in his youth. But since his creative genius could not be bound by rigid rules and laws, he introduced innovations into the classical modes of the Ragas and Raginis to give a perfect expression to his subtle thoughts and emotions in the language of melody. He made the various Ragas but the vehicles of expression to his changing themes and emotions but did not allow them to dominate his poetry and sentiment. As would naturally be expected, Tagore's musical experiments made him very unpopular with the classical exponents of the art music of India.

Vaishnavism is the strongest tradition in the Bengali art and literature. The influence of Bengali lyrists like Vidyapathi and Chandidas as well as European Symbolists and Romanticists, is visible in the literary and musical creations of Tagore of that period. The third influence, namely, the influence of folk-music of the Bani and the Kirtana type of Bengal in Tagore is considerably great. Thus in him the three different currents: European music, Indian art music and folk music met, and have given birth to a new expression in music.

A careful study of his musical creations from the period he wrote under the pen-name of Bhanusinha to his latest, show how it is that there is a definite progress in expression and all from intricacy to simplicity in music. Even though he often chooses classical metres, the influence of folk-music on his songs is considerably powerful. The entire poetic creed of Tagore is founded on the ancient Hindu philosophical

doctrine of the immanence of the Infinite in the finite and the struggle of the human spirit for freedom. This idea is expressed again and again in a number of his songs set to tunes akin to the folk-music of Bengal. That is the reason why his songs are not confined to neatly published dainty volumes but have gone straight into the life of the people in Bengal and 'are sung by lovers awaiting each other in the dark nights, by boatmen rowing on the rivers and the wandering Sannyasins.'

Rabindranath's contribution to Indian music is as great as his contribution to poetry. He has popularised the song-form and his wonderful genius has invented several other new forms in musical expression. Tagore himself puts a great value on his music. A perusal of his reminiscences show the antecedents of some of his major musical creations. In these days of canned jazz and celluloid symphonies it is a real pleasure to hear Rabindranath's songs in Shanthi-Nikethan. The Viswa-Bharathi University would be doing a great service to the country if they send out groups of students well-trained in singing Tagore's songs to all parts of India giving concerts of Rabindranath's songs and poems.

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RELIEF AND RECONSTRUCTION

SINCE we wrote last we have had more details of the catastrophe in afflicted Bihar. Babu Rajendra Prasad has given an idea of the harrowing state of affairs in a cable sent to Mr. C. F. Andrews, appealing for help.

The area badly affected by the earthquake covers 30,000 square miles of which North Bihar, particularly large portions of the districts of Darbhanga, Muzaffarpur, Champaran, Saran and North Bhagalpur are fearfully devastated. The population in these areas is over 12 millions including more than 500,000 inhabitants of towns. Twelve towns including the well known towns of Monghyr, Muzaffarpur, Darbhanga and Motihari have been practically destroyed.

On a modest estimate over 3,000 square miles of agricultural land have been ruined by sand and water thrown through gushers and fissures covering vast tracts into sandy deserts or lakes. Practically all wells have been choked with sand leaving no good drinking water. Sub-soil water is polluted. Villagers are drinking dirty water thrown up by the earthquake. Epidemics are feared. Standing crops are badly damaged. Out of 15 sugar mills in the affected area 10 have been wholly disabled and others damaged. Thus the standing crop of sugarcane, valued at about one million pounds, is in imminent danger of being rendered useless. The level of the earth surface is fearfully deranged all over, causing apprehension in the change of river courses and floods in the coming monsoon.

The Government figure of loss of life as over 6,000 is a gross underestimate. At least 20,000 are dead, Monghyr alone losing 10,000. The exact figures are still unavailable. Thousands of corpses are still suspected buried under the debris. People are living in wretched improvised bamboo or cloth shelters, while severe cold and untimely rains have greatly enhanced their suffering. As the earthquake came in the afternoon when most men were out of home at work, the largest mortality was among the women and children.

"I stood staggered and appalled at the heap of utter ruin and desolation that was once a rich and flourishing city," declared Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru in the course of an interview on his return from the tour of Monghyr and North Bihar.

We can therefore well imagine the stupendous reconstruction work that has to be carried on in Bihar, if the latter is to be on its feet within a reasonable time. Mr. Sachchidananda Sinha, in a statement issued to the Press, observes:

By far the greater part of the population in the affected area has to be helped substantially to be set on its feet again—the labourers, the cultivators, the artisans, the mechanics, and the followers of numerous other vocations. Until this is done, the normal life of Bihar cannot be resumed and the people are bound to continue to suffer. Thus the more carefully the situation is considered, the more clear it becomes that monetary assistance on an unprecedentedly large scale—which cannot be accurately estimated or measured at present, but which will run into many crores—will be required to

restore normal condition of civic, economic and industrial life in the affected areas.

The Hon'ble Mr. Blunt, Finance Member of the U. P. Government, indulged in no exaggeration when he said that the damage to Northern Bihar was comparable to damage done by the War to Northern France. Prompt and generous as has been the response to the three main relief funds—the Viceroy's fund, Babu Rajendra Prasad's fund, and the Calcutta Mayor's fund—we are told that so far the collections have only enabled the Committee to give what may be called first aid to the sufferers. The work of reconstruction on a sound base has yet to begin, and Babu Rajendra Prasad has indicated the lines on which that work has to be done. For this, no amount would be too much; for we have almost to build the old cities anew and rehabilitate the citizens on their occupation. The most urgent thing is to provide shelter for the homeless peasants, and labourers should be provided with wherewithal and the middle class people should be helped with loans to stabilise their position. It is gratifying to find that Government recognize the need for concerted effort to cope with the needs of the situation.

For in accepting Mr. Gupteshwar Prasad Singh's resolution in the Assembly, the Government of India have agreed to the principle that the work of reconstruction of the devastated areas is a matter of vital concern to all India and further that the most satisfactory way of tackling it is to finance it by a big loan from Central funds. But the distress is so great and the damage so serious that Bihar cannot come back to itself except by gigantic efforts in every possible way.

It would, we fear, never be possible to give an accurate statement of what the death-roll was, nor what the amount of material damage was, but the loss to property has been colossal. There seems however a silver lining to this cloud, in that the disaster has brought together men of all classes, creeds and occupations, officials and non-officials in this work of mercy. In the words of the Finance Member to the Bihar Government:

The disaster has drawn us together. Our minds have been touched to finer tissues. Let us see to it that in the New Bihar that will surely rise upon the ruins of the old, this happy union will continue. As we are now striving together to bring comfort and relief to the homeless, bereft and destitute, so we will always strive to preserve and foster this admirable spirit and create a Bihar in which life will be fuller and nobler for generations that will come after.

THE THIRD TEST MATCH

BY MR. J. M. GANGULI, M.Sc., LL.B.

IF in reviewing the Second Test Match I had written "In my years of experience as a player and as a writer on cricket never have I witnessed a more sensational match in which the fortunes of the game fluctuated violently from hour to hour, and at times even from moment to moment," I would say of the Third Test at Madras that it was the most instructive of the M.C.C. Matches in the recent tour of the English team. And though India lost decisively to a better and more all round and dependable side, the performance of the home team was better and more hopeful of the future than in the Second Test which had resulted in a draw and than even in the Benares Match which had brought victory for the first time to the home country.

Nervousness against the English fast bowlers, shakiness and indecision against the cleverest of their slow spinners, and the feeling of helplessness at the solidity of their defence, all the Indians had cast off when they met their formidable opponents on the ground at Chepauk in Madras in the Third Test Match for the vindication of national honour. There was, instead, an air of optimism and confidence, which, though not justified by result, was good omen for the future. Unlike their fights in the past, the rivals met on this occasion as equals, each knowing the strong and the weak points of the other, and each, while guarding against a possible outflanking by the other, trying to keep in hiding something up the sleeve to storm the defences of the enemy with. That made the Third Test Match more interesting though not more sensational than the previous encounters between India and England.

When the English Captain won the toss and thus scored a good point over the Indian skipper, the latter was not down-hearted. The loss of one of his best weapons of attack in Muhamad Nissar also did not shake Major Nayudu. Surveying the field from his lofty height, he looked unperturbed at the prospect of the opening pair of England digging in, and with a coolness which inspired confidence in his comrades at arms, he requisitioned the forces at his command with the keenest judgment and arranged his field with the cleverest anticipation. His generalship was indeed above reproach, and the results he obtained with the equipments he had, could not have been bettered by another. Excepting perhaps at the commencement of the game, when he might have kept on Amar Singh a little longer, the judg-

ment and far-sight with which Nayudu used that Kathiawar bowler, the only bowler of merit and experience he had, were par excellence. And when at last he let loose on the unsuspecting enemy his reserve forces in Amar Singh, the English lines were pierced to a depth which caused alarm even to the most optimistic supporters of England. But then when in the picture India appeared to be getting on England, the attack slowed down showing once again the inability of the home team to drive home the initial advantage which they often wrest from the enemy. From this point of view the Third Test Match was indeed most instructive. When success comes, each man should be on his toes to make the best of the time so that success may follow success, but as on so many occasions in the past the Indians seemed to slack and take matters easy even in that all-important Match at Madras when Amar Singh had badly crippled England.

Another thing which the changing fortunes of the game at this hour revealed was the great mistake of the selectors of the Test Team in not providing it with a first class wicket-keeper. If Jardine had not been dropped behind the wicket at this great turning point when he had hopelessly glanced a ball into the hands of the keeper standing far behind, India would have assuredly remained on top. The indispensability of a good wicket-keeper to a team needs no stressing, but the selectors had evidently thought that if Dilawar Hussain must be taken for his batting alone he must be given to keep, and even though a first class keeper like Navle was available there was no need for it. If such thinking proved costly in the Second Test, it proved calamitous at Madras.

Otherwise, the most impressive part of the Indians' performance was their fielding. Within hardly a couple of months from the shameful deeds in the First Test at Bombay that they would show such an all-round improvement was almost unbelievable. The alertness, the quick running after the ball, the smart throw-in, and the keenness in picking up some of the almost impossible low catches in the slips, were indeed eye-opener to India's coming cricket future.

Over and above that came the confident batting display for the first time by the Indians. Placed in a corner against heavy odds they showed their nerve and rose to the occasion in

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a way which, though not quite in agreement with the principles of sound cricket, was inspiring. The batsmen faced the array of English bowlers, fast or slow, with grit and confidence. The fast bowlers, in particular, who had been striking terror in the present tour, were turned back. Even Verity, the cleverest of the English bowlers, was met forward and at times repulsed. If the Indians had not, in fact, overdid in punishing the wily slow spinners of England, they would not have hurried disaster on them. But yet the confidence they have shown is a great asset for the future.

The most disappointing thing in the whole show was the performance of the slow spin

bowlers of India. These were great failures. Mere turning the ball with the fingers is not what is effective in spin bowling unless the ball be made to get up fast from the pitch and unless a good command over length be maintained.

Anyway even though India lost, her fighting abilities as displayed in the Third Test augur well of future. And if the instructive side of the Third Test Match be not overlooked and the lessons to be learnt therefrom be not forgotten, India could and would be easily on level terms with England and have fifty to fifty chances in the next series of Tests between the two countries.

Indian Philosophy

BY DR. C. KUNHAN RAJA, M.A., Ph.D.

THIS is a very welcome addition* to the general literature on the subject of Indian philosophy, even though its arrival is behind some already well-known works by authors of world-wide reputation. Within recent years, Sir S. Radhakrishnan has published a History of Indian Philosophy in two volumes. Principal Surendra Nath Das Gupta of Calcutta too has issued a History of Indian Philosophy in two volumes. The first work on modern lines to be published in the field of Indian Philosophy is "The Six Systems of Indian Philosophy" by Max Muller, issued in 1899. In this work there is a historical presentation of the entire field of Indian Philosophy, special attention having been paid to "the Six Systems". Richard Garbe has published a small volume in which an outline of "the Six Systems" has been sketched, with a historical account of the development of Indian thought. This is a very small volume and the account is in bare outlines and very brief too. Paul Deussen in his "Allgemeine Geschichte der Philosophie" has also covered the whole field of Indian Philosophy. Thus Prof. Hiriyanna's book is the last to arrive on the stage; but after reading through the book I entertain a feeling that this will be the last to quit the stage, if at any time it has to quit

the stage at all. This is a book that has come to stay and to serve.

Prof. Hiriyanna is especially fitted to do the work, and he has accomplished his task very ably and creditably. He is a scholar with a scientific discipline of mind and intellect, being a solid student of the science of Comparative Grammar; his erudition is not his main claim to write a history of Indian Philosophy. He is an orthodox Hindu, a Sanskrit scholar, a man with a philosophical bend of mind. He is a close student of Indian Philosophy, having been a teacher of Indian Philosophy for a long time in an educational institution of the first rank. Thus he had ample opportunities of forming his own opinions and of revising and freshening up his opinions. He has well understood the needs of a student.

The book is a very handy one, covering only a little over 400 pages. It is very neatly got up too. The book is divided into three Parts. The first Part deals with the earliest period, the Vedic Age, and is divided into "the Pre-Upanishadic Thought" and "the Upanishads". The second Part deals with the early post-Vedic age. Here the author deals with the general tendencies of the age, with the Bhagavadgita, with Buddhism, and with Jainism. The third Part, which covers nearly two-thirds of the whole book, deals with "the Systems". There are some general considerations as an introduction and there is a chapter on materialism and one on later Buddhist schools. Under the

* OUTLINES OF INDIAN PHILOSOPHY. By M. Hiriyanna, M.A., formerly Professor of Sanskrit, Maharaja's College, Mysore. Published by George Allen and Unwin Ltd., London, G. A. Natesan & Co., Madras, Price Rs. 11-4.

BY "AN INDIAN JOURNALIST"

The Late Mr. A. Rangaswami Iyengar

IN the death of Mr. A. Rangaswami Iyengar, Editor of the *Hindu*, we have lost a great journalist and an outstanding personality in the public life of the country. It is a loss not only to the *Hindu* of which he was one of the most talented Editors but also to Indian journalism. Mr. Rangaswami Iyengar distinguished himself very early in his career as a brilliant student of Economics and Constitutional Law of which he had made a thorough study in a scientific spirit and reasonable temper. One outstanding feature of his work as a distinguished journalist and as a legislator, said Mr. G. A. Natesan in a recent interview,

was the cleverness with which he would dissect flaws in any measure with the dexterity and skill of an expert surgeon. In the biting cold of Delhi and Simla, I have known him hard at work night and day, unmindful of his health which was never too good, for the Swaraj Party of which he was rightly called the soul, and to which he rendered yeoman service. Pandit Motilal had a profound respect for Mr. Rangaswami's character and implicit faith in his unerring judgment. Who does not know that Mr. Rangaswami's was the brain behind the many movements and activities which had for their end the achievement of the national ideal.

Yet another trait of his character, said Mr. Natesan, was "his gift of attracting to his fold as friends even those of the opposite political views. Mr. Rangaswami was one of those few who never carried political prejudices into social life". His was, indeed, a unique career and his untimely end has created a void difficult to fill.

H. H. The Gaekwar's tribute to Dadabhai

It was a fitting tribute that H. H. the Gaekwar of Baroda paid to the memory of Dadabhai Naoroji. Dadabhai, it will be remembered, was Dewan of Baroda for a time. It was during his administration that the High School and the High Court were established in Baroda. Dadabhai set the house of Baroda in order, and the Gaekwar's glowing tribute is worthy of the hero. Said His Highness:

He never uttered a theory and he never gave a formula which he could not substantiate by facts and figures, and which was not able to stand the fire of criticism. He never deluded his followers and their number was country-wide by purchases and stunts. Behind all that he wrote or spoke, lay the transparency of a great soul, the honesty of purpose of a great Zoroastrian and the tenacity of character of a great leader of men.

Of how few of our men can we say the same to-day?

Mr. Gandhi and the Earthquake Fund

The *Leader* has appealed to Mahatma Gandhi to suspend Harijan work for a few weeks and

give his matchless lead to the most pressing of all humanitarian causes and divert at least a part of the funds he has collected for the relief of earthquake sufferers. Others have also made this appeal. Gandhiji himself, as is wont with him, prayed for guidance and he feels that he could best serve the cause by pursuing his appointed task.

What shall I write? What comfort shall I give? I have been upset and to give up what I am doing looks like *Adharma*, but even if I abandoned it, what will I be able to do?

At every meeting, Gandhiji appeals for the relief fund and at Babu Rajendra Prasad's request has sent a feeling appeal to the world outside on behalf of stricken Bihar. And what does Rajendra Babu who ought to know something of Bihar and the propriety of diverting the collected money say?

I don't think it would be right to divert funds collected for a particular purpose to another work, however urgent and important it be.

Mahatmaj and Bengal

Sir Rabindranath Tagore has seldom hesitated to criticise Mahatmaj whenever he could not see eye to eye with him in matters of public policy. The Poet took a determined stand against non-co-operation; and even very lately he took occasion to criticise Gandhiji's belief that the devastation in Bihar is a divine chastisement for the sin of untouchability. But that is different from the "slandorous campaign" that is being carried on by interested parties in Bengal just because they are aggrieved by the Poona Pact and his crusade against untouchability. And so the Poet has issued an appeal to the people of Bengal to cease from vilification. For to malign a life so truly dedicated as his because of occasional differences of opinion, seems to be carrying public ingratitude to the point of meanness:

I would be falling in my duty were I not to raise my voice of protest against the slanderous campaign that is being carried out against him. For, Mahatmaj is the one person who has done most to raise the people up from the slough of despondency and self-abasement to which they had fallen through centuries of servitude. His message of hope and faith has changed the entire outlook of the people as if overnight. He has inspired courage and self-respect into the heart of those who for centuries had patiently borne the load of indignity upon their heads and believed it to be eternal, and we cannot but offer our homage of admiration to one who has worked this miracle.

heading of "the Systems", the author deals with "the Nyaya-Viseshika", with "the Sankhya-Yoga", with "the Mimamsa" and "the Vedanta". He deals with only two schools of Vedanta, namely, "the Monistic School" or "the Advaita" and with "the Qualified monism" or "the Visishtadvaita". He omits "the Dualistic School" or "the Dvaita" and the author explains himself in this way for the omission. "The second point is the absence of any account of the Dvaita School of Vedantic Philosophy. The Vedanta is twofold. It is either absolutistic or theistic, each of which again exhibits many forms. Anything like a complete treatment of its many-sided teaching being out of the question here, only two examples have been chosen—one the Advaita of Sankara, to illustrate Vedantic absolutism, and the other, the Visishtadvaita of Ramanuja, to illustrate Vedantic theism."

From this short sketch of the work, it will be seen that the book is a very comprehensive one, though it is not at all voluminous in size. After reading through the whole book, I was struck by the ability of the author inasmuch as he was able to give such a clear picture of the entire field of Indian Philosophy in such a narrow compass, omitting nothing that is really important. The great merit of the book is that it is never verbor nor oratorical in style. There is no attempt at ornamentation. Everything is brief and to the point; yet the book is very lucid, and also it is interesting reading. In this book we find reflected not merely a true picture of ancient Indian Philosophy, but also a true picture of ancient Indian Philosophers: brevity, compactness, lucidity—all coupled with a sustained interest.

Another striking point that I have noticed in the book is the sense of proportion which the author has kept up throughout the book. Usually in books on Indian Philosophy, very voluminous descriptions are given on such aspects where the literature available is plenty and where the subject-matter is not very obscure, as in the case of "the Monism of Sankara"; but on such points where the available literature is not so profuse and where the points are very obscure, the descriptions are very meagre, the author skipping over the topic in a hurried manner with a few general observations, as in the case of "the Mimamsa System". This is the first time that I have seen a fair presentation of "the Mimamsa System", which represents a very important aspect of ancient Hindu thought. In the

book under review, Prof. Hiriyanna has done full justice to all aspects of Indian Philosophy. There is no attempt at showing off the erudition of the author, by thrusting all sorts of dry facts into the book; there is no flourish, no endeavour to rouse up feelings and thus to attract popular attention and win general applause. The fact is that the author is not a sectarian, nor a partisan, nor an advocate and an apologist. He may have his own preferences, but it is the scholar, the historian and the philosopher that has given the picture of Indian Philosophy in the present book. Facts and not feelings are at the back of the presentation.

Although the personality of the author is visible on every page of the book, the work is quite orthodox in the presentation of facts. The age of the Vedas, the date of Buddha, the gods of the Rig Veda, the philosophy of the Upanishads, the advent of the doctrine of transmigration into Indian thought, the relation between Buddhism and "the Systems," on all these points, the author follows the tradition of historians of Indian Philosophy. There is considerable difference of opinion regarding the age of the Vedas, namely, about fifteen hundred years before Christ; even modern European scholars do not accept the date. Still the function of Prof. Hiriyanna is not to discuss and arrive at his own conclusions on the point. Such an attempt would be absolutely impossible in the work, having regard to the scope of the book. So he has adopted one of the accepted views on the point. Similarly the foundations on which the date of Buddha has been fixed as about 500 B.C., have no more historical value than the Genesis of the Old Testament. Still the date has been accepted, and the whole of the Indian History is built on these foundations. On the problem of the gods of the Rig Veda, on the advent of the doctrine of transmigration into Indian thought during the Upanishadic age and on various other problems, there is ample evidence to hold considerable differences of opinion. If Prof. Hiriyanna had attempted at a novel investigation of these problems, he would have gone far out of the track and he would never have reached the goal he had in view at the start. Thus without entering into unnecessary details, without omitting any of the essential points, he has given us in this book a very clear and consistent account of the entire field of Indian Philosophy. His Introduction and the Chapter on the Bhagavadgita are especially fascinating reading.

The Late Sir P. C. Mitter

Suddenly and without warning death has snatched away Sir P. C. Mitter, one of Nature's fine gentlemen. Sir Provosh was a brilliant member of a brilliant family. His father Sir Romesh Chander, and his brother Sir Benode, had made their mark in their time. Sir Provosh followed their steps and won his spurs in the Calcutta Bar. The Montagu Reforms opened the way for public life and he served first as a minister and then as member of Government, and in either capacity proved himself "a powerful intellectual asset to the Bengal Cabinet". The late Sir Provosh was a fine type of a public man, thoroughly well informed and scrupulously honest. A liberal in politics he has been a great steadying influence in the public life of Bengal. Above all, he was the friend of all good causes and his generosity of outlook and magnanimity of heart made him one of the best loved men of his generation. It is sad to think that his vivid personality should have ceased so suddenly.

Mr. Raja's Untouchability Bill

And so the dilatory motion of the leader of the orthodox party in the Assembly has won and Mr. Raja's Bill for the abolition of untouchability will not come up before August. The tactics of the Opposition have triumphed for the moment and Government have unwittingly played into their hands. Why? Has not the Bill been long enough before the public to serve the object of circulation among all and sundry? What new points for and against that have not been urged a hundred times before, are likely to be elicited by their circularization?

Troubles in Kashmir

There seems to be no end of troubles in Kashmir. Only the other day it was reported that the Military had to open fire to disperse an unruly Muslim mob at Srinagar. We do not want to add to the difficulty of the situation by criticising the authorities concerned. But the fact remains that the attempts of the Suzerain power to pacify the so-called Muslim malcontents have not had the success they were expected to yield. It is alleged that the promised concessions to Muslim demands have not been given effect to. But is that a reason why Hindu neighbours should be attacked? We hope that the situation is well in hand and that even-handed justice will yet restore peace and order in the happy valley.

The Press and the Indian States

Mr. Natarajan's address to the special session of the States Peoples' Conference in Delhi is marked by that comprehensive grasp of fundamentals and sound judgment we have learnt to associate with the writings of this veteran publicist. The Press in this country as elsewhere is a reforming agency and the unhampered exercise of its function is a security against more revolutionary forms of agitation.

Newspaper criticism is the mildest form of agitation, and in this country with its vast mass of illiteracy—which is much greater in most of the States, it is also the most harmless kind of agitation. We recognise that the Paramount Power is the sole authority to call rulers of States to account in the last resort, but criticisms in the Press and on platforms may often obviate the necessity of its intervention after maladministration has reached the magnitude of a scandal.

Mr. Natarajan also rightly points out that however much the Government of India tries to curtail the privileges of the Indian Press, the Press in England and other Western countries cannot be checked!

India and Burma

Sir Charles Innes, lecturing before the East India Association, advanced some arguments for the separation of Burma from India. Every one of his arguments is open to question and it would be fruitless to discuss whether Burma is not a part of India, or whether Burmans tend to dislike and despise Indians. But it is passing strange that Sir Charles should be impervious to the absurdity of his next argument. "Furthermore," he said, "that Delhi is 1,700 miles from Rangoon, and governing Burma from Delhi is like governing the United Kingdom from Berlin." It didn't occur to Sir Charles to apply the same argument in the case of governing India from White Hall which is 6,000 miles away!

Art in Education

Of defects in our education there is no end. But there is one aspect of our educational system which is in marked contrast with what obtains elsewhere—our lack of genuine artistic sense which is the hall-mark of educated English gentlemen. "It is in fact easier," said Mr. N. C. Mehta, President of the Fine Arts Section of the Oriental Conference,

to interest a cultured foreigner in the artistic productions of India, past or present, than an educated Indian who is found to be almost incapable of artistic reactions. Modern India seems to be content with either third rate productions of European Art or of no art at all.

The great need is to cultivate the artistic sense while at school and young.

Anti-Terrorists Bill

We have more than once pointed out in these columns how it behoves all right-thinking men to join hands in ending terrorism once for all from much suffering Bengal. But while admitting the need for legislation to put down terrorism, it is more than ever necessary that we should be careful not to adopt measures in a panicky spirit. For terrorism of this persistent nature cannot be cured by mere resolute rule. The clauses in the Anti-Terrorists Bill dealing with the deterrent powers of the Government seem to be so drastic that in the words of Mr. J. N. Gupta in the Bengal Council, "the moral sympathy of the people might be ranged on the side of those very people against whom these powers are sought to be exercised." And then to curb the lawlessness of a few fanatics there is no meaning in allowing more inroads on the freedom and liberty of the Press. For the main cure for the evil must be sought, as Mr. Gupta pointed out, in other avenues and must go down into a deeper strata to which both the Governor of the Province and H. E. the Viceroy are certainly alive. What the Government should do is to attempt to remove the root-cause of the trouble which mainly arises from frustration of aspirations long cherished. It may be impossible to dispense with strong rule, but definite attempts to alleviate economic distress, and to solve the problem of unemployment will certainly go a long way to stifle criminal intentions and unlawful activities in the province.

Ceylon Reforms

The Ceylon State Council has passed a resolution urging the abolition of the reserved powers of the Governor. The other amendments proposed are more or less in the nature of the demands made in India to improve the present Constitution. The net effect in either case is virtually a demand for Dominion Status. But what is surprising is, that an attempt is being made to rouse feeling in India against the State Council's demand by suggesting that any extension of powers in the direction of self-government in Ceylon will be detrimental to Indian settlers. This is news to us. We are not aware of any such feeling in this country. Let there be no misunderstanding on the matter. India is in full sympathy with Ceylon's demand for Dominion Status. The question of Indian settlers is a matter for negotiation between the two Governments, and it has nothing to do with our neighbour's rights to be master of her house.

The Princes' Chamber

The Chamber of Princes, like the League of Nations, is passing through a trying time and the decision of the Standing Committee not to call a session of the Chamber this year must afford time for things to settle down. H. H. the Maharajah of Patiala, who is apparently anxious to put life into that body, is handicapped on either side. In the first place the bigger States find no use for the Chamber and are therefore reluctant to come in. Other important States have left it because the Chamber "cannot play up to any big situation". And then the smaller States will not listen to any proposal to give deferential voting powers. Thus arose the dead-lock and the Standing Committee has dissolved without ending it. But that does not mean that the Chamber has no further use. *Roy's Weekly* suggests there is yet scope for good work in the future.

The Chamber has a part to play in the future plan of Indian Federation if it confines its attention to co-ordinate with the Federal authorities to level up the States' administration by organizing common federal services, both executive and judicial.

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WORLD EVENTS

BY PROF. A. J. SAUNDERS, M.A., Ph.D.

THE MANCHUKUO MONARCHY

WHILE the erstwhile monarchical Europe is turning from kings and following dictators republican, Asia is turning back to monarchy, such is the inconsistency and uncertainty of our unsettled times. Mr. Henry Pu Yi, the former "Boy Emperor"—the last of the old emperors of China, is to be crowned King of the new and independent state of Manchukuo. The ceremonies will blend in a strange mixture of ancient sacrificial rites with up-to-date and the most modern achievements of science, such as the motor car and motion pictures. Mr. Pu Yi was the last Emperor of the China dynasty of China and abdicated in 1912. Two years ago when the Manchukuo State was set up, he was made the Chief Executive with the title of Regent; now he becomes king.

JAPAN AND RUSSIA

That the situation is tense in the Far East is very evident from the latest reports to hand. Japan's action in Manchuria, her interest in the new Manchukuo State, her desire to control the Chinese Eastern Railway are all bound to bring Japan into conflict with Russia which also has interests in the Far East. It is only a question of time and may be a short time before war will break out.

General Blaecher of the Soviet Far Eastern Army has fanned the war-flame recently in a speech in which he affirmed that Japan was preparing for war against the Soviet and had converted North Manchuria into a drill ground. He said that Japan was making tremendous preparations by road, railway and airport construction and accommodation large enough for one-third of the whole Japanese army. The Soviet also, he said, had belted the Frontier with iron and concrete "able to withstand even the strongest teeth of the Aggressor". The next great war probably will be in Asia, and it seems as though the field is now being prepared.

DISARMAMENT

In an eleventh hour attempt to force agreement on the question of limiting armaments, the British Government have issued a memorandum on disarmament; so serious has the matter become that Sir John Simon, British Foreign Secretary, says that if an agreement cannot be reached, Great Britain will be forced to consider her whole armaments position; every possible way must be explored of preserving the peace

of the world, "so as to deliver ourselves and others from the dangers and burdens that would follow if the Powers finally failed to agree".

The British Memorandum emphasized three things: Security, Equality of rights, and Disarmament. Under Security it is proposed to enjoin on all signatories the responsibility of preventing or remedying any violation of the terms of the agreement. All must recognise equality of rights; that means that Germany must be allowed the same armament rights as other nations; for it is impossible indefinitely to prohibit from one State arms of the kind and of the same number which are permitted to another State. Under the question of disarmament, it is proposed to abandon certain classes of weapons, such as long distance guns and heavy tanks, and that the agreement when reached shall last for at least 10 years. It is hoped too that one condition of the agreement shall be the return of Germany to membership in the League of Nations.

Italy has replied to the British Memorandum asking that the following also be included in the terms of agreement: The abolition of chemical warfare; the forbidding of bombardment of civil populations, and a limitation of expenditure on armaments. Germany is rather favourable to the Memorandum provided of course she is allowed to rearm to the level of the other European nations. In the House of Commons debate, Sir John Simon said: "Time was running against the friends of disarmament, and the British plan attempted to provide a basis for a prompt agreement."

THE LEAGUE COUNCIL

Two questions of major importance are before the present Council meeting of the League of Nations: One is the Saar plebiscite which is fixed to be taken in 1935. That is one of several problems left by the Versailles Treaty. There are three possible results of the vote: to remain as at present under the management of the League of Nations, to come under French rule, or to come under German rule. One can readily see the opportunity for all kinds of propaganda and intimidation between now and the date of the vote in 1935. There is likely to be trouble before this question is finally settled.

The other question has to do with German aggression in Austria. German ambition seems to be to build up in Central Europe a strong Nazi bloc which will be strong enough to establish and maintain Hitlerism in the face of all opposition

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To this end Austria is essential, and there are sufficient Germans and Nazis in Austria to give the promise of success to the movement. But there are independent nationalists in Austria, of whom the leader is Dr. Dollfus, who do not want their country to be a mere satellite of Germany. Austria has appealed for protection to the Council of the League against Nazi propaganda from across the frontier. It is a very delicate situation, and shall have to be handled with the greatest care.

THE ASSYRIANS

An exceedingly unhappy situation has arisen in the new nation of Iraq. It is most unfortunate as coming so soon after Iraq attained independence from the mandate of Great Britain. There is a considerable number of Assyrians in Iraq; but they are not satisfied with their treatment and status in Iraq. They accordingly applied to the League Council for some relief. For some years Brazil has had insufficient labour; Indians have been invited there; now the Brazilian Government has made an offer to accept the whole Assyrian population if necessary, and to settle them at the rate of 500 families a month on the plantations, provided the Assyrians can fulfil certain conditions, such as a knowledge of agriculture.

UNITED STATES AFFAIRS

America still continues to hold the attention of the world. Economic conditions and finances are slowly becoming better, and there is firm belief that the country is on the road to recovery. But many people are puzzled by the recent action of the House of Representatives in passing the Vinson Naval Bill authorising the building up to full strength allowed by the London Treaty, that is 120 new warships, and the Construction of 1,184 new aeroplanes. One cannot reconcile this move with America's financial position, her claims to being a peaceful nation, and at a time when peace is absolutely necessary for economic recovery. It is no wonder that the Federal Church Council is protesting loudly against this armament proposal.

In addition to the gold content of the dollar, and the rehabilitation of silver in Mr. Roosevelt's programme of raising commodity prices, he has taken one or two very important steps forwards towards State Socialism. He is mobilising all monetary gold and silver, so that in future credit, currency and monetary policy

and the means of controlling all monetary policy will be in the hands of the Government. That is a step which will hearten the Labour Party in England, for that is what they are after together with control of the Bank of England.

Not only that but President Roosevelt is also reaching out to control the stock exchanges. He has come to realise that the periodic financial crises which come to America so frequently are due in part, and perhaps in large part, to the operations of speculators on the stock exchanges. Too long has *laissez faire* been the attitude of the U. S. Government to this danger. Absolute individualism in America is passing, and bankers and stock speculators will not have the freedom in the future which they have had in the past.

STERLING-DOLLAR RELATIONS

Mr. Roosevelt's plan to set his own house in order may have repercussions in other countries. He is inflating the dollar by about 50 per cent. and is building up a large gold stabilisation fund. That will raise American commodity prices and help her exports abroad. Those means will bring the American policy into conflict with other nations' interests. It will affect the stabilisation ratio and the exchanges. Great Britain is vitally interested in both those questions. The indications are that we are in for a sterling dollar struggle around stabilisation. The old par rate of exchange is out of consideration, but the new rate is the question, a rate which will be acceptable to both England and America, giving advantage to both and yet conserving the best interests of both countries.

FRENCH POLITICS

The French political situation is in a state of great confusion. It seems impossible to get a strong enough government to really govern the country. Much was expected of the Daladier Cabinet with its motto: "Swift and Strong". He planned a thorough clean-up of the financial problem and an attempt to restore confidence in the people. But he failed. Then the President called the 70-year old ex-President M. Doumergue and asked him to try and form a stable government. He is trying a non-party cabinet and is meeting with a fine reception; for he is regarded as a popular hero. M. Doumergue has said: "I am not revolutionary, I shall apply the constitution. Whether it will be necessary to revise it is another matter."

Trade and Finance

By "SRIVAS"

TARIFF BOARD AND THE COTTON INDUSTRY

THE report of the Indian Tariff Board on the question of protection to the Cotton Textile Industry, which was drawn by Dr. Matthai and his colleagues as early as September 1932, was at last released to the public in the first week of February 1934. The practical value of this document has been considerably reduced by the fact that during the time in which it was kept in the shelves of the Commerce Member, important developments affecting the future of the cotton textile industry have taken place. In the first place, the Tariff Board itself presented, during the course of their enquiry, an emergency report on the measures that were to be taken to safeguard the Indian industry from Japanese dumping which was helped by the enormous depreciation of the yen. Secondly, the Ottawa Agreement has been concluded between India and Great Britain. Thirdly, there has been what is popularly known as the Mody-Lees Pact which was concluded between the Indian cotton textile industry and the cotton textile industry of Lancashire which provided for the removal of the revenue surcharge on imports to Lancashire, since the financial conditions of the Central Government permitted. In return therefor, Lancashire held out to India the promise of an increased use of cotton in her mills and also widening the markets for India's exports of cotton goods in the Colonies. Fourthly, the Indo-Japanese agreement has been concluded which reduced the duties on imports of cotton goods from Japan to 50 per cent. and provided for a quota to Japan in her trade in piece-goods with India, in return Japan consenting to take a stipulated amount of Indian cotton for the consumption of mills at home. It is indeed a pity that, while all these momentous steps were being taken, the public were kept in the dark about the findings of an expert body like the Tariff Board. Nevertheless, the value of the Tariff Board report is unquestionable in its being the first full enquiry into the protection of the cotton textile industry. For, while in former instances, the Tariff Board was instructed to enquire into one or other aspect of the position of the cotton industry in India, on this occasion it was a full-fledged tariff enquiry going into the very fundamentals of the question of protection. Dr. Matthai and his colleagues affirm that the cotton textile industry satisfies all the conditions laid down by the Fiscal Commission and that its national importance warrants the

fullest measure of protection that is needed. Their recommendations are, however, to be fitted into the framework already prepared by the Indo-Japanese trade agreement and the Mody-Lees Pact which was expected by Government as helping an understanding between the representatives of the two industries and which is not in conflict with the public interest in India. This adjustment has been effected in a special measure which has been modified in the Legislative Assembly by Sir Joseph Bhoré. The finding of the Tariff Board of which the country has to take note is that the Indian cotton textile industry has definitely come into the stage in which internal competition can be relied upon to protect the interests of the consumer and that, therefore, the industry should be given every opportunity of reorganising itself by being afforded protection for a definite period of 10 years without the liability of constant enquiries which do great harm to all the interests concerned.

BENGAL JUTE INDUSTRY

The publication of the report of the Bengal Jute Enquiry Committee is of obvious importance. At the time the committee was originally appointed, it was hoped that the report would be ready in time to enable the Government to come to a decision on the all-important question of restriction and to take measures in time for effecting the desired result in the 1933-34 crop. But owing to the delay in the publication of the report, the Government have taken nothing in this regard. Even otherwise the Committee's findings are singularly unhelpful. In the first place, there is an utter lack of unanimity, a number of minority reports being appended to the main report. And what is worse, there is every reason to think that the reasoning and conclusions of the minority report have more supporters in the Committee than the findings contained in the majority report. In other words, the signature to the majority report or the minority report has been determined not by the opinions expressed in either but by other extraneous affiliations. In any case, the Government have treated the lack of unanimity as a pretext for divesting themselves of all obligations in regard to restriction of jute. The composition of the Committee should have left the Government in no doubt that it was too much to expect unanimity in a body which contained so many directly conflicting elements. If the jute enquiry committee is of any use to the public, it is in its

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affording a proof that committees of public enquiry should no longer be based on a purely representative basis. That Bengal's jute requires restriction, no one, who knows anything of the trade, will deny. Nevertheless, it is farcical for the opponents of restriction to suggest that the cultivators should have liberty to do as they please. For it is the protagonists of this view who nearly a year ago invoked the aid of the Governor of Bengal in bringing about a restriction agreement amongst the jute mills in Calcutta.

PROVINCIAL BUDGETS

The provincial budgets, which are to hand up to the moment of writing, afford by no means encouraging reading. Madras and Bombay have barely succeeded in balancing their budget, though the former has the advantage of a small revenue reserve. The Bengal budget has been stabilised on the basis of an annual deficit of Rs. 2 crores. In Bihar and Orissa, the estimates of the Hon. Mr. Sinha have been rendered practically useless by the ravage of the earthquake, the exact effects of which the Government are naturally not in a position to estimate. Burma expects a deficit of Rs. 117 lakhs for the current year and a deficit of Rs. 85.78 lakhs for 1934-35.

In Bengal, the actual receipts for 1932-33 of Rs. 10,26,49,000 were in excess of anticipation by Rs. 2,39,000, a decrease of Rs. 4,70,000 under receipts on revenue account being more than offset by an increase of Rs. 7,09,000 in the receipts on capital account. On the expenditure side, the total actual expenditure of Rs. 11,12,70,000 on revenue and capital account was less by Rs. 16,96,000 than the revised estimate of Rs. 11,29,66,000. The net result was that, after providing for a closing balance of Rs. 12,93,000 for the Famine Relief Fund, the deficit on the year stood at Rs. 99,47,000 an improvement of Rs. 18,87,000 over the figure anticipated in the revised estimates. In the revised estimates for the current year, the receipts on revenue account are placed at Rs. 8,96,56 lakhs, which is Rs. 14.97 lakhs less than the budget estimates, and which, on the authority of the Finance Member, is a new low level, being Rs. 90 lakhs below even that of the year 1922-23. On capital account, a fall of Rs. 13.36 lakhs is anticipated and taking both revenue and capital receipts together, the revised estimates provide for a total revenue, exclusive of the advance to cover the deficit, of Rs. 9,51,71,000, a figure which is lower by Rs. 28,63,000 than that anticipated when the

budget was framed. This fall in revenue has, however, been more than offset by a reduction in expenditure; it is now anticipated that the total expenditure on revenue and capital account will be Rs. 57,71,000 less than the budget figure. The net result as regards the present year is that the Finance Member expects to close with a deficit of Rs. 1,80,17,000 instead of Rs. 2,09,66,000 as originally estimated. As for the estimates for 1934-35, the total receipts on revenue account have been placed at Rs. 9,07,47,000 as against the revised estimate of Rs. 8,96,56,000 for the present year, an increase of approximately Rs. 11 lakhs. The estimates provide for an expenditure on revenue account of Rs. 11,29,17,000. In the result, the budget estimates for 1934-35 disclose a deficit on revenue account of approximately Rs. 2¼ crores against revenue receipts of just over Rs. 9 crores; in other words, the anticipated deficit amounts to about 25 per cent. of the present income.

The first thing to be noted in the case of Bombay is that the promise which the Finance Member made this time last year, namely, that the budgeted deficit of Rs. 28 lakhs could be made good before the time comes for the presentation of the revised estimates, has been made good. For the current year a surplus of Rs. 4 lakhs has been estimated, after providing for debt repayment of Rs. 12 lakhs, which did not figure at all in the original budget estimates. The expenditure for 1934-35 is placed at Rs. 14.92 lakhs.

In the Bihar and Orissa budget, the revised revenue for the current year is to be at Rs. 5.01 lakhs or Rs. 8 lakhs less than the budget estimates made last February. It compares with the Rs. 5.04 lakhs, the revised, and Rs. 5.06 lakhs, the actual for last year. As for the current year, the revenue is estimated at Rs. 5.22 lakhs and expenditure charged to revenue Rs. 5.37 lakhs. The revised estimates for 1933-34 disclose a deficit of Rs. 1.18 lakhs which would be met by borrowing from the provincial loan fund of the Government of India. Revenue for the current year was originally estimated at Rs. 9.80.03 lakhs and the disbursements at Rs. 9.73.26 lakhs. The result of the new changes is that the receipts are now estimated at Rs. 8.64.90 lakhs and disbursements at Rs. 9.82.73 lakhs, leaving a deficit of Rs. 1.17.83 lakhs. As for the year 1934-35, the receipts, including the opening balance of Rs. 80,000, are put at Rs. 8.52.22 lakhs and expenditure at Rs. 9.37.70 lakhs, with a resultant deficit of Rs. 85.78 lakhs.

Diary of the Month

- Jan. 26. Sardar Sardul Singh is released.
 Jan. 27. Germany and Poland agree on a ten-year pact of non-aggression.
 Jan. 28. Forty-three members of the Antarctic Expedition have been marooned.
 Jan. 29. Thousands are reported to have perished in the earthquake disaster in Nepal.
 Jan. 30. Marquess of Reading is appointed Lord Warden of the Cinque Ports.
 Jan. 31. The Pope issues an appeal against excessive nationalism and militarism of the present day.

- Feb. 1. Assembly decides to circulate Mr. M. C. Raja's "Removal of Untouchability" Bill.
 Feb. 2. A public meeting at Calcutta protests against the New Terrorist Bill.



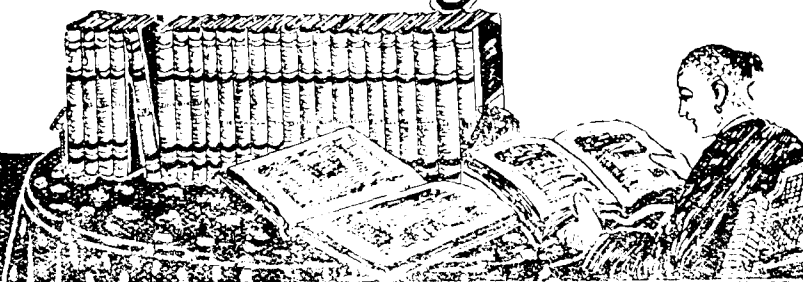
MONGHYR IN RUINS AFTER EARTHQUAKE

- Feb. 3. Gandhiji appeals to Indians overseas and European friends for funds to the Bihar Earthquake relief.
 Feb. 4. Mr. A. Rangaswami Iyengar, Editor of the *Hindu*, is dead.
 Feb. 5. The States People's Conference meets at Delhi under the presidency of Mr. K. Natarajan and condemns the Princes' Protection Bill.
 Feb. 6. Sir John Simon makes a statement in Parliament re: British proposals on Disarmament.
 Feb. 7. Four thousand provincial troops are massacred in Ningsia (China) by the forces of General Sunqientyng.
 Feb. 8. Assembly refers the Princes' Protection Bill to the Select Committee.
 —Assembly passes the Khaddar Protection Bill.
 Feb. 9. Sir P. C. Mitter is dead.

- Sir Sikandar Hayat Khan is appointed Governor of the Punjab during the absence on leave of Sir Hugh Emerson.
 Feb. 10. Len Harvey wins the Empire Heavy-weight title.
 Feb. 11. The British Government retaliates against the French import restrictions.
 Feb. 12. Workers of France call a general strike.
 —Japan is reported to be mobilising for war with the Soviet in the North Manchuria.
 Feb. 13. The British Government and the Imam Yehia of Yemen (Aden) sign a treaty of friendship.
 Feb. 14. Pandit Jawaharlal is arrested at Allahabad on a sedition charge and taken to Calcutta.
 —H. E. Sir Sikandar Hayat Khan assumes charge of Governorship of the Punjab.
 Feb. 15. Justice Young is appointed Chief Justice of Lahore High Court.
 —Sir C. C. Ghose is appointed member of the Bengal Executive Council in the place of the late Sir P. C. Mitter.
 —Assembly passes the Tariff Bill.
 Feb. 16. The Chief Presidency Magistrate of Calcutta convicts Pt. Jawaharlal and awards him two years' simple imprisonment.
 —Assembly rejects Mr. Ranga Aiyar's motion for circulation of his Bill to amend the Law of Sedition.
 Feb. 17. The Council of State passes the Reserve Bank Bill.
 —England and Russia sign a Trade Agreement.
 Feb. 18. King Albert of Belgium is dead while mountaineering on an ascent.
 Feb. 19. The Council of State passes the Tariff Amendment Bill.
 Feb. 20. The Burma Legislative Council passes a vote of no-confidence in the Ministry.
 —Swami Sivananda, President of the Ramakrishna Math at Belur, is dead.
 Feb. 21. H. M. the King invests Sir Samuel Hoare with the insignia of the Knight Great Commander of the Star of India at the Buckingham Palace.
 —Two Burmese Ministers tender their resignations.
 Feb. 22. Lord Baden-Powell celebrates his 77th birthday.



THE WORLD OF BOOKS



THE EARLY ENGLISH SOCIALISTS. By H. L. Beals. Published by Hamish Hamilton Ltd., 90 Great Russel Street, London, W.C. 1.

The book under review is the first of a series of nine other publications which form the 'Makers of the New World Series'. The object of this series, as the Publishers observe, is to present in a compact form the life and the work of the pioneers of Socialism. Socialism has already been a growing force in the modern world and the appeal made by its votaries to the capitalist society has of late become more and more powerful. Deriving its sense of purpose from the ideal of democracy, Socialism has always envisaged an equalitarian scheme of things. Having liberty and equality as the basis of its doctrines, it has crossed the boundaries of economic nationalism and has come to occupy a world-wide interest. It has always and necessarily been a creed of a future and a different social order, and as such has come to occupy a foremost place in the modern thought. It has offered a new explanation for the existing inequalities of wealth—poverty, want and misery on the one hand, and wealth, plenty and luxury on the other; it has opened up the vision of reasonable affluence by declaring that poverty is caused by plunder, the plunder of the poor by the rich. More important than the diagnosis is the attempt at a remedy; but unfortunately their plans have been so varied in activity that we have of late been having too many schools of thought on Socialism, each school so apparently at cross purposes with the other, that at times one is apt to forget what Socialism really stands for. Despite disagreement in details and execution, the plans have always been an inspiration to careful students of Economics, Politics, and Sociology. Seen against the actual background of the environments of the early

industrialism, the crudities fall into the place and the essential quality of their vision stands out clear. There was the most discerning analysis made in that day of the new forces at work in society and the most convincing diagnosis of the causes of confusion.

It is a history of the birth, growth and extension of this creed that is attempted in the new series, and the early English Socialists therefore form an interesting and instructive reading. After explaining the conditions existing in England in the mid-eighteenth century just after the advent of machinery into industrial activities, Mr. Beals, who is best qualified to write on the subject of Socialism, describes the attempts made by the Tollpuddle farm labourers to form themselves into an organisation of the crudest kind with a view to preserve themselves and their families from ultimate extinction by machinery and capital. Though these half a dozen labourers were subsequently convicted as evil-disposed persons, the origin of the socialistic ideas can be traced here and the author has endeavoured to set out these facts in bold relief. By far the most important of the early Socialists is Robert Owen, who developed ideas that led direct to Socialism and the Co-operative Movement. He became a working class leader with industrial and social re-construction as his chief aim. After briefly expounding his ideas and writings, the author has narrated the utterances of a cloud of witnesses, who proclaimed the gospel of early socialism in an easy and lucid style. The fullness of the revelation of the new creed was still to come and it was left to Karl Marx to establish his well-reasoned creed on a firm basis. This forms the thesis for the second publication in this Series.

MY IMPRESSIONS OF JAPAN. By Sir Lallubhai Samaldas. Taraporevala Sons & Co. (Available of G. A. Natesan & Co., Madras.) Rs. 2.

The author of this pleasant little book records his impressions of a visit to Japan and a few other places on the journey. As a well known business magnate of Western India, his way was made easy for him and he was received with almost public honours by the commercial communities of Japan, though his visit was intended as a rest-cure. He consequently had exceptional facilities for seeing into things and has much to say of the traditional Japanese politeness. The author would disarm criticism by his frank acknowledgment that he is a "Paget M. P.," a globe-trotter, and we must not therefore take all his impression with high seriousness; but his reactions to the discoveries he made are interesting. As an industrialist himself, his chief interest has naturally been in the industrial side of Japanese activities, though he has not omitted to record his impressions of the social side of life and of the beauties of Nature. He has revealed himself as an earnest and simple-minded searcher after truth, but we wonder if he has not on occasions been carried away by the glamour of the new and strange in some of his comparisons with his own country.

There is no doubt, as the author holds, that India has much to learn from Japanese methods; but it must never be forgotten that Japan is but newly awakened from a Feudal System, which undoubtedly has fitted her for the conditions of industrial discipline to which the Nation is submitting. There is probably not another country of which the Government could with all the will in the world take such a part in active business.

As the author hints, the Japanese have no real religion as it is understood in India. Possibly their love of Art takes the place and satisfies the yearning natural to all peoples for something beyond material welfare. That is why we think the author is at fault in deprecating the universal teaching of 'flower grouping' as a useless subject. It seems to us a sign of saving grace in what looks like becoming the worship of the soul destroying Moloch of industrialism.

The book is beautifully printed on substantial paper, and the illustrations though not so good are adequately reproduced.

THE INDIAN THEATRE. By Dr. Yajnik of Kathiawar. George Allen and Unwin, Ltd. (Available of G. A. Natesan & Co., Madras.) Price Rs. 7-8.

Dr. Yajnik has done a real service to all lovers of the stage in India by his book entitled "The Indian Theatre". Any person who goes through the book would come to the conclusion that he richly deserves the Doctorate conferred on him by the London University for his thesis on the subject, which is now printed in book form.

The learned Doctor has evidently travelled throughout India to gather materials for this book, and he has used the materials as gathered with a fine and discriminating intelligence. We agree with most of his remarks on the Indian stage, though one would wish that he had devoted a little more space to the South Indian Stage. The author rightly draws the attention of the reader to the very great influence which Shakespeare has exercised on modern Indian dramatists. His remarks for the improvement on the Indian Stage on modern lines are well worth the attention of all interested in the renaissance of the Indian theatre. Not the least useful part of the book is the Appendix which contains the list of all adaptations of Shakespeare's works. The writer confidently recommends the book, which has been very neatly got up by an English firm, to all lovers of the Histrionic and Dramatic arts.

CHROMAPATHY. By Pandit Jwala Prasad Jha. Published by L. Ananta Aiyar, Editor, Hindu Nesan, Armenian Street, Madras. Price As. 12.

The system of healing diseases by colours is of late attracting attention everywhere from the medical people as well as laymen, though the last word on any treatment is not said. Chromopathic treatment is distinctly cheaper and easier than the other systems in vogue. The author says that it is also most effective of all the treatments.

A MANUAL OF GENERAL KNOWLEDGE. By Tripuran Saran Srivastava of U. P. Government Secretariat. (Available of G. A. Natesan & Co., Madras.) Price. Rs. 2-8.

The book, as its title suggests, is a tip for sure success in competitive examinations. It will be appreciated not only by the student but all those who desire to acquire information on subjects which would otherwise need research at a cost of much time, labour, and money.

INDIA IN THE MELTING POT. By a 'Chota Sahib', Lincoln Williams Publishers, Ltd., London.

This is a book of 165 pages, the avowed object of whose publication is to convey a correct picture of India and her peoples to the British electorate in order to enable them to gauge the extent to which further reforms could be given to India. The author has not revealed his identity but is quite complacent that he is well known to many—not to know him is to argue thyself unknown. The book is a mischievous attempt to prejudice the Indian case and every chapter of it bears the impress of the mind of a 'Chota Admi'. With all his pretensions of an intimate knowledge of India, the author has made a large number of mis-statements. The spirit with which the book is written, is amply testified by the frontispiece 'Tippoo Sahib's tiger' which the author describes as a depiction of the 'inherent uncontrolled Asiatic revengeful temperament over fallen foes—the same yesterday, to-day and to-morrow'. There is a good deal of useful information about the country, but as the author's mind is warped, the inchoate mass of details is so set out as to give a distorted picture of the country and the people.

The 'Chota Sahib', unlike the high-minded 'Burra Sahib', is obsessed with the idea that the Asiatic is only fit to be ruled and to bow without reservation to the 'Sircar-ka-Hukku'. The author is not alone in casting regretful glances of the golden days gone by when the white man's word was law—those expansive days when the Empire in the East was considered white man's burden. The book is a desperate attempt to retard the political progress of this country.

HAND-BOOK OF GENERAL KNOWLEDGE. By A. M. Matthews, M.A., AD. DIP. (OXON) A.C.P. (LONDON), and M. C. Mohan, B.A. Publishers H. B. Press, Lahore. Price Rs. 2.

"General Knowledge" is a most important paper in all higher examinations to-day. This handy and very useful compendium of information on topics of every-day interest has been prepared specially with a view to meet the requirements and demands of Examining Bodies and particularly for candidates preparing for the I. C. S., Sandhurst, Indian Police, and other Superior Examinations held by the Public Service Commission in India. But it also contains much that is of real value and interest to all teachers and students.

LIFE OF GURU GOBIND SINGH. By Kartar Singh, Khalsa College, Amritsar.

The life of Guru Gobind Singh, the last and the greatest of the Sikh Gurus, is a very attractive picture, presenting the deeds of a hero who touched "the Hindu race with Promethean fire" and broke the charm of sanctity attached to the Lord of Delhi, and taught his followers to regard themselves as the chosen of the Lord, destined to crush tyranny and oppression. Guru Gobind's personality is shown by Mr. Kartar Singh as a wonderfully harmonious combination of many good and manly qualities and as having been an inspired patriot and a true lover of humanity. He turned his followers into a brotherhood of saint-soldiers and filled them with a longing for freedom and ascendancy. Our author goes to prove that the Guru was never a devotee of Durga or any other deity and shows that the initiation ceremony as introduced by him was admirably suited to the need of the hour and the fulfilment of the ideals he had in view. The different phases of the Guru's political career, ending with his death in the Deccan in 1708 A.D., are detailed. The author rejects the statement that the Guru entered the service of the Emperor Bahadur Shah and tries to refute the statements made by Cunningham, Macauliffe and others. In the last chapter, he estimates the Guru's work and achievements and holds up, with perhaps pardonable pride, the tributes paid to his memory by the more important among the historians of the Sikh power.

PERSONALITIES IN PRESENT DAY MUSIC. Rochouse and Sons, Madras.

Mr. Krishna Iyer deserves to be congratulated on his compilation. He deals with nearly 20 artists in his book which is copiously illustrated. All departments of music are properly represented in the volume and the author has been thoughtful in including the exponents of the art of dancing. Nevertheless one is surprised in not finding an appreciation or otherwise of either Mr. Maharajapuram Viswanathier or Semmanugudi Srinivasaier. The latter is a musician rising to fame while the former was once the *Adonais* of the field.

Mr. S. Duraiswamy Iyer in his Foreword welcomes the studies as very timely. The author himself, in the course of a long introduction, deals with the technique of music, how best it can be developed and appreciated. The novice may find the Introduction very helpful and highly instructive. Ariyakudi Ramanujam is given the place of honour, perhaps deservedly.

Hyderabad

REVENUE REMISSION IN HYDERABAD

A Press *communiqué* issued by H. E. H. the Nizam's Government states that as there are no signs of improvement in the economic situation, His Exalted Highness has sanctioned further concessions to ryots with a view to alleviate their distress. The Nizam has ordered the total remission of the suspended *abi* kist of 25 per cent. in 1342 Fasli, and the remission of 25 per cent. in the *abi* and 12½ per cent. in the *kharif* kists of the current Fasli 1343. It will be remembered that the Nizam granted last year a remission of 25 per cent. of the *abi* and *kharif* kists in the Sarfikhās area in 1341 as well as the suspension of 25 per cent. of the *abi* kists in 1342 Fasli. The Budget Note for the current year stated that the welfare of the agricultural community continued to give the Nizam's Government anxious concern and that substantial special remissions in respect of the *abi* kist in the Tellingana and *kharif* kist in the Mahratwada, without distinction of districts, had in 1341 Fasli given direct relief to the amount of approximately Rs. 32 lakhs.

WELL SINKING IN HYDERABAD

H. E. H. the Nizam's Government have several water-supply schemes in hand. Details are now available of a scheme for improving village well supplies in the south-east section of the Dominions. This scheme was entrusted to a special officer, Mr. L. Munn, O.B.E., who was expected to deal with 1,000 wells in 3 years. This necessitated sinking new wells in various places, and improving the existing ones in others. While executing this programme, Mr. Munn had to overcome several difficulties, not all of an engineering character. Contaminated supplies, for example, were frequently considered by the people as more palatable than pure water.

SUPPORT TO VISWABHARATI

The ardent appeal which the Poet Rabindranath made for funds in aid of the Viswabharati during his stay in Hyderabad met with a satisfactory response from all classes of people. His Exalted Highness the Nizam, who a few years back made a gift of Rs. 100,000 has, it is learnt, expressed a desire to donate another lakh to the Viswabharati to commemorate the Poet's visit. The nobility and the public too did not lag behind in contributing their mite, to the Viswabharati.

Mysore

MYSORE'S TWO PROBLEMS

Mysore has two problems: the tribute to the British and the retrocession of Civil and Military Station. The Secretary of State made the significant statement in the Joint Committee that "judged by modern conditions, many of them (tributes) are very unsuited to a New Constitution and that, quite apart from their justice in the past and the historical reason that led to them, it would be a very good thing to get them cleared out of the picture in any New Indian Constitution". Sir Samuel continued:

Further than that Members of the Committee and Delegates should remember that there is not a very large sum at stake. Under a system of annuities and setting the tributes against the immunities, it would involve an expenditure of about £280,000 a year. I am inclined to think that from every point of view—the point of view of both British India and the point of view of the Indian States—it would be worth making an expenditure of that kind under the new Constitution. It would be worth clearing out of the way a number of these rather tiresome questions, but if they are not settled in a rather rough and ready way at the start, they will, I believe, lead to almost endless friction in the future.

MYSORE CONVERSION LOAN

The New Loan floated by the Government provides for the conversion of certain securities into a long term Loan bearing interest at 4 per cent. per annum free of income-tax has been open to the public from the 15th December 1933. Various facilities have been granted to the investing public to take advantage of the New Loan by the conversion of their holdings. A recent order of the Government announces that persons who have insured their lives in the Official and Public Branches of the Mysore State Life Insurance Scheme and whose endowment policies mature before 1st July 1939 will, if they choose, be permitted to take the whole or part of the amounts of their policies on their maturity in the form of the new 4 per cent. 1953-63 Loan Bonds at par. But this option should be availed of before the 15th March 1934 or other date up to which applications for the Loan will be received.

RURAL MYSORE

Measures conducive to the improvement of sanitation in the minor municipalities in the State have now been ordered by the Government of Mysore, with a view to regulating conservancy and sanitation and prohibiting public nuisance in the rural areas.

Baroda

ORIENTAL STUDIES IN BARODA

Important contributions to the study of the ancient literature of India, as well as to the popularizing of knowledge, have been made in the progressive State of Baroda, says the *Asiatic Review*. The Maharaja Gaekwar's Oriental Series has acquired a world-wide reputation by its publications of original texts with English translations, several volumes of which are brought out every year. Recently the Sanskrit section of the Central Library at Baroda was expanded into a separate organization known as the *Oriental Institute* and placed in charge of Dr. B. Bhattacharya, M.A., Ph.D., as Director. In addition to supporting scholarly learning, the Baroda Government, under the initiative of the venerable Ruler of that State, who throughout his long reign has taken the keenest personal interest in all endeavours to promote not only the material but also the mental and spiritual welfare of his people, has made a deliberate and effective attempt to spread the result of the work of scholars among the general public. A comprehensive system of district and travelling libraries has been established even in those districts of Baroda which are not in easy communication with the centre. To supply these libraries with up-to-date books, a constant stream of translations into the vernaculars is being maintained at the rate of from 20 to 30 volumes a year. It is the proud achievement of this organization to have brought public libraries within reach of the whole of the populations of the towns in Baroda and of 62 per cent. the inhabitants of the rural districts.

HOME FOR WIDOWS IN BARODA

Shrimant Yuvaraj Pratapsingh Raje Gaekwar, the Heir-Apparent, paid a glowing tribute to Mrs. Hirawantiben for the gift of Rs. 50,000 for establishing a Vidhawashram (Widows' Home) under the auspices of Aryakumar Mahasabha in memory of her husband Sheth Mansukhlal Chhaganlal, while performing the opening ceremony of the Home on the 27th January. Addressing the gathering, the Yuvaraj said:

"There could be no better kind of charity than to provide widows with a home where they could receive education and help to become useful members of society."

Travancore

OLD MANUSCRIPTS IN TRAVANCORE

Presiding over the Silver Jubilee Celebrations of the Department for the Publication of Oriental Manuscripts in Travancore held on January 28, Sir C. P. Ramaswamy Iyer said that the people of India always took credit for the great and glorious heritage handed down from generations past. He bemoaned the absence of sustained sense of historical pride in them.

He had seen a Hindu temple in Kashmir with 7 gates dedicated to the planets now in ruins. He extolled Lord Curzon for the interest he evinced in the preservation of ancient monuments in India. It was noteworthy that Hyderabad, at the instance of Sir Akbar Hydari, had restored the famous Ajanta frescoes.

After surveying Egypt and Syria, Sir C. P. Ramaswamy Iyer dwelt on what the West was doing for the preservation of ancient monuments. The Indian States of Mysore, Baroda, and Travancore were the only three working in that direction.

WEDDING OF THE FIRST PRINCESS

The marriage of Lakshmi Bai, the First Princess Karthikkai Thirunal of Travancore, with Godavarmaraja of Poonjar, took place on the 25th January amidst joyous festivities.

The young Princess, who is a younger sister of the present Maharajah, has widely travelled. She has already been abroad twice—once in 1932 with her mother, the Junior Maharani, and then again last year with her older brother, the present Ruler. These are the only occasions in the history of Travancore when members of the ruling family have left India's shores. In accordance with the prevalent custom in Malabar, known as *Marumakkathayam* (right of succession of the eldest sister's son), the eldest son born of the present alliance will be in direct succession to the *Gadi*.

RUBBER FACTORY IN TRAVANCORE

A rubber expert, who had been invited to Travancore to investigate the possibilities of rubber manufacture in the State, has recommended, it is believed, that Travancore possesses ideal conditions for working a rubber factory. The minimum cost of the factory will be Rs. 3 lakhs. It is said that motor tubes, cycle tyres, rubber sheets, rubber-coated materials and dolls can be manufactured.

States People's Conference

Mr. K. Natarajan, Editor of the *Indian Social Reformer*, presided over the special session of the Indian States People's Conference held in Delhi on the 3rd February. He dwelt largely on the Princes' Protection Bill as it affects journalism. Mr. Natarajan asked the Home Member to state who were the Princes and the States who had asked for the new Bill. In the past 11 years, Mr. Natarajan said, more States were sharply called to order by the Paramount Power than in any corresponding period. Mr. Natarajan contested the Home Member's view that Paramountcy alone should have the say in the matter and said that criticism in the press and on platform might often obviate the necessity of intervention by the Paramount Power after maladministration had reached the magnitude of a scandal.

Pudukotah

DARBAR'S CONCESSIONS TO RYOTS

In honour of the visit of His Excellency Lord Willingdon to the State, the Pudukotah Darbar are pleased to announce :

That all loans granted for agricultural purposes and not yet completely repaid shall be declared to have been issued free of interest from the date of issue. All arrears of interest will therefore be written off. All sums hitherto credited to interest will now be adjusted against principal and the balance of principal remaining unpaid after this adjustment will alone be considered due. The collection of the principal sums thus due will be made payable in easy instalments to be fixed with reference in each case to the amount owed and the capacity of the borrower to repay.

Another Notification states that the Darbar have granted concessional collection of *kist* for the current *fasli*. It states that in view of the fact that tanks in some divisions of the State have not received a sufficient supply of water the land revenue due from the ryots holding lands in the *ayacut* of such tanks will be collected in 6 instalments instead of the usual 4.

THE PUDUKOTAH MUSLIM ASSOCIATION

A fitting reply to the Pudukotah Muslim Association address demanding representation in Government services was made by Sir Alexander Tottenham recently. While promising to encourage Muslim education in the State, he declared in unmistakable terms that efficiency in the Government services was the sole criterion for recruitment and that it cannot be subordinated to communal considerations.

Kashmir

THE KASHMIR REFORMS

The Committee appointed to enquire into the possibilities for enfranchising the subjects of the States of Kashmir and Jammu, on the recommendation of the Glancy Commission, has submitted a unanimous report.

According to the new scheme, more than 10 per cent. of the adult males of Kashmir would be enfranchised. Women, as a whole, were denied suffrage. Specific mention was made about certain classes of people who are to have power of direct election.

A plan for remodelling the State Assembly, consisting of 75 members, was also drawn up by the Committee.

MUSLIMS IN KASHMIR

The Kashmir Government have issued a *communiqué* regarding the intolerable attitude of the Nawjawan section of the Muslim Conference party towards the other section of the Muslims and towards the Hindus, and the consequent arrest and deportation from the Kashmir Province of a number of them under the leadership of Mr. Mahomed Sayeed in the wake of a series of inflammatory speeches containing incitements to violence and threat of direct action.

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Indians Overseas

South Africa

INDIANS IN SOUTH AFRICA

The South African Indian Congress has submitted a lengthy memorandum to the Colonization Inquiry Committee and candidly informed the Commissioners that they were against colonisation and will neither associate in the reduction of the population nor encourage any Indian member of community to leave South Africa. The Congress also suggests that Indians should be permitted to settle in different parts of the Union and provincial barriers be removed, as there is little scope for the successful colonisation of the South African Indians abroad. . . .

VERNACULAR FOR S. A. INDIANS

Though Indians in South Africa are to conform to Western standards of living that does not mean the abandonment of their vernaculars. "Vernacular education for Indian children," observed a speaker recently at a Tamil school function in that country, "should be the first consideration of every parent. . . . If you follow the political activities of this country, you will notice in what terms and how both the chief sections of the European community love their mother-tongue. So, why not we?"

INDIAN EDUCATION IN SOUTH AFRICA

Looking at the present situation of the Indians in Natal with a multitude of bread-earning restrictions, we cannot but sound a warning note, says the *Indian Views*, that before long our present educational ship would sink with all hands on deck. Faced with the White labour policy in front and threatened with new legislation aiming at the total exploitation of small independent factories and workshops at the back, we can say no more than this, that our present educational system needs a radical change co-ordinating a training of both head and hand.

REPATRIATES FROM SOUTH AFRICA

Indian Opinion gives the following figure of Indians repatriated from South Africa under the assisted voluntary repatriated scheme: Altogether 2,363 Indians were repatriated to India during the year 1932-33, states the Auditor-General in his report on various Government accounts for that year. This was done at a cost of £55,617 to the Indian Immigration Bureau, which included £34,257 paid as bonuses and £13,668 in respect of ship passage money.

Kenya

UNEMPLOYMENT IN KENYA

Unemployment has hit very hard the Indians domiciled in Kenya. A petition addressed by them to the Governor of the Colony says :

In some cases an actual stage of starvation exists as the petitioners have exhausted all possible means of appealing to their friends, relatives, charitable institutions and individuals for help with the result that great distress, misery and poverty exist among them and their families.

The petitioners have, therefore, appealed to the Government to appoint a proper Committee to inquire into this state of things and to recommend ways of effecting an immediate relief. There has been already in existence in Kenya since 1931 an Unemployment Executive Committee, which has the Postmaster-General as its Chairman. To this Committee, Kenya Government have agreed to add an Indian member. A suggestion was made by the Indians unemployed that at least for the current year the principle of giving all Government, Municipal and Railway works on contracts adopted hitherto be suspended and all works (specially the Law Court buildings and Municipal Offices and Water Works) be executed departmentally in order to afford a reasonable opportunity for employment to the petitioners through the agency of the Unemployment Committee, instead of their being dependent on the mercy of the contractors, sub-contractors and middlemen.

Malaya

INDIAN LABOUR IN MALAYA

Malaya wants Indian labour. But before the request is complied with, the Government of India must satisfy themselves as to the future status of Indian labour in the colony. For one thing, says a *Contemporary*, they must not be repatriated at the will of Malaya. There are 5 lakhs of our countrymen in the colony. Most of them are employed on rubber plantations. Their prospects cannot be said to be very bright. The average wage comes to about 12 annas per head—a rupee at most in some parts. When the price of rubber fell, Indian labourers were repatriated. No work and therefore no need for them. No one gave any thought on what they would do in India; and as a matter of fact they do not want to come back, and it is not possible for them to get work here. Yet last year as many as 50,000 were repatriated.

Great Britain

ASIATIC STUDENTS IN GREAT BRITAIN

There are about 3,600 students of non-European races studying in universities and colleges of Great Britain and Ireland, estimates the *Church Overseas*.

The majority of these are Indians, who number about 2,200. Egyptians are estimated at 500, Chinese at 400 of whom 220 come from British Possessions, Africans 130, West Indians 150, Siamese 90, Japanese 30, and Persians 40. There are also a few students from Iraq, Palestine, and Abyssinia.

In addition, it is estimated that there are some 2,000 white students from the Dominions, U.S.A., and Europe in British colleges.

The East and West Friendship Committee, which has been working for 12 years to bring about closer social contact between these students of different races and young people in Britain, has been expanded into the East and West Friendship Council.

The new Council is under the presidency of the Earl of Lytton, former Chairman of the League Commission to Manchuria, with the Bishop of Willesden, Dr. J. Scott Lidgett, and Sir Philip Hartog, who has had wide experience of educational work in India, as Vice-Presidents.

Indian Emigrants Abroad

According to Dr. Radhakamal Mukerjee, the geographical distribution of Indian emigrants is as follows:

COUNTRY	NUMBER	PER CENT. OF TOTAL
Burma	1,300,000	31.4
Ceylon	1,133,000	27.4
Malaya	628,000	15.1
Dutch East Indies	50,000	1.2
British Guiana	130,075	3.1
Trinidad	133,277	3.2
Dutch Guiana	57,600	1.3
Fiji	76,722	2.0
Mauritius	281,000	6.7
Kenya, Tanganyika and East Africa	86,220	2.5
South Africa	186,000	4.4
United States	4,901	0.1
Australia	2,000	.04
Canada	1,200	.02
Other countries	65,075	1.54
Total	4,135,100	100.0

Ceylon

INDIAN LABOUR IN CEYLON

The Department of Labour, Government of Ceylon, has issued statistics relating to the immigration of Indian estate labourers in 1933. The total number of immigrant labourers during the year was 32,898, a decrease of 17,971 compared to 1932. Recruiting licenses issued in 1933 totalled 1,302 compared to 2,587 in the previous year.

Italy

INDIANS IN ITALY

Through the initiative of Mr. Subash Bose, an Association of Indian students has been formed at Milan.

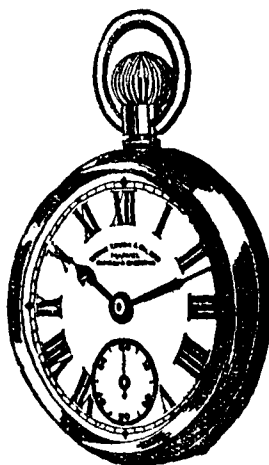
Welcoming the new Association at the inaugural gathering, Senator Fantoli said that the advent of Indian students at Milan for the polytechnic was the beginning of a greater relationship between the West and the East.

Mr. Bose lecturing on India and Italy expressed admiration for Italy and Fascism and said he considered Signor Mussolini the greatest man of the epoch.

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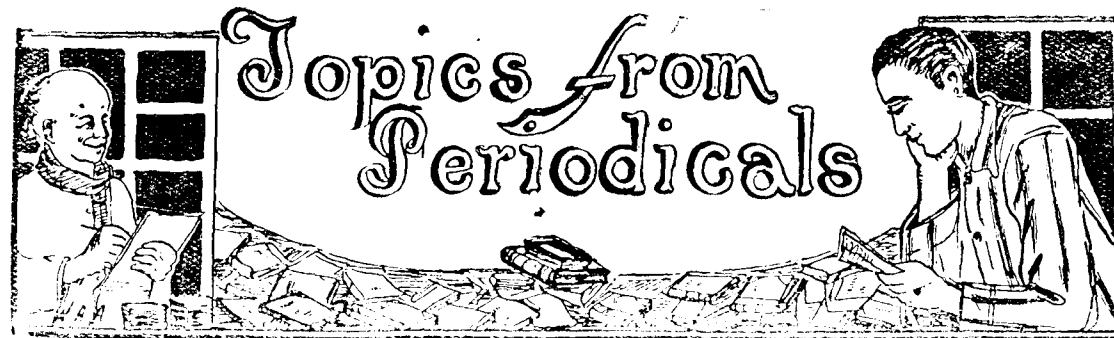
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LYNCHING

When a premeditated and long threatened lynching took place recently in the beautiful little city of San Jose in California, the American people were stunned and the rest of the civilized world horrified that the chief executive of the law in California approved the crime. The Editor of the *Catholic World*, in condemning the crime, condemns downright this callousness of the myrmidons of Law and indeed the attitude of those who call themselves Christians and civilized and yet were a party to the wholly indefensible crime of lynching;

for it is tantamount to the confession that we Americans have not yet quite outgrown savagery. It is as though we had no European antecedents and no background of civilization, but were descended directly from the North American aborigines, who used the tomahawk and the scalping knife and who occasionally burned their victim to death as they danced madly about him, frenzied with blood-lust. It seems almost incredible—there is a sense of unreality and of nightmare as one puts the fact on paper—that from time to time, and indeed some 400 times since 1898, mobs of Americans have lapsed for an hour or two or even for half a day into a condition of savagery like that of a tribe of Sioux or Iroquois. The phenomenon is sometimes called a "throw-back", or an "uprush", and as such it may be of academic interest to psychologists. But to a moralist, and still more to the enlightened Christian who is heir to the gospel of mercy and pity, a lynching by Christian people is altogether monstrous and—were it not for the evidence—unbelievable.

That a number of persons in a civilized community could suddenly go berserk, hammer down the gates of a jail, drag out two prisoners, beat them viciously and hang them to a tree in the public place while other citizens, both men and women, shouted and laughed and made "wise-cracks", while children are held aloft in their mothers' arms to see the sport,

sounds like an utterly preposterous yarn. But says the Editor:

The horrible fact remains that in this case the nightmare is true. We are humiliated before the world. We recall with such shame as we never felt before the statement of William Howard Taft and of Herbert Hoover that we Americans are the most lawless people in the world. What can be more lawless than a mob of murderers, unless it be an executive of the law who commends the violation of the law?

There is worse yet. The most appalling fact in connection with the San Jose lynching is not the Governor's approval, but the fact that the indignation of the people was not unanimous or universal. Here and there appeared an editorial or a letter to the newspapers supporting the recreant Governor's stand.

C. Logan Payne, publisher of an evening paper at San Jose, said:

It is all over now, and we believe that San Jose has sent a message and given a lesson to every State in the Union where lawlessness is rampant, and that will cause all these gangsters, racketeers and murderers to think.

One would have to go far to find a more perfect sample of confusion of thought and aberration of judgment. Particularly naive is the reference to places where lawlessness is rampant. "That, if you please," says the writer in the *Catholic World*, "from the city wherein a mob had just run wild and done murder, a city that for a generation will be a hissing and a byword in the mouths of civilised peoples the world over." Consider the logic. Lawlessness is rampant.

So, San Jose remedies the evil with more lawlessness. To cure crime, commit crime. To put an end to murder, add more murder. To stop a flood, break down the dikes. To halt a conflagration, pour on turpentine. And this, says Mr. Payne, is a "lesson"! Shall we say a lesson in logic? And in ethics? It's a lesson to Europe as to what kind of men we have in high position in America and what kind of education is imparted in American schools.

SIXTEEN YEARS OF SOVIET RULE

Russia is one of the most misunderstood of countries and the Soviet government, the most maligned of all. The revolution has wrought tremendous changes in the life of the people and her institutions. Russia has got rid of the Czars and a more thorough-going dictatorship of the Proletariat is holding sway over the country. Bolshevik propaganda abroad has always been suspect and the capitalist countries, dreading the consequences of the invasion of Russian ideas, have not hesitated to attribute all sorts of horrors to Russian despotism. But the dictatorship of the Proletariat has been marked by far-reaching changes which it would be well for the world to recognize. Sixteen years have now passed since the Soviet rule was established in Russia, and it is time to take stock of the situation and scan the progress the country has made in diverse directions. Reviewing the situation, the *Moscow Narodny Bank Monthly Review* observes :

Out of the 16 years' period, the Soviet Union has enjoyed 11 years of peace, during which rapid progress has been made in all branches of the economic and cultural life. Illiteracy, one of the darkest and most disgraceful heritages of Tsarist rule, has been almost entirely abolished, whilst education and the advantages of cultural life, instead of being the privileges of the few, have been brought within the reach of the whole population. The peasantry, which was formerly kept in conditions of hopeless poverty, ignorance, and superstition, has been freed to a full enjoyment of the advantages of modern culture and education.

So great has been the intellectual progress made by the rural population in the past few years, that the very difficult and complicated problem of transition from small-scale individual farming to large-scale farming, with pooled resources and modern machinery, could be accomplished without excessive difficulties.

New and valuable machinery and superior methods of land cultivation have been introduced in the Soviet village during the past decade. The area of the State and collective farms had advanced from 2.7 per cent. of the total land under cultivation in 1928, to 80 per cent. in 1932. The transition from small farming to large-scale cultivation has been rapid. The collective farm offered

a better return to the farmer and greater possibilities for a fuller life for himself and his family. Moreover, it taught the peasant the use of modern agricultural machinery and tractors and enabled him to acquire most valuable experience in the running and administration of a large estate.

Soviet industry has undergone rapid expansion in the past few years, the process being particularly accelerated after the introduction of the first Five-Year Plan in October 1928.

A number of new industries, unknown in pre-revolutionary Russia, have been established; more than a 1,000 large industrial enterprises have been erected and set going, and many of the existing factories greatly extended. An important tractor industry non-existent in pre-war Russia has been established, whose output in the first 10 months of 1933 was 62,070 tractors. The same applies practically to motor vehicles. During the last 6 years of the existence of Tsarism, from 1910 to 1916, a total of 450 machines were produced in Russia, while during the first 10 months of the current year 40,861 motor cars and lorries were manufactured in the country. In 1932, the output for the whole year was 50,250 tractors and 25,000 motor lorries and cars. . . . The progress in the machine construction industry is particularly noteworthy, as at the present time the U. S. S. R. is already in a position to equip its industries largely with machinery of home production instead of importing practically all its industrial equipment.

Great strides have been made in the building of new cities and in the rebuilding, extension and improvement of the old cities. Municipal economy was reorganised on broad principles, so that it can now serve the whole population instead of only a small fraction—its wealthier citizens—which was the case before the War. An intensive and persistent campaign has been carried out in the Soviet Union for the spread of education both in town and country, and for the entire abolition of illiteracy.

So successful was the effort that by the end of 1932, illiteracy had been reduced from about 76 per cent. of the population in the pre-revolution time to 10 per cent. Universal and compulsory education, first introduced in 1931, is now being extended from a 4 year to a 7 year course. More than 25 million children were receiving education this year as compared with only 8 millions in 1913. The standard of literacy among the younger people of the Soviet Union now compares favourably with that in other advanced States.

The higher educational institutions are now attended by more than half a million students, while more than two million students attend technical schools.

Surely, the Soviet rule has not been the unmitigated misfortune it has been represented to be!

THE FUTURE OF BERAR

The question of the future of Berar is as old as the hills. It is a matter which has baffled statesmen for the last 80 years. "That it should have been so amicably settled is treated as a cause for considerable satisfaction for all concerned," says Mr. A. K. Williams writing in the January number of the *Empire Review*. It will not be quite out of place if we give in brief the history of the Berar which comprises nearly 18,000 square miles with a population of over 3,000,000. The writer puts it in a nutshell in the following words :

For the greater part of the 18th century it had been part of the Nizam's domain, and since the second Marhatta war of 1804 it had been his enlarged possession; but by the treaties of 1853 and 1860 between the Queen and the Nizam, the Berars came under British administration, in return for which payment of the troops of the Hyderabad Contingent issued from British sources. This arrangement was unsatisfactory. In 1902, therefore, the Berar Districts were leased in perpetuity to the British Government on an annual rental of Rs. 25 lakhs. The change was made for administrative convenience, and reasons of economy at the same time dictated that the Berars should no longer be managed as a separate unit, and that the Hyderabad Contingent should no longer be maintained as a separate force. The Berars were therefore attached to the Central Provinces and the Contingent was merged in the Indian Army. But there was no thought of disputing the Nizam's sovereignty over the Berars, which indeed was formally reaffirmed.

But this arrangement again worked unsatisfactorily. The present Nizam, who has occupied the throne for 22 years, has never ceased to press for a rearrangement. His first endeavours—or rather the endeavours of his Minister, Sir Ali Imam—met with frustration. For in 1925, the Viceroy clearly showed that the British Government were not disposed to reconsider the 1902 Agreement. It appeared indeed from Lord Reading's letter to the Nizam that the hopes of Hyderabad in respect to the Berars were to be indefinitely postponed.

The Government of India was very particular to remove the vagueness about the position of the Nizam as sovereign of the Berars in the new Federal Constitution. So a satisfactory agreement was arrived at and due announcement was made some time ago by Lord Willingdon during his recent visit to Hyderabad. Under the new agreement, Berar is still to be administered with the Central Provinces, but the sovereignty of the Nizam is reaffirmed by His Majesty's Government.

The people of Berar are to continue to enjoy internal autonomy with a Government subject, like that of the C. P., to popular control. But since the sub-province is to be part of the Nizam's Dominions, it can enter Federation only with H. E. H. the Nizam's approval. The military guarantees, we understand, will remain as they were upon the leasing of the Berars to the Crown. The writer concludes :

The new agreement is satisfactory to both sides. It appears to have struck a proper balance between realities and the outward manifestations of power.

BROADCASTING IN THE INDIAN VILLAGE

Mr. C. F. Strickland, writing in the *Asiatic Review*, urges that broadcasting should be utilised as a solution of the problem of rural enlightenment and of the retention of the literate villagers in their rural environment. An effective broadcasting programme will make rural life more cheerful, and spread hygienic and agricultural instruction and general information of every kind and improve the instruction of the village schoolmaster. When television becomes simpler and cheaper, this agency too will reinforce the broadcast speaker. Broadcasting should give to the peasant a mixed diet of song and story and should serve as a news-bulletin prepared by a responsible and impartial authority covering the events of the day, Indian and foreign, the prices of crops and of domestic requirements in the market town, warning of locusts and epidemics, notices of trains to fairs, supply of canal water, etc. Government Officers can address large numbers of villages simultaneously, and they can iterate their personal visits by short vernacular addresses in order to carry conviction. Broadcasting should be particularly valuable to women, when equipped with loud-speakers in suitable places where they may listen without undue publicity. The Lothian Committee was very right when it stressed on the urgency of training the peasants to have definite opinions and become vocal in matters of national interest.

WORLD ECONOMICS

The League of Nations World Economic Survey for 1932-33 recently issued by the League's Director of the Financial Section and Economic Intelligence Service, is the second of a series undertaken in consequence of the resolutions passed by the Assembly of the League in 1930 and 1931. The period which this record of work covers, comes down to about July 1933 and has witnessed the American banking difficulties, the departure of the U. S. A. from the gold standard, discussions concerning the future of war debt payments, and the opening of the World Monetary and Economic Conference. The aim of this record is to concentrate upon facts rather than upon opinions, upon decisions rather than plans, and upon statistical evidence of economic activity rather than upon legislation; and it deals with political forces only in so far as they throw light on economic problems. We read that forces making for economic stabilisation, if not for recovery, began to operate in the second half of 1932 and in the beginning of 1933, but they were held in check by obstacles which had not cleared away; and to the decline of activity and confusion of economic relationships, there were added general pessimism and the fear of a more complete collapse.

Prices, Production, International Trade, Tariff Policy, Business Profits, Public Finance, Banking and Monetary Policy, Indebtedness and International Balance of Payments are among the subjects covered in the *Survey*. Some of these topics are less and the others are more international, both in their material and in their implications. It is evident that everywhere a rising price-level is sought, not as an end in itself but as a practical means of remedying the price disequilibria which, at present, block the way to recovery. The disequilibria that were

created, were of many kinds: industrial and international. The *Survey* discusses prices before production as an indication of changing emphasis: the former exercising a very important influence upon industrial organisation. It was industrial production that fluctuated most dangerously and it has affected the production of industrial raw materials from which there has been a shift to the production of food-stuffs, leading to a temporary over-production of cereals. A quantitative limitation of imports and in some cases of exports has effectively supplemented the effects of higher tariffs, and bilateral trade negotiations are occupying an increasing share of international activities; and most of these are frankly temporary short-term compromises reviewable at short notice and aim only at the continuance of a minimum of foreign trade. A special chapter in the *Survey* calls attention to the magnitude and complexity of the problems of indebtedness as was built up before 1929. The two main schools of thought insist, respectively, on (1) that economic activity should be reflation, primarily by monetary action to raise prices, so that debt burdens may again become tolerable; and (2) that no permanent recovery is possible until debts have been written down. Most of the economic difficulties are aspects of one great problem, that of restoring balanced equilibrium in the economic system. It is not possible to separate national from international equilibrium. The final chapter estimates the economic situation, as it was in July 1933, as marking a definite upward trend in the business cycle; it explains also the importance of the American developing plan aiming at the domestic recovery of prices and production and implying the neglect of international economic equilibrium. The *Survey* has at the end a chronology of events of economic importance covering the period.

THE FUTURE OF HINDUISM

What is the future of Hinduism, asks Prof. S. K. Mitra in the *Vedanta Kesari* for February. If Hinduism is to be again a living force, it must give up absolutely its present attitude of complacent acceptance of the inevitable. We should banish the word 'inevitable' from our dictionary, he says, just as Napoleon wanted to banish the word 'impossible'.

What we require more than anything else is the spirit of the late Swami Vivekananda, that "Vedantism on Horseback" as a distinguished countryman of ours described this philosophy which refuses to accept any defeat of the Spirit. "Up, India," said the late Swami, "and conquer the world with your spirituality. The only condition of national life, of awakened and vigorous national life, is the conquest of the world by Indian thoughts." It is this virile faith in our own destiny and in the power of our culture that can alone save us.

We should not hesitate to take from the West whatever is of real value. But we are terribly mistaken if we think that what is needed is a gramophone reproduction of the West.

We can only command respect if we boldly put before the world the Hindu view of life. It is a sign of our slave-mentality that we hesitate to place before the world our outlook upon life. Do not think that the West has no need of it or that it will reject it with scorn. The world has always need of truth. The West has never hesitated to proclaim its truths to the world and we see the result. The world has accepted its truths and has been conquered by them. What we find to-day is not merely the political conquest of the world by the West, but what is of far greater importance, the spiritual conquest of the world by Western thought.

There was a time, continues the writer, when Indian thought conquered the whole civilised world. The great king Asoka laid the foundation of a spiritual conquest of the whole of Asia by Indian thought. How much he succeeded is seen from the fact that it was a religion which became the accepted religion of far-off China. India will again occupy the position of a spiritual conqueror of the world if she again acquires the courage to affirm her truths boldly.

VILLAGE REORGANISATION

The November Number of the *Landholders' Journal* has a thoughtful article on village reorganisation by Mr. Khagendranath Sen. He advocates a Board of Rural Finance for the purpose of regulating rural credit for improving agriculture and developing industries. He also suggests a Rural Reconstruction Fund also. His other suggestions are also worth considering and we quote them below in full:

A central authority may be set up called the Ministry of Development which should be in touch with all the Government Departments and private associations doing work in the rural areas for administering the fund and directing and co-ordinating the movement in the local areas. For the actual work, the agency of the District, Local and Union Boards should be utilized. In still more remote areas the staff available at the nearest police stations, augmented by the secretary of the local co-operative society where there is one, will provide an excellent unit for providing the necessary initiative and enterprise for development. The Ministry of Development shall be in charge of the Road Fund allocated to each province and also of such schemes in conjunction with the appropriate departments concerned, as hydro-electric development, etc. A common meeting ground for the exchange of views and experiences would be found in a Development Conference to be held once or twice a year and which would be attended by all the Provincial Ministers of Development and such others as may be nominated by the Departments concerned.

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E. April '34.

REPRESENTATION AT THE LEAGUE

For some time after its foundation, the League's position suffered from a basic difficulty, viz., the absolute sovereignty of the states being inconsistent with restraint of any state through the League. According to Mr. Tobin writing in the *Political Science Quarterly*, nationalism in the League became more frankly recognised as time went on; and this was reflected in the character of the permanent representation of the member-states in Geneva and elsewhere. The league overemphasized its role of executive agent for the peace-treaties; and its lack of universality failed to permit general entry, not alone of ex-enemy states, but of others. The great powers showed a tendency to avoid making serious commitments on important matters, while dealing freely with the affairs of lesser states. The great powers depended on their League bureaus in their foreign ministries and on their Council and Assembly representations to look after their interests; while the defeated states and others set up officers or delegates in Geneva and Berne. The increase in the Secretariat's scope of knowledge and power of control made representation on it a matter of great concern. The story of the battle over Germany's permanent seat in the Council and her representation in the Secretariat indicated plainly that national interests and prestige had become very strong factors in the League. Important questions discussed by the League, like disarmament and the organisation of peace, intensified the national struggle for place on it and increased the permanent delegations of the different states that were set up in Geneva. The post of permanent delegate at Geneva has become important for those states which have set up delegations. The cabinet system has developed in the higher Secretariat of the League; replacements are being made on a more definitely national basis; and the representation of the principal states is becoming

more plainly marked. The representation of states at the International Labour Office has also been developed. It is suggested in the article that any new development is more likely to be in the direction of greater control by the League of international activity, with carefully defined limitations of state sovereignty but with a closer association of authority and responsibility than has been the case in the earlier period of the League.

PLAY AND SOCIAL EFFICIENCY

Dr. J. M. Kumarappa, in the course of an interesting article on "Play as a Factor in Social Efficiency" in the *Modern Review* for February, observes that play stimulates every phase of the child's growth. Educationists and philosophers have emphasized in early times the importance of play in education.

"Education," said Plato, "should begin with the right direction of children's sports," and likewise Froebel, the noted educationist, declared that "the plays of childhood are the germinal leaves for all later life". In spite of such trenchant pronouncements from time to time, we have gone on taking the child out of his play and sending him to school regardless of Nature's way of educating him. And what baffles understanding is the fact that even now we have not become fully aware of how hopelessly we have failed to realize, not only that there is something more important to the child's future than the acquisition of information but the vital point that the child's way of educating himself is through his play.

Though the physical and mental effects of play were the first values to be discovered, its social and moral influences were unobserved until some of their necessary consequences became too patent to remain hidden from the view of the sociologist.

Play is social in character, and naturally therefore one of its positive social values lies in the effectiveness with which it brings together on a common level children of different castes and social standards.

Children of all castes and religious groups are alike in their need for play, and the ideals of the playground are more or less the same for all. This common human need, and this common mode of its expression, furnish

a basis on which children of all kinds and conditions can meet. Surely no better opportunities than those furnished by play could be desired for allaying caste prejudices, mitigating social and class differences, and laying the foundation for the recognition of our common humanity. The danger to a wholesome civic life in India lies in the communal conflicts and caste prejudices, in the lack of sympathy and understanding and in the persistence within our gates of irreconcilable and hostile elements. But the opportunities afforded by organized and supervised recreation for accomplishing this task of unifying the discordant forces are certainly very great.

In concluding, the writer asks if play develops all phases of a child's life, should not the opportunities afforded by it be used to their limit to bring about his complete and harmonious development?

If our children are to learn team work, imbibe the spirit of sportsmanship, develop the capacity for neighbourliness and form the habit of subordinating selfish to group interests, then they must be enabled to acquire these through experience, and it is play and the playground—not the text-books—that provide the necessary opportunities for such moral and social discipline. Therefore, if we want to make the child a social being, to live at peace and harmony with his fellows and to co-operate generally as a good citizen, we cannot afford to ignore much longer this play way of training the child in social virtues.

INDIA IN PERIODICALS

TREND OF INDIA'S FOREIGN TRADE. By Dr. Narendra Nath Law, M.A., P.R.S. Ph.D. [The Anniversary Number of the "Insurance World," January 1934.]

COTTON IMPROVEMENT AND THE INDIAN CENTRAL COTTON COMMITTEE. By Bikas Chandra Nandi, B.A., B.L. [India and the World, January 1934.]

THE STATES AND THE WHITE PAPER. By Sir William Barton, K.C.L.E. [The Empire Review, January 1934.]

THE TRUTH ABOUT THE GITA. By Dr. R. Naga Raja Sarma. [The Aryan Path, February 1934.]

RAJA RAM MOHAN ROY AND RE-AWAKENING OF MODERN INDIA. By Swami Adyananda. [Prabuddha Bharata, February 1934.]

THE ECONOMIC SURVEY OF INDIA. By Rao Bahadur C. Gopal Menon, A.I.E. [The Madras College of Commerce Magazine, December 1933.]

AN ALL-INDIA ACADEMY OF SCIENCES. By G. C. Mukherjee. [The Modern Review, February 1933.]

THE RELIGIOUS BACKGROUND OF THE INDIAN PUPIL. By the Rev. P. C. Kerslake, M.A. [The National Christian Council Review, February 1934.]

SOME LETTERS ABOUT THE FIRST AFGHAN WAR. By D. B. Diskalkar, M.A. [Journal of Indian History, December 1933.]

INDIA ACADEMY OF AMERICA. By J. C. Chatterji. [The Indian Colonial Review, January 1934.]

EDUCATION AND CITIZENSHIP

Dr. M. T. Dave, writing in the *Children's News* for January on the above topic, says our schools and colleges should not be the seed-plots of national complacency. The qualities we would have our educational system develop in the young men and young women receiving its benefits are:

The capacity to sift evidence, to weigh arguments, to distrust the written word, to bring a fresh individual mind to bear upon the questions which life successively presents, a disposition to pierce shibboleths with the needle of criticism to react instinctively against the stress of unexamined emotions. Further, the content of education should include courses of instructions concerning the contributions of other nations and other races to the common heritage of civilized life; large maps and broad historical prospects must be brought within the purview of the student community. Broadly speaking, the educational policy should be instituted not for war but for peace. In fact, if we cannot all be politicians or reformers or professional philanthropists or experts in social and economical problems, we can all be good citizens at least. We can all regard our task, however humble it may be, not merely as a bread-winning operation, but as a contribution to the well-being of the community of which we are members.

The New India Assurance Co., Ltd.

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"THE NEW INDIA" is admittedly the largest General Insurance Company in India. From the Capital point of view, it may claim to be one of the largest Insurance Companies in the World.—*Indian Insurance*—June 1929.

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K. K. SRINIVASAN,

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4, 1st Line Beach, MADRAS.

E. June '34.

SOUTH INDIA AND INDO-CHINA

Mr. S. V. Visvanatha, writing on "South Indian religious beliefs and practices in Indo-China" in *India and the World*, the official monthly organ of the internationalism and cultural association, says that the introduction and progress of Buddhism in Java, which was got from South India and Ceylon, is indicated in the Tamil Epic the *Manimekalai*. The heroine Manimekalai is said to have proceeded to the shrine of Champapati and later to Java which had its capital at Nagapuram. The writer narrates incidents of historical truth in support of his theory that Java was considerably influenced by South India in its culture. He writes:

Prince Chavakam having heard of Manimekalai, enquired of her antecedents and was told 'there was none equal to this maid in all Jambudvīpa'. She was a nun of great piety and virtue that had come from Kaveripattanam, and possessed marvellous and miraculous powers. The king got under her influence a new vision of his previous birth, knew that he was only the adopted son of the late king and therefore resolved upon giving up the throne to become a recluse and a disciple of the Buddhist nun. He took himself to Manipallavam and learnt the Buddhist doctrines. After having mastered the tenets of the new faith, he went back to his own kingdom which he ruled over in peace thereafter. This Manimekalai tradition seems to have taken a deep root in Java; for the name of Sea-Goddess among the Javanese was Manimekalai, the same as we find among the Tamils of the Sangam period. It would look therefore as if it was the Mahayana form of Buddhism which obtained in Ceylon that was first introduced into the East Indies.

The writer quotes another incident, namely, Bhagavati cult in Indo-china which is copied from Malabar.

The Bhagavati cult is peculiar in India to Malabar and is said to have been introduced there by Bhargava Parasurama, who has the axe as his favourite emblem. The district where the temple was built was also known as Kuthara, derived from *Kuthara* which means an axe. This corresponds to the epithet *Parasurama Kshetra* given to the Malabar Coast where, tradition tells us, temples numbering over a 100 were constructed for the goddess by this sage. Either Parasurama himself had some hand in the introduction of this worship of Bhagavati, or the dedication of the temple to the goddess in Indo-China was directly due to religious influences from the Malabar coast. Anyway there is little doubt that Parasurama was another of the Brahman Rishis who were responsible for the introduction of Indian cultural influences into Indo-China. This

fact is also attested by another circumstance. The law-book that was found mostly in use among the Indo-Chinese was that of Bhargava, on which was based the *Sankarasmṛiti* which is the prevalent text of law among the Nambudiris of Malabar.

Referring to Panchi worship in Indo-China, Mr. Visvanatha differs from the view of Mr. Elliott and opines that it should be taken as identical with the worshippers of Vishnu. In view of the fact that the Vaishnavites were the only sect unrepresented in this threefold religious scheme, as well as the close relationship of the terms Panchi and the Vaishnava *Agama* known as *Pancha-ratra*, one may be led to the conclusion that the term stands for the Vaishnava class of priests also.

SUCCESS AT THE BAR

Principal Sohrab H. Davar, writing in the latest number of the *Bombay Law Journal*, says that the two Counsel system which is in vogue in England, is best in the case of India. He says in India two lawyers are engaged by clients to appear simultaneously and fight, instead of engaging a Specialist for advice and asking another Specialist to advocate. Mr. Davar continues:

One can easily point out a number of good Counsel who have specialised in the learning of various branches of law, but the Attorney unfortunately cannot consult them and take advantage of their learning as Juniors with a second brief, for the simple reason that most of these Specialists not having had fighting experience and the leader not being bound to be present to look to this fighting part of the case, that could not be done.

Thus, this is a very important question in the interest of the Bar to be considered by the members of the Bar, because the privilege of having two Counsel still prevails in suits over the value of Rs. 10,000, and it may be argued with some logical force hereafter that if both the Counsel in such cases are not present, there is no justification for the extra fee paid by the client in these higher valued suits also.

In other words, a system by which a real Junior is briefed along with the Senior leader, the latter being made to give an undertaking to be present at the suit in consideration, if necessary, of a little higher or additional fee paid and the Junior being paid a proportionately lower fee is most desirable, both for the perpetuation of the two Counsel system as well as in the interest of efficient work at the Bar, which means in the interest of justice.

MULTUM IN PARVO

NEWS

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DEPARTMENTAL

+

NOTES

Questions of Importance

MAHATMA GANDHI'S APPEAL

Mahatma Gandhi has issued the following appeal to foreign countries on behalf of the earthquake-stricken people in Bihar:

I heartily endorse Babu Rajendra Prasad's suggestion for appealing to foreign countries, in the hope that Indians living in different parts of the world will send the most, they can.

I have in mind specially old friends and fellow-workers in Africa. Merchants and others living in England, on the Continent, Japan and America are also requested to send liberal contributions.

In point of distress, nothing, perhaps, has surpassed Bihar's calamity in India within living memory. Reluctant though I have always been to appeal to non-Indians for pecuniary help, not from any prudery but out of delicate consideration, I gladly accept Babu Rajendra Prasad's suggestion and invite the numerous non-Indian friends in Europe, Africa and other parts of the world to render such help as they can.

The contributions may be sent direct to Babu Rajendra Prasad or to my address, Satyagraha Ashram, Wardha.

THE EARTHQUAKE AND THE ASSEMBLY

A non-official resolution recommending advance of a loan from the Central Government to the Government of Bihar and Orissa without interest or at a very low rate of interest for reconstruction of the province was moved in the Legislative Assembly at its sitting recently and accepted by the Government. Sir George Schuster, in accepting the resolution on behalf of the Government, cautioned the House that it was easy to be generous with public money; but, however generous Government could be, they could not do without private subscriptions. Government would announce their decision, he said, either during the budget or a little earlier on the subject of the loan.

UNITY AMONGST MUSLIMS

The keen controversy which had been raging for some time past among leading Moslems regarding the overhauling of the All-India Muslim Conference with a view to inspiring greater confidence in its activities, ended on February 15. At a meeting of the Executive Board of the Conference, H. H. the Aga Khan as the sole arbitrator in the matter gave his award, as a result of which there will be a complete change of the principal personnel of this body.

The following is the award:

Nawab of Chhattari to be Chairman; Seth Abdulla Haroon, M.L.A., Secretary; Khan Bahadur Hajji Rahim Baghsh, Working Secretary, Sir Mohamed Iqbal, Dr. Shafaat Ahmed Khan and Maulana Shafi Daoodi, permanent Vice-Presidents; Khan Bahadur Syed Abdul Hafeez, Mr. Hussain Imam, Mr. A. H. Guznavi, Mr. Mohamed Moazzam and Mr. Zahur Ahmed, Joint Secretaries.

As regards the Muslim League, H. H. the Aga Khan suggested that Mr. Jinnah might be appointed President, and Hafiz Hidayat Hussain, Secretary, but made it clear that it was no award but an advice.

ASSEMBLY PRESIDENT'S MEMORANDUM

The Hon. Sir R. K. Shanmukham Chetty, President of the Legislative Assembly, has submitted a supplementary memorandum to the Joint Parliamentary Committee, urging the necessity for granting immunity to the Presidents of Legislatures from the jurisdiction of the respective High Courts, a privilege enjoyed under Section 110 of the Government of India Act, 1919, by certain specified high officers of the Government. The view put forward in the memorandum is supported by the conclusions of the Reforms Enquiry Committee of 1924.

SIR SAMUEL HOARE ON INDIA

Sir Samuel Hoare, in a speech at a meeting of the Chelsea Conservative Association of which he was re-elected President, expressed the opinion that the tasks of the National Government were not completed. In this connexion he referred to the gigantic problem of the India Government.

When day after day I have been immersed in Indian problems, I have sometimes wondered whether a democratic Government, like ours, is capable of dealing with so vast a technical and controversial issue, but I comforted myself with the conviction that the British Parliament and public opinion have political instinct from centuries of experience which keeps them right on big issues.

It is for the National Government to face the Indian issue in a big way, and Parliament and the Public must realise that there is now a chance of a sound, stable and sympathetic settlement that may not recur in the lifetime of any of us.

MR. SASTRI ON GOKHALE

Referring to the political doctrines of Mr. Gopala Krishna Gokhale whose death anniversary was celebrated on February 18 at the premises of the Servants of India Society, Royapettah, Madras, the Rt. Hon. Srinivasa Sastri said :

I hold that Liberalism in this country, for which Mr. Gokhale and men of his stamp stood, in its essence and fundamentals still holds the field. In spite of every endeavour to understand the other case, I remain unconvinced that in these rock bottom matters we need alter our outlook, our aims, or our methods. Mr. Gokhale, then, is a living personality, a character who it is worth while studying in all his aspects, and even if his particular demands and arguments might have lost their validity as applied to present day conditions.

H. H. AGA KHAN ON FEDERATION

At a dinner given in honour of H. H. the Aga Khan and Begum Aga Khan by the Muslim Members of the Central Legislature on the 14th February under the presidency of Abdur Rahim, H. H. the Aga Khan replying to the toast said :

Let us realise what is immediately possible, immediately in front of us; but take good care that the immediate does not jeopardise the future (*cheers*). I am a confirmed optimist, and I like my friends to be the same. Providence has tied us with Britain. Shall those ties be iron fetters or silken chord? . . . I wrote long ago a book on Federation. I sincerely believed that only by Federation, wherein rulers are included, can we solve the problem of India. Like our communal problem, there will be very little logic in it, but there will be a very great deal of practical wisdom and workability in it.

MR. F. E. JAMES ON INDIA'S FUTURE

Mr. F. E. James, in his speech in the Legislative Assembly recently on the motion of Mr. B. Das for expressing the House's opinion on the Discriminative problem, said :

Many of us, when we contemplate the future, contemplate India as a willing partner in a British Commonwealth of Nations. In fact some of us think of the time when the British Commonwealth of Nations will give way to an Indo-British Commonwealth of Nations in which India will be a free and equal partner. There are men in different parts of the country, who are devotedly working towards that ideal; they run the gauntlet of much criticism, they have to take in their hands political courage, in many cases they take in their hands their own political lives. What can they think of the possibility of such an ideal when they find that whereas the Dominions in the Commonwealth, which they seek to enter, can discriminate violently against Indian residents there, Indians are not permitted to do so in their own country to the same extent? Admittedly, India is not a Dominion, nor are some of the Colonies which have already discriminated against Indian residents in their country.

DR. PARANJPYE ON BI-LINGUALISM

Dr. R. P. Paranjpye, Vice-Chancellor of Lucknow University, presided over the Ravenshaw College Commemoration Day at Cuttack, on January 27, in the presence of a distinguished gathering of students, parents and well-wishers of the College. Addressing the gathering, Dr. Paranjpye said :

It may appear unpatriotic to say that the future of our country is bound up with the spread of English language and culture among us; but the ideal that I have before me is that of a people, the large majority of whom will necessarily speak and think in their own vernaculars, but a continually increasing number of whom are effectively bi-lingual, having equal command over their own vernacular and the English language.

The influence of this class will more and more permeate the rural population, and it is only in this way that we shall arrive at a harmonious synthesis of modern world ideas and our own inherited civilisation.

SIR HIDAYATULLAH'S ADVICE

"I advise the Muslim youths to give up the mendicant spirit of demanding preferential treatment," said Sir G. Hidayatullah in a recent speech. "We are on the eve of constitutional reforms and it is for us to equip ourselves for greater responsibilities; for that purpose we should be united among ourselves. The bane of the country has been these communal differences which benefit none but by which we are the losers."

KING ALBERT OF BELGIUM

The King of the Belgians was killed on February 18 in a mountaineering accident. Driving his own car and accompanied by an



THE LATE KING ALBERT

aide-de-camp, King Albert set out to climb Rocher de Marche Les Dames, near Namur. While making the ascent, he slipped and fell.

His death robs Europe of one of the most outstanding personalities of the Great War. A great soldier, he played a notable part as a commander leading his army, consisting of the Belgians and the French, during the closing stages of the late War. A proclamation issued to the people by the Belgian Government says that a terrible accident has robbed Belgium of her chief, of whom she was proud. For more than 24 years he was at the helm of affairs, leading the people in times of war and guiding them in times of peace. His death is therefore a distinct loss to Belgians, in whose improvement he took not a little interest.

MR. F. E. JAMES ON THE ASSEMBLY

The suggestion of Sir Shanmukham Chetty, President of the Legislative Assembly, to discuss the necessity of changing the hours of sitting in order to put in more work, both on the floor of the House and in the Committees, will be discussed among party leaders and members of Government.

In this connection, Mr. F. E. James has described the present Assembly as lazy and dilatory. The Assembly, says Mr. James, is a 'seasonal factory' in that it only works during certain seasons. He suggests re-arranging of the hours of the sitting so that work of the Committees as well as of the House would go on simultaneously.

SHORT PARLIAMENTS

The shortest Parliament in English history was summoned in September 1399 for the purpose of deposing Richard II and was dissolved the same day after fulfilling this task.

The Parliament which Charles I summoned in 1625 failed to please him and was dismissed after 5 months, whilst the Barebones Parliament, named after one of its members, lasted a similar period. The Parliament of 1701 lasted a month longer.

The briefest Parliament of recent times was the one elected under Gladstone's premiership in December 1886, and which lasted only until July 1886.

SIND UNEMPLOYMENT

Fifty acres of good land and Rs. 5,000 were offered to Captain J. W. Petavel, late lecturer in the University of Calcutta, by Rotarain Jamshed Nusserwanjee Mehta, Mayor of Karachi, at the Karachi Rotary Club lunch to enable Capt. Petavel to put into practice the scheme of a co-operative educational colony outlined by him in his recent lecture on 'Unemployment in Sind'.

SIR HASSAN'S CONVOCATION ADDRESS

Addressing the annual Convocation of the Calcutta University, on February 10, Vice-Chancellor Sir Hassan Suhrawardy said that he was not sure if they would have a limit to the number of admissions of students, but felt that something should be done for picking out the most suitable candidates for richer and cultural education.

He stressed the need for drastic measures to save the educational activities of Bengal from utter ineffectuality and added that the present diffusion of higher education with the results that it has been giving should be regulated and if necessary limited.

NAWAB MEHDI ON EDUCATION

Delivering the Convocation Address at the Osmania University on 3rd February at Hyderabad, Deccan, Nawab Mehdi Yar Jung emphasized the aim of University in the following words :

To my mind, it is bringing out what is best in us—mental, moral and physical—so that our duty in life may be performed in the best way possible, for the better we are as men, the more efficient shall we be in our vocations. Now this process of refinement or humanisation is only possible through knowledge which comes from truth and connotes action, not merely passive assimilation. In addition to quest of knowledge and readiness to regulate one's conduct by truth and honour, what is required is dynamic energy in order to make life effective. Without such energy, the search for knowledge would only be a sort of armchair philosophy.

TRAINING OF ARTISANS

"In all my travels," said H. H. the Gaekwar of Baroda in a recent speech, "I have been impressed with the importance of technical education in promoting the industries of other nations. Train up artisans first. That is the proper foundation. The will and ambition to succeed is the most important and it may be summarised in the shortest and the best motto of all, viz., 'forward,' having in your mind this firm purpose of looking with a will towards the future."

ITALIAN IN INDIAN UNIVERSITY

The Consul-General for Italy in Calcutta has offered the Calcutta University an endowment for two scholarships of Rs. 10 each to be awarded to students securing the highest number of marks in the Italian language at the Matriculation examination and taking up Italian in the Intermediate course. The Consul-General has also proposed, understands the *Amrita Bazar Patrika*, to place at the disposal of the University the services of a scholar for teaching the subject, his honorarium being met from the endowment. The Consul-General desires that no extra fees should be charged from the students for learning the language.

RACE FOR GOVERNMENT POSTS

The results of the competitive examination held by the Public Service Commission for filling appointments in the Ministerial Service (First and Second Division) of the Government of India Secretariat have been announced.

There were 1,069 candidates, who sat for the examination. Among the first 20 in order of merit, there are 19 Hindus, and 1 Muslim. Out of the 19 Hindus, 15 are Madrasis, 2 Bengalis, 1 from Sind, and 1 from the C. P.

BRITISH SCHOOLBOYS' VISIT

Twenty British schoolboys arrived in Bombay on the 19th January in connection with the Empire School tour. The purpose of the tour is mainly educational. Mr. H. C. A. Gannat, Master of Rugby, Director of the tour, said: "We hope to see the Indian people and make friends with them. We have heard of the traditional hospitality of Indians and want to meet them and exchange ideas."

THE SEDITION SECTION IN I. P. C.

Commenting on the defeat of Mr. C. S. Ranga Iyer's motion in the Legislative Assembly to amend the section relating to sedition in the Indian Penal Code, the *Daily News* of Nagpur says:

From a House constituted mostly of members who are more anxious to win the favours of the Government than do their duty by the country, nothing else may be expected. It does not require much argument to show that the king of sections in the I. P. C.—as 124-A is called by those who have come under its sway—has been invoked and worked in the past so as to suppress the free ventilation of political views. That such expression of *bona fide* political thought is the inherent birthright of citizens in all enlightened States could be seen from the nature of the law in countries that still keep true to the ideals of democratic freedom like Great Britain. But so long as India is associated politically with Great Britain, Indians may not be fairly blamed for aspiring to enjoy rights that Brits are legitimately proud to own and impart to others as a sacred mission.

MR. T. R. V. SASTRI

On the occasion of his 61st birthday which fell on the 4th of February last, Mr. T. R. Venkatarama Sastri was presented with a casket and an address by his friends and admirers. Mr. Sastri, as has been rightly pointed out by a contemporary, is not merely a public spirited citizen, but also a learned and accomplished lawyer. "Added to a singularly suave and charming manner, a scrupulous fairness to opponents, and a sense of detachment from the cause he represents, Mr. Sastri's intellectual powers have made him shine, in the world of law, with a peculiar lustre. True, he has none of the combativeness and assertiveness, which often make up for mediocre talents. Mr. Sastri is a living proof that success in the profession of law is not achieved by a divorce between lungs and brains." The tributes paid to him by Sir P. S. Sivaswami Aiyar and Sir Alladi Krishnaswami Aiyar constitute an effective vindication of Mr. Sastri's work and methods as a lawyer.

Pt. JAWAHARLAL'S CONVICTION

Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru was placed before the Chief Presidency Magistrate of Calcutta on 13th February and on his refusal to accept bail was remanded to police custody till the 15th February. His arrest was made in connection with speeches delivered in Calcutta on the occasion of his previous visit. He was tried on the 14th and as usual Pt. Jawaharlal pleaded guilty. He was sentenced to 2 years' simple imprisonment. In the course of his judgment, the Judge says:

The accused states in Court that for many years his activities are certain to have been seditious if by sedition is meant the desire to achieve independence for India and to put an end to foreign domination. He laboured to that end with all his strength for many long years. As years go by his conviction has grown stronger within him that there can be no freedom for the Indian people so long as they are slaves for the British in the face of the country. He has therefore in a small degree tried to put an end to the British rule in this country. If that is sedition, he admits he has been seditious for many years. A cursory perusal of the speeches shows that he has been animated by an implacable hostility to the established Government.

THE COURTS AND INTERMARRIAGE

The Madras High Court has pronounced the marriage between a Naidu (a non-Brahmin sub-caste) man and an Adi-Dravida (Harijan) woman valid on the ground that it had been admitted that Adi-Dravidas were Hindus and that in several cases it had been held that marriages between sub-castes of Sudras were not invalid. The *Indian Social Reformer* hails the judgment as giving the death-blow to untouchability in South India. The judgment does go far in improving the social and legal status of the Adi-Dravidas who, from being Avarnas, are recognised now by the High Court as Savarnas belonging to the Sudra caste.

MR. JUSTICE YOUNG

Mr. Justice John Douglas Young, Barrister-at-Law, at present a puisne Judge of the Allahabad High Court, has been appointed Chief Justice of the Lahore High Court in succession to Sir Shadi Lal, Bar-at-Law.

INSURANCE IN 1933

Insurance during the year 1933 does not seem to have suffered as severely as other trades and industries. At least this would appear to be the case in a good many Indian Insurance Companies. New business figures of many companies show a marked increase, while a number of new companies too have emerged. But these aspects of prosperity should not be taken too seriously as much of the prosperity is of artificial growth. In insurance, at the present time in India, it is not so much the new business or the number of new companies started during the year, but the actual cost of procuring business and the percentage of lapses that should be taken into consideration in making an estimate of the prosperity of companies. If these criteria are taken into consideration, says the *Insurance Herald*, much of the apparent signs of prosperity would disappear.

THE NEW INDIA ASSURANCE CO.

A review of the company's position for the year ending 31st March 1933 reveals the splendid success achieved by the Life Department of the New India at the very first actuarial valuation of its liabilities. We understand very stringent bases have been adopted in the valuation.

It is very creditable that the New India should disclose surplus even at the very first valuation so as to declare handsome bonus.

The financial position of the Company is very sound, and the following figures will support this fact:

Capital paid-up	...	Rs.	71,21,055	0	0
Fire Fund	...	"	35,40,389	0	0
Marine Fund	...	"	23,50,000	0	0
Accident Fund	...	"	4,57,399	0	0
Life Assurance Fund	...	"	8,67,552	15	8
Profit and Loss Account	...	"	7,37,313	5	4
Investment Reserve	...	"	5,92,282	14	7
Reserve for Exchange	...	"	25,000	0	0

Total Funds ... Rs. 1,56,90,992 3 7

THE HINDUSTHAN INSURANCE CO.

The Silver Jubilee celebration of the above Society took place on the 13th February at the Calcutta Town Hall under the presidency of Dr. Rabindranath Tagore. To suitably perpetuate this event, an important landmark in the history of this institution, they have devised and are offering for the first time in commemoration of the Silver Jubilee celebration what is claimed to be a most up-to-date scheme styled as the 'Silver Jubilee Policy'. It comprises all the best features shown by experience to be of real value to the assured and their dependents in the different eventualities that may arise in the course of one's life. The conditions, we are told, are simple, direct and effective and the advantages are multifarious and well adapted to their purpose while the premium rates are reasonably low. This Policy must afford valuable protection for the Assured themselves in their old age and for their families in the event of early death.

INSURANCE AND MOSLEMS

An interesting address was delivered at the Baker Hostel, Calcutta, last month by Mr. M. S. Islam, M.A., B.L., M.R.A.S., B.C.S., his subject being "Insurance and Islam". In the course of his lecture, the speaker cleared up the popular misconception that insurance is in any way contrary to the tenets of the Muslim faith, and he also stressed the need for more Moslems taking to insurance as a career, and advised at the same time Muslim undergraduates to qualify as actuaries. Mr. Islam also referred to the disproportionate number of his community members in the field of insurance, there being only one company out of 136 in India which was conducted by Moslems.

PROTECTION TO INDIAN TEXTILES

The reports of the Tariff Board on the grant of protection to cotton and silk industries have been published last month. As regards sericultural industry, the Board recommends:

The *ad valorem* rate of duty on silk goods to be raised to 83 per cent. and that on silk mixtures to 60 per cent.

All classes of raw silk yarn, including thrown silk and spun silk, to be liable to a duty of 50 per cent. *ad valorem*.

A specific duty of one rupee per pound to be levied on artificial silk yarn.

The period of protection to be 5 years.

A further inquiry is contemplated at the end of this period in order to take stock of the situation and make recommendations for the future. As regards cotton industry, for the protection of which the Commerce Member has moved his Cotton Textile Protection Bill on the 5th February in the Legislative Assembly, the following are the main recommendations: In the case of plain grey, the Board recommends a specific duty of five annas per pound; in the case of bordered grey, five and a quarter annas per pound; in the case of white and bleached goods, six annas per pound; and in case of fabric woven with coloured yarn, six annas and four pies per pound.

In the case of yarn, the Board recommends a reduction of specific duty to one anna per pound. As regards hosiery industry, the Board recommends:

1. a specific duty of one rupee and eight annas a dozen on underwear, including knitted garments of all descriptions and underwear made from woven fabrics;

2. a specific duty of eight annas per dozen pairs of socks and stockings;

3. a specific duty of six annas per pound of knitted fabrics in pieces and

4. a specific duty of six and a half annas a pound on braids known as ghoorzi or muktakesis.

The protection is proposed for 10 years.

THE KHADDAR PROTECTION BILL

The Khaddar Protection Bill, which the Legislative Assembly passed on the 7th February, is a measure meant to encourage a useful cottage industry. People purchase Khaddar even at a sacrifice and, to quote the Statement of Objects and Reasons, "the situation is sought to be taken advantage of by manufacturers of spurious Khaddar both in India and abroad, and purchasers have been frequently misled to the detriment of what might easily become a great national industry". The aim of the Bill is to give to Khaddar and Khadi the protection afforded by the Merchandise Marks Act of 1889 by prohibiting the use of these words to denote any cloth other than hand-woven cloth out of handspun yarn. The operative clause is Clause 2 which says that "the words 'Khaddar' and 'Khadi', whether in English or in any Indian vernacular language, when applied to any woven material shall be deemed to be a trade description within the meaning of the Indian Merchandise Marks Act, 1889, indicating that such material is cloth woven on handlooms in India from cotton yarn handspun in India".

POLITICS AND TRADE

"My own experience is, said Mr. Alexander Shaw in the course of an interview soon after his arrival in Bombay, "that politics has often been the curse of trade, and it is much better for businessmen to be left alone to get on with their own jobs to build up the prosperity of the community without being interfered with by politicians."

NEW U. P. SCHOLARSHIPS

The U. P. Government have instituted two short term scholarships of Rs. 1,200 each for study on the European Continent for 6 months. These have been awarded to Mr. Ganesh Chandra and to Mr. Davasarup Rastogi, assistant professor of meteorology in the Benares University.

WOMEN IN PUBLIC LIFE

"We do not crave for titles like men and do not want to become prominent in the public eye, what we really desire is that we should be given a greater field for serving our country," declared Mrs. Brij Lal Nehru in the course of a debate on 'Should Indian ladies take part in public life', held on January 16 at the Forman Christian College Hall in the presence of a distinguished gathering, including Dr. Gokal Chand Narang, Justice Sir Abdul Qadir and Mr. Justice Agha Haider. Begum Shah Nawaz was in the chair.

Mrs. Brij Lal Nehru added:

We want to work for the glory of India and no sacrifice will be considered too great in order to achieve that goal. Men have for a sufficiently long period ignored the rights and privileges of women, but the time has come when women should rise to the occasion and with their power of self-dedication and sense of silent service bring happiness to the country.

Prof. D. C. Sharma opposing the proposition admitted that women had done wonderful service in the home but if they entered public life, the sanctity and purity of the home would vanish. He was of the opinion that politics was not the field for women. It was honeycombed with intrigues, manoeuvres and counter manoeuvres.

Begum Shah Nawaz, winding up the debate, fully associated herself with those who spoke in favour of the proposition and said that her recent visit to Europe had made it sufficiently clear that women in the West were gaining power gradually and that there was a marvellous change within the last 15 years. She said that her personal experience had shown that wherever men and women co-operated and collaborated success resulted and added 'united we stand, divided we fall, whether in the home or in public life.'

When put to vote, the proposition was passed unanimously.

WOMEN'S EDUCATION

In the course of his address to the students of Allahabad Mahila Vidyalaya on January 20th, Pandit Jawharlal said: "It is sometimes said, and I believe the Vidyapitha itself lays stress on this, that woman's education should be something apart from that of man's. It should train her for household duties and for the widely-practised profession of marriage. I am afraid I am unable to agree to this limited and one-sided view of women's education. I am convinced that women should be given the best of education in every department of human activity and be trained to play an effective part in all professions and spheres. In particular, the habit of looking upon marriage as a profession almost and as the sole economic refuge for woman will have to go before woman can have any freedom."

BOOKS FOR HOUSEWIVES

A scheme for making available to ladies high class books at their homes has been launched by the Gwalior Ladies' Club. It has purchased, to begin with, books worth 200 rupees and some boxes capable of containing 10 or 15 books. At a time a box will be sent to each Mohalla and its contents will be circulated among the ladies of that locality.

MAIDS IN GERMANY

In an article broadcast by the German Press, Dr. Goebbels complains of the excessive grimness of the Nazi woman, protests against prudery and demands that the females of the movement shall be cheerful, failing which he looks forward to a dreadful future in Germany when we may see nothing but old maids and old aunts of both sexes on the films and on the stage.

MISS H. TCHELENJAK IN GUALIOR

Miss Hildgeard Tchelenjak, a German girl aged 22, embraced Hinduism on 12th February last at Girgaum Arya Samaj, Bombay. At the time of conversion she was dressed in a red sari in the Bengali Hindu style.

LITERARY

MR. GANDHI AND THE "HARIJAN"

In appealing to the public to support the cause of the Harijans by subscribing to the *Harijan*, Mahatma Gandhi writes:

"The *Harijan* finishes one year of its existence with this issue. The subscribers and readers know the limits within which it is working. It devotes itself solely to the Harijan cause. Even so it eschews all matters which may be calculated to bring it in conflict with the Government. It eschews politics altogether. These limitations were essential, if it was to be a paper controlled by a prisoner. For reasons which I need not repeat here, though I am not a prisoner-in-law, I am conducting the paper as if I was one in fact. It can, therefore, naturally draw only those men and women who are interested in the campaign against untouchability and who would help the cause even if it is only to the extent of subscribing to the paper and thus helping the only paper that is solely devoted to the cause of anti-untouchability and is the mouthpiece of the Harijan Sevak Sangh. The subscribers know that it will not be continued at a loss. I believe that the paper, in order to justify its existence, must be a felt want, and it must, therefore, have the minimum number of subscribers to pay its way. The readers know also that, as it avoids all advertisements, it has no other source of income."

BOOKS RECEIVED

- LIFE BEYOND DEATH.* By James Thayer Addison. George Allen and Unwin, Ltd., London.
- THE INDUSTRIAL CRISIS.* By Lt.-Col. K. E. Edgeworth. George Allen and Unwin, Ltd., London.
- THE HORIZON OF EXPERIENCE.* By C. Dellale Burns. George Allen and Unwin, Ltd., London.
- THOUGHTS FROM THE GITA.* By R. Krishnaswami Aiyer, M.A., B.L., Advocate, Tinnevely.
- THE EMPIRE GEOGRAPHIES BOOK III.* By E. J. S. Lay, F.R.G.S. Macmillan & Co., London.
- THE UNADISUTRAS IN VARIOUS RESECTIONS.* By T. R. Chintamani, M.A. The University of Madras.
- ABHIDHANAVASTHU KOSHA.* By Nagavarma. Published by the University of Madras.
- ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CENTRAL PUBLICITY BUREAU ON INDIAN STATE RAILWAYS FOR 1932-33.* Central Publicity Officer, Old Secretariat, Delhi.
- AUTOMATIC RURAL RECONSTRUCTION.* By J. C. Ghosh, School of Chemical Technology, Calcutta.
- GANDHI AS OTHERS SEE HIM.* W. E. Bastian & Co., Colombo.
- BEACON LIGHTS OF NEW INDIA, VOL. I.* The Sunday Times, Madras.
- SHREE MEHER BABA: HIS PHILOSOPHY AND TEACHINGS.* By A. K. Abdullah, Rustom K. Sarosh Irani, Nasik.
- THE METAPHYSICS OF BERKELEY.* By G. W. Kaveeshwar, M.A. Published by Mrs. Ashavati Kaveeshwar, Khaddwa, C. P.
- KETTLE DRUMS.* By N. Ramabhadran. Re. 1. Available of G. A. Natesan & Co., Madras.
- ESSAYS IN COMMON SENSE PHILOSOPHY.* By C. E. M. Joad. George Allen and Unwin, Ltd., London.

PERSONAL

TAGORE AND GANDHI

Mr. Gandhi writes under the heading 'Superstition vs. Faith' in the *Harijan* regarding Dr. Rabindranath Tagore's recent statement challenging the former's faith in the Anger of God resulting in the earthquake in Bihar: "I have not the faith which Gurudev (Rabindranath Tagore) has that 'our own sins or errors, however enormous, have not got enough force to drag down the structure of creation to ruins'. On the contrary I have faith that our own sins have more force to ruin that structure than any mere physical phenomenon. There is an indissoluble marriage between matter and spirit. Our ignorance of results of the union has enabled many to use every physical catastrophe for their own moral uplifting."

With me the connection between cosmic phenomena and human behaviour is a living faith that draws me nearer to my God, humbles me and makes me readier for facing Him. Such belief would be degrading superstition if out of the depth of my ignorance I used it for castigating my opponents."

THE GOKHALE ANNIVERSARY

Speaking at a crowded meeting held on February 20 at the Gokhale Memorial Girls' High School at Calcutta in connection with the "Gokhale Memorial Day", Mr. G. A. Natesan said that the late Mr. G. K. Gokhale served India with steadfast aim, signal devotion and with splendid sacrifice, and has left an abiding example before his countrymen. He also said that the nearest approach to Mr. Gopala Krishna Gokhale in modern politics, so far as mastery of detail was concerned, was Mr. A. Rangaswami Iyengar. Mr. Natesan narrated many anecdotes and, among other things, referred to Mr. Gokhale as a most loyal friend.

THE LATE MR. MADHUSUDAN DAS

The death of Mr. Madhusudan Das, the grand old man of the Indian Christian Community, a former Minister of Bihar and Orissa, an outstanding patriot and a pioneer in industrial development, brings to a close a remarkable career. He died at Cuttack on the 4th February aged 86. It is not many years since he retired from active life; for he was the first Minister in Bihar under the Montagu Reforms. He was a well known and keen political leader associated with the Congress of olden days. He was therefore looked up to by Indian Christians for guidance in politics. He presided once over the All-India Christian Conference.

THE LATE SWAMI SHIVANANDA

Swami Shivananda who was an immediate disciple of Ramakrishna Paramahansa, passed away at the Belur Math on February 20 in his 80th year. He has travelled all over India as an itinerant monk and since 1922 been the Abbot of the Order of Ramakrishna and President of the Mission with his seat at Belur, the headquarters.

SIR C. C. GHOSE

Sir Charu Chandra Ghose has been appointed temporary member of the Governor's Executive Council in the vacancy created by the death of Sir Provas Mitter. Sir Charu Chandra was acting Chief Justice of Calcutta High Court, from which post he retired only in the first week of last month.

THE MEDICAL COUNCIL OF INDIA

The *Gazette of India* of February 16 announces that the Medical Council of India has been constituted with the following members elected or nominated: Major-General C. A. Sprawson, Director-General, Indian Medical Service, President.

Nominated members: Lt.-Col. Clive Newcomb (Madras), Major S. L. Bhatta (Bombay), Colonel A. H. Proctor (United Provinces), Colonel C. H. Rembold (Punjab), Lt.-Colonel P. S. Mills (Ranchi), Colonel K. V. Kukday (Central Provinces), Colonel J. P. Cameron (Assam), Dr. Saranjam Khan (N.-W. F. P.).

Elected members: Dr. A. Lakshmanaswamy Mudaliar (Madras University), Dr. T. S. Thirumurti (Andhra University), Dr. A. S. Erulkar (Bombay University), Dr. B. N. Vyas (Lucknow University), Dr. K. A. Bahaman (Punjab University), Dr. T. N. Banerji (Patna University), Dr. T. Krishna Menon (Madras Presidency), Dr. G. V. Deshmukh (Bombay Presidency), Dr. Debidat Pandya (United Provinces), Capt. P. B. Mukherji (Bihar and Orissa), and Dr. J. C. Dass (Assam).

BLOOD TRANSFUSION

An interesting and successful blood-transfusion test was carried out in the Allahabad European Civil Hospital when Private Hughes of the Prince of Wales Volunteers unhesitatingly surrendered a pint of his blood for the benefit of an Indian patient named S. S. Srivastava who, it will be recalled, met with a serious accident in the Naini Sugar Works, necessitating the amputation of a leg. . . . Twenty-five soldiers volunteered out of which number Private Hughes was chosen on the ground of blood similarity. Hughes signified his readiness for another transfusion should it be necessary.

K. G. MEDICAL COLLEGE, LUCKNOW

Important changes in the constitution of the Medical College have been made by the Executive Council of the University. The post of the Principal of the King George's Medical College is being retained, but the duties have been divided between the Dean and the Superintendent. The Dean will henceforth be the Principal of the College also and will be elected by the Executive Council instead, at present, being appointed. Two new posts will be created: one whole time Superintendent and the other Lecturer in Medical Jurisprudence.

MISS SAROJINI DUTT'S DONATION

How and why property worth about Rs. 2,00,000 representing life's savings of a woman doctor was donated, was revealed on the 4th of February when Rajah Sir Manmathanath Roy Chaudhuri of Santosh, President, Bengal Legislative Council, opened the Sarojini Dutt Surgical Ward named after the donor at the Chittaranjan Hospital, Calcutta. The property yields an average monthly income of Rs. 1,200. It was stated that since she was medical student, Miss Dutt denied herself every pleasure to serve patients, her only ambition being to mitigate their sufferings.

VITAMINS IN TOMATO

Every one is familiar with the common tomato but few people realize its high food value or that it is one of the few fruits which contain the three vitamins A, B, and C, and further the pipe and skins form what is known as roughage, an important factor in the cleansing of the human food canal. Because of its vitamin contents, it is given largely to children, and the popular tomato cocktail seen everywhere in clubs and homes proving the old prejudice that it is a cause of cancer has been overcome, writes Mrs. Elliot in the *Times of India*.

Like the apple, the tomato lends itself to almost endless ways of cooking; in fact, cooking is not really essential, for from hors-d'oeuvre to savouries—soups, stews, salads and the like—the tomato can be used, and even it figures as the principal ingredient in jams and chutneys.

On account of their colour and delicious acidity, fresh tomatoes play an important part in graminishing food, for which only the best should be used, soft or bruised ones are good for flavouring meat dishes or as a purée for fish.

Some people like tomatoes with oil and vinegar, others with mayonnaise or a salad cream, but the only way to bring out its real flavour is to eat the fruit sprinkled with sugar, as a salad with cold meat.

INTERNATIONAL HEALTH ORGANIZATION

Mr. Montague Harris, of the British Ministry of Health, is on a visit to India to organise and co-ordinate the activities of the various local self-governing bodies so as to get them affiliated to the international organisation. In the course of a lecture at the Allahabad University, he recommended the organisation of an All-India union of local self-governing bodies in order to attain this end, but as that might take time he suggested that the various provincial bodies might get themselves affiliated to the International Union.

ELECTRICITY TO KILL PESTS

Killing insect pests by high-frequency electricity is a process now being applied experimentally by the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad. Grain awaiting shipment is protected against weevils and other parasites by running it before storage between metal electrodes that subject it to a high-frequency electrical field. The waves of electricity are reported to destroy both the weevils and their eggs, and the grain may then be stored without danger of deterioration. The method and designs of treating apparatus used were developed by J. H. Davis, chief engineer of electric traction.

BANKS AND THE MONEY MARKET

This book (Banks and the Money Market by B. Ramachandra Rau, Lal Chand and Sons, Calcutta) is a collection of lectures delivered some time back before the Calcutta Centre of the Institute of Bankers, which describe the ideal money market and the features of our money markets. The author explains how modern money is a three-legged stool and how the attainment of relative stabilisation would not be realised without reference to the physical volume of production, the records of unemployment, and the statistics of stocks. He visualises a stage in which the silver rupee would be ultimately dropped and stresses that the two keys to the money market are the bill-broker and the central reserve banker. Also he warns the reader that comparative stability of foreign exchange is much more easy to attain than a corresponding stability of the internal price-level during times of international instability. He describes the planks of the platform of the banking policy of the Central Reserve Bank as it ought to be and urges that the institution should be able to solve the difficulty of speculation. In his last lecture, he outlines the reforms he thinks to be essential for the different forms of banking enterprise in the country. There are a number of short papers dealing with different problems written by the author at different times put in as appendices.

SIR MONTAGU WEBB ON DE-RATING THE RUPEE

"The first measure of relief that we here in India need is a de-rating of the rupee—a restoration of the rupee to the relation at which it stood with sterling for nearly 20 years," said Sir Montagu de P. Webb at a recent meeting of the Currency League of India at Bombay. That will give more rupees to Indian exporters and will tend to restore rupee prices to the level at which they stood.

"The only alternative to this is a general policy of DEGRADATION. Everything and everybody must be de-graded to the levels of bygone years. It is no use Government endeavouring to save themselves by imposing utterly unsound taxes like the export duties on hides and skins, or terribly heavy duties on simple articles of food, like salt, wheat, sugar, etc. Our present excessively heavy import duties are simply encouraging smuggling on all sides, whilst sur-charges on railway freight, on income-tax, etc., are killing the goose that lays Government revenue eggs. All these crushing burdens will do nothing but harm all round. Government must de-rate the Rupee, or de-grade everything and everybody. Postal and Railway servants have already been sacked by the thousands, and all Departments are cutting down their activities. Even the Bombay Corporation and the Bombay Port Trust are, I notice, reduced to temporary bankruptcy; and the Bombay Government is not far from the same condition. It is all part of the penalty paid for an over-rated Rupee." He concludes:

"We must have more rupees in use, partly by de-rating but chiefly by re-opening India's Mints, so as to restore prices to their level of 5 years ago, or we perish."

THE RAILWAY BUDGET

The Indian Railway Budget was presented on February 17th to the Legislative Assembly by the Railway Minister and to the Council of State by the Chief Commissioner for Railways.

It shows that while last year the deficit was 10¼ crores as against the anticipated figure of 9¾ crores, in the current year the revised estimates suggest a deficit of 7¾ crores and in the budget estimates for 1934-35 the deficit anticipated is 5¾ crores.

Sir Joseph Blore, in his speech introducing the budget in the Assembly, sees a revival of trade judging by the movement of traffic and opines that intrinsically the financial position of the Indian railways is strong.

Sir Guthrie Russell takes the same view pointing in support of it that, if the railways had been the property of shareholders, the results would have meant a dividend of 5 per cent. and that the operating expenses of Indian railways compared favourably with those of railways elsewhere.

ACCIDENTS IN RAILWAYS

Reports by Government Inspectors of Railways of inquiries into accidents which occurred during the half year ending September 30, 1933, on 11 State-managed railways reveal that in all 25 persons died and 63 were injured while the railways suffered a damage of more than Rs. 1½ lakhs.

The causes of the accidents have been principally three, namely, technical defects in rolling stock or rails, collisions with motor vehicles at level crossings and deliberate tampering with rails.

The severest accident from the point of view of casualties occurred on the East Indian Railway, when an Up Mail train collided with a motor bus at a level crossing near Bhadohi railway station, resulting in 15 of passengers of the bus being killed on the spot and 16 being injured.

Another severe accident occurred on the East Indian Railway between Dumra and Burhee railway stations, when the Down Punjab Mail was wrecked owing to tampering with the railway track. Five persons died and 13 were injured, and the damage to the rolling stock and the permanent way was approximately Rs. 48,000.

REPORT ON INDIAN RAILWAYS

A comprehensive analysis of the working of Indian Railways—both State owned and Company managed—in respect of their finance, new construction and engineering works, transportation, rolling-stock and materials, as well as staff, is made in the report of the Railway Board on Indian Railways for 1932-33, which has been issued last month.

Particular stress is placed on the fact that the universal trade depression was felt by the railways with great intensity during the year, resulting in a grave decline in the gross earnings from Rs. 86½ crores in 1931-32 to Rs. 84½ crores in the year under report.

The report alludes to the construction work accomplished by all the railways in India and mentions that over 300 miles of new track were opened.

MR. SAMBANDAM'S LATEST

Rao Bahadur Sambandam has made a name in South India as the author of over 2 scores of Tamil plays. There are very few social dramas to his credit and the play under review *Brahmin vs. Non-Brahmin* (to be had of the author, Acharappan Street, Madras) is a distinct departure from his usual themes, in that it touches vulnerable points in our social structure. The revolt against caste is vivid throughout and the triumph of love over caste cannot have been better delineated.

INDIAN PAINTING IN LONDON

Mr. Barada Ukil, who recently returned from Europe, in a statement to the Press said that he was pleased with the result of the first formal exhibition of modern Indian paintings he organised in London in October last. He believes that the exhibition of modern Indian art to be held under the auspices of the India Society at the new Burlington Galleries, London, in next October and November would be of great value.

Mr. Ukil was of opinion that modern Indian art, if adequately represented in the forthcoming exhibition, would reveal the great part it had played in the contemporary world art for the last two decades.

Mr. Ukil has been appointed the regional secretary for Northern India and the Indian States for collecting exhibits for the exhibition, for which a special committee is to be formed soon in co-operation with the All-India Fine Arts and Crafts Society, Delhi.

THE INDIAN EMPIRE EXHIBITION

A plea for an annual exhibition of Indian arts and crafts, agriculture and industries, etc., was made by the Maharaja of Patiala when he distributed the prizes at the Indian Empire Exhibition in January last.

He hoped that the exhibition would, with the support of the Provincial Government, be an annual event which would bring to the knowledge of the people of the Punjab the progress achieved by the rest of India.

The exhibition which was opened on December 21, 1933, is understood to have attracted 5 lakhs of visitors.

A PEACE MARSEILLAISE

Peace is not picturesque enough, says Sir Evelyn Wrench in the *Woman's Magazine*. "It is so much more exciting to listen to martial tunes which stir the primitive man in us. When I was last in Berlin in April, I was impressed by the catchy tunes of some of the Nazi songs. In the cause of peace we want some genius who will compose for us a Peace Marseillaise. What a chance for a composer!"

THE THIRD TEST MATCH

England won the Third Test on the 13th February by 202 runs, India being dismissed for 249 runs. Of the India batsmen, the Yuvaraj of Patiala made 60, Dilawar Hussain 36, Amar Singh 48 and Amarnath 26 not out. Among the bowlers tried by Jardine, Langridge was most successful, accounting for 5 wickets at a cost of 60 runs and Verity came next with 4 for 104.

"I congratulate Jardine on winning the Final Test by all-round good play," said Major C. K. Nayudu in an exclusive message to the *Hindu* soon after the play was over.

"I wish Jardine many such successes," Major Nayudu added. "I hope we will give a better fight next time we meet England."

The following played for England: D. R. Jardine (Capt.), C. F. Walters, H. Elliott, H. Verity, M. S. Nichols, J. Langridge, E. C. Clark, A. Mitchell, C. J. Barnett, A. H. Bakewell, L. Townshend and Gregory (12th man.)

The following played for India: C. K. Nayudu (Capt.), Wazir Ali, Nazir Ali, Amar Nath, Amar Singh, V. M. Merchant, C. S. Nayudu, Dilawar Hussain, J. Nannomal, Yuvaraj of Patiala, Mushtaq Ali, and Gopalani (12th man.)

PATAUDI ON CRICKET IN INDIA

Amusing conversation between the Nawab of Pataudi and Dilawar Hussain, of which the Correspondent to the *Indian Express* was unwittingly a hearer, would perhaps throw some light on the latter's inability to move about.

Nawab of Pataudi: You are the most clumsy Test player I have ever seen.

Dilawar: Yes, Nawabsahib. But I have done more to my country by playing for India than you have done. When players like you don't play for their country, then clumsy players like me must take your places.

This evoked great laughter and Pataudi finished by saying: "I am prepared just now to take off my coat and go in to play for India but the world knows why I don't. As long as those who are not cricketers are in charge of cricket in India, I could not under any circumstances play for my land of birth."

INDIA HOME SPORTS CLUB

A central organisation called the Hindoostani Sports and Social Council has been formed in the office of the High Commissioner for India in London, to bring different members of the staff in contact with one another and encourage the pursuit of amateur sport. The membership of the Council is restricted to past and present members of the High Commissioner's staff and officers serving or having served under the Government of India—Indians and Europeans, not in Government Service, may become associate members on certain conditions.

The Council will seek to co-ordinate the activities of the various sports and social organisations now in existence at India House and place them on sound financial basis. Existing clubs have been affiliated to the Council, the membership of which at present totals 300, while new clubs are in the process of formation under its auspices.

SIR MD. SULEIMAN ON SCIENCE

The Hon'ble Sir Shah Muhammad Suleiman presided over the annual meeting of the Academy of Sciences on January 20.

Sir Shah in his address pointed out how human knowledge was still in a state of infancy and man occupied a most insignificant place in the vast universe surrounding him and scientists' theories were but conjectures and speculations as to the ultimate reality. The President traced the development of the theory of light from the earliest times showing from the available historical records why and how various theories have had to be abandoned and were replaced by present-day conceptions. He dealt with the wave theory at length.

A SCIENTIFIC DISCOVERY

Dr. K. Krishnamurthi of the College of Science, Nagpur, claims to have discovered for the first time a new method of determining the value of mass of individual charged particles in colloidal solutions, suspensions, etc.

The method consists of measuring deflection of these charged particles, as observed by an ordinary microscope or ultra-microscope under simultaneous action of electric and magnetic fields. From the knowledge of the extent of deflection, intensity of applied fields and charge of particle which is determined separately, mass is easily calculated.

Dr. Krishnamurthi commenced investigations 5 years ago, but several interruptions delayed the discovery.

CHEMISTRY IN INDIA'S FUTURE

A review of the part which chemistry may play in India's future not only in the field of disciplined scientific achievement but also in the sphere of intellectual culture was given by Dr. H. B. Dunncliff, Professor of Chemistry, Government College, Lahore, in his presidential address to the Chemistry section of the Indian Science Congress, which met at the Royal Institute of Science in Bombay.

He stressed the need of paying increasing attention to the efficiency of our educational system with a view to ensure sound training in theoretical and practical chemistry involving the provision of technological institutions in every city of commercial importance in India.

BOSE RESEARCHES

The interest aroused in the researches made at the Bose Researches Institute under the able guidance of Sir J. C. Bose has been so great that French and German editions of the works have been published. Timiriazeff, the eminent Russian plant-physiologist, has given an account of these discoveries in Russian language. The interest evinced in Poland has been equally great and it is learnt that permission has been asked for a Polish edition of the account of some of the important researches carried out at the Institute.

THE MOTION PICTURE SOCIETY OF INDIA

Mr. Gaya Shanker M. Bhatta, President, Motion Picture Society of India, Bombay, writes to the *Hindu* that it was gratifying to note that at long last the Government had realised the great handicaps under which Indian Film producers were labouring. The rebate allowed on exposed foreign films when returned to the country of origin within a period of two years is 87 per cent. and this indirectly acted as a subsidy to foreign producers at the cost of Indian film companies, since within that period of two years full value of the film was being realised. The cry raised by the Motion Picture Society of India that the rebate allowed affected adversely the Indian film industry has after so many years been heard and steps are being taken to remedy the evil. Mr. Bhatta pleads for a complete change in the angle of vision of the Government with regard to the cinema industry in India. The duty on raw-films imported into India was a direct tax on raw materials of the film industry and as there was no possibility of that material being manufactured in India for some years to come at least, it was very difficult to see why the raw materials of an industry should be so heavily taxed.

A FILM GROUP IN ASSEMBLY

Messrs. Jadhav and M. C. Rajah gave a party in the first week of February to mark the inauguration of the Film Group of Central Legislature, consisting of members who would take interest in the development of the film industry in India. About 150 guests, including officials and non-officials, and members of the Legislature attended.

Mr. Jadhav, thanking the guests, said that about two and half crores had already been invested in film industry. Sir Hari Singh Gour urged them to lend a helping hand by giving united support to the aims and objects of the Film Group with a view to help not only the growth of the industry but the education of the people of India.

REBATE ON FOREIGN FILMS

Sir Frank Noyce received on the 8th February a deputation of the Motion Picture Society of India, who represented to him that owing to the increased cost of production and trade depression, the industry could not make headway here. They represented that the abolition of the rebate on re-exportation of exposed films and the increase in valuation of exposed films would not help, unless the Customs duty on raw films was abolished or substantially reduced.

SUPPRESSION OF NOISE

The Committee appointed by the British Association to consider the subject of noise, invited the public recently to furnish their own opinions as to the noises which cause them the most discomfort and inconvenience.

The result of the plebiscite has now been communicated by the Chairman of this Committee, Sir Henry Fowler, to the Anti-Noise League. The result shows

Motor-cycles 336; motor-horns 209; aircraft, 120; car exhausts 109; lorries 95, wireless telephony and gramophones 55; street music 49; car gears 37 omnibuses 35; road drills 35; dogs 26; and milkcarts 22.

COMFORT IN MOTOR COACH

In England experiments are being now carried on with a motor coach in which the engine, gear-box and transmission are mounted on one side, just behind the right front wheel. It is claimed this arrangement increases the amount of room for passengers and shields them from the heat of the engine. Another feature of the bus is a special bumper known as a life-guard which operates in collisions with persons or obstacles.

SIR MALCOLM'S LAND SPEED RECORD

The American Automobile Association has received a definite assurance from Sir Malcolm Campbell that he will attempt to beat his own land speed record of 272 miles an hour in August on Salduro lake-bed near the Salt Lake city. The deposit of hard packed mineral salts is considered to make one of the few surfaces on which a speed of 300 miles an hour is practicable.

MOTOR LICENCES IN BRITAIN

The gross amount received in Great Britain from motor licences during last year amounted to £29,201,000 as compared with £28,411,000 in the previous 12 months. Cars registered for the first time last year showed a considerable increase over the number in 1932.

66 MILES ON 1 GALLON?

We learn that Scientific Laboratories, 2117-F St, Wheaton, Ill., U. S. A., have brought out a wonderful new Auto Gas, Saver and Inside Engine Oil that saves gas and oils valves inside engine at the same time. It fits all cars and easily put on with wrench

THE LATE MR. SESHASAYEE

Mr. R. Seshasayee of Messrs. Seshasayee and Brothers, Electrical Engineers, Trichinopoly, was the victim of an unfortunate aeroplane crash on the 11th February. He was flying round the town in his own plane and the engine while landing at the Race Course gave trouble and the plane capsized as it neared the ground. Mr. Seshasayee received somewhat serious injuries and was immediately removed to the hospital where he succumbed to the injuries. He was the pioneer in South India in Electrical Engineering. We offer our sincere condolences to the family of the deceased.

FLYING GETTING SAFER EVERY YEAR

Major G. C. Turner, writing in the *Daily Telegraph*, says:

In the year 1933, the Air Force has flown an aggregate of more than 41,000,000 air miles. There have been 53 fatal accidents causing the loss of 53 lives.

The total is slightly greater than in 1932, but there has been much more flying. A truer estimate of the advance of safety in flying is to be gained from the fact that while the number of squadrons has been doubled in 10 years, the accident rate is very little higher than it was in 1923.

Many of the flying schools have increased their flying by some 50 per cent. over last year's total. The increase in the number of licensed pilots and machines is shown by the following table:

	"A" Licence.	"B."
1931	2,091	315
1932	2,386	453
1933	2,441	434

The number of licensed aeroplanes increased from 924 to 981.

A MODEL AEROPLANE

Mr. Yeshwant N. Shinde, a Mahratta motor driver from Nasik, has prepared a small model aeroplane which can fly about 30 to 40 feet high. During his visit to Mysore last year, Mr. Shinde had his first opportunity of flying in an aeroplane to the Kolar gold mines. The pilot of this plane, Mr. Johnson, gave a few instructions to Mr. Shinde who was keenly interested in the subject. This led Mr. Shinde to take more and more interest in aviation and on his return to Nasik he studied the subject well through the medium of various books. To make an experiment, Mr. Shinde ordered a model plane and the necessary tools for its manufacture from abroad. As a result of his strenuous efforts and keen interest, Mr. Shinde has been able to prepare a small plane.

Mr. Shinde has studied up to the third English standard only and his ambition is to pursue the subject still further. He intends to join some Aero Club in India first with a view to complete his studies and then proceed to England shortly.

LAND REVENUE REVISION IN BOMBAY

The phenomenal fall in prices of agricultural produce owing to trade depression and the consequent loss to the agriculturists are largely reflected in the series of resolutions tabled by the members of the Bombay Legislative Council for discussion at the current session which commenced on 25th February. More than 30 members have given notice of resolutions which generally deal with the effects of the present low level of prices on the cultivators and suggest varying reductions from 10 to 50 per cent. in the land revenue.

Some of the resolutions stress the need of appointment of influential committees to investigate in the matter and render immediate relief to the farmers. Suggestions are also put forth for the revision of scale of the land revenue in the light of the present market value of the agricultural commodities.

Mr. G. S. Ganguli in a resolution recommends the Government to suspend the operation of the Bombay Special Emergency Powers Act of 1932 immediately.

RURAL RECONSTRUCTION IN BENGAL

The committee formed at a conference called in Calcutta last month by Sir Daniel Hamilton to formulate a scheme of rural reconstruction, have finished their labours. The scheme was further discussed and adopted by the Committee. It has been decided to start institutes at the Gosaba and Mayurbhanj estates of Sir Daniel Hamilton and at Birnagar, Nadia, the estate of Rai Bahadur N. N. Banerjee. Work will commence simultaneously at Gosaba and Birnagar. Both Sir Daniel and the Rai Bahadur have arranged to provide the institutes with necessary building and funds to start with. Rai Bahadur N. N. Banerjee has contributed Rs. 1,000 to the permanent fund. The scheme provides for one year's all-round practical training in farming and in some small industries to be imparted by an efficient staff, both stipendiary and honorary, with a view to infusing a spirit of self-help and co-operation among the students. The students, according to the scheme, must be of good physique and not less than 15 years of age—the maximum age being fixed at 22. Preference will be given to literate candidates by the Selection Committee. The candidate will be regarded as a co-operative colonist with 20 bighas of land, a hut and a tank at the end of the course provided he can subscribe Rs. 200 to the initial capital required.

INDIAN COTTON

The importance of cotton, both in the internal and external economics of India, was stressed by H. E. the Governor of Bombay in his speech at the meeting of the Indian Central Cotton Committee in Bombay.

Lord Brabourne referred to the valuable research work carried under the auspices of the Committee and dwelt on the need of helping the Indian agriculturist, who was terribly hit by the world depression.

Sir T. Vijayaraghava Acharya, who presided, in his speech referred to the efforts of the Committee to tackle the various problems confronting the cotton industry in India.

MR. BAKHALE ON TEXTILE LABOUR

Mr. R. R. Bakhale has drawn the attention of the public and the Government to the grave plight of mill workers in India. He points out that the Conference of the textile workers recently held in Bombay was both an indication and warning. Mr. Bakhale deplores that the Government did not take the public into its confidence as to the extent of unemployment amongst the workers and gives certain figures about the situation in Bombay alone which show the necessity of prompt measures if a struggle is to be avoided. There are in Bombay 86,000 employed as against 61,000 unemployed workers. That is for every 100 persons employed there are 70 workers who are without a job. Mr. Bakhale refuses to believe that this is due entirely to trade depression so long as the crash of the Currimbhoy group of mills is fresh in the mind.

FACTORY WORKERS AND PEASANTS

Here are two groups of people. The first is composed of factory workers and clerks from some great metropolitan centre like New York or London. The second consists of peasants from Tuscany, say, or Valencia. All members of the first group have received an elementary education and some have gone through a course of secondary education. In the second group some individuals are completely illiterate and none has attended school beyond the age of 12 or 13. In which of these two groups will you find the more elegant, correct and measured speech, the richer vocabulary, asks Aldous Huxley in the recent *N. Y. American*. "From personal knowledge of both types of people, I should answer unhesitatingly: in the second group. The almost illiterate peasants will speak much better than the relatively highly educated city dwellers."

LABOUR IN AHMEDABAD MILLS

An Associated Press message of 18th February reports that a split seems to have occurred in the Ahmedabad Mill-owners' Association over the contemplated move to reduce wages.

A small section, though anxious for wage-reduction, is opposed to throwing overboard the system of conciliation and arbitration that has been devised by Mahatma Gandhi and has been in operation in Ahmedabad for over a decade now. It insists on waiting for the award of the Arbitration Board to which the question of wage-reduction has already been referred.

An overwhelming majority, however, seems to favour a direct system of wage-reduction and seems determined to carry out this proposed reduction.

A special committee with full dictatorial powers has been appointed to give effect to this proposal.

TALKING NEWSPAPERS

Newspapers that talk are seen as a possibility of the near future as the result of the invention of a device called a photo-liptophone, which plays a paper news records.

These records are made by photographing sound waves with the aid of photo-electric cell, or 'electric eye', as it is familiarly known. Any number of prints can be rapidly and economically made and then reproduced by printing like any illustration in a newspaper or a magazine.

During a recent demonstration of the photo-liptophone in Madrid, an address was reproduced in 15 minutes after it had been concluded. The speaker's voice was reproduced as satisfactorily as if it had been done by a phonograph.

BENGALI LINOTYPE

The latest invention in Bengali type-setting is the keyboard scheme for Bengali linotype made by Mr. S. C. Majumdar, Managing Director of the *Ananda Bazar Patrika* and Mr. Rajshekhar Bose, formerly Manager, Bengal Chemical and Pharmaceutical Works. The scheme which is the result of 20 years' hard and strenuous efforts on the part of Mr. Majumdar, has been accepted by the Linotype Machinery, Limited, of England. For the purpose of successful working of the scheme, nearly 600 letters of the Bengali script have been reduced to 124 on the keyboard in addition to about 50 letters in the side cases including signs.

HISTORICAL RECORDS COMMISSION

The Government of India have reappointed the following gentlemen as corresponding members of the Indian Historical Records Commission for three years with effect from the 16th November 1933: Dr. D. R. Bhandarkar, M.A., Ph.D., Calcutta; Rai Bahadur Pandit Sheo Narain, Advocate, Lahore; Mons. A. Balasubramaniam Pillai, Pondicherry, and Mr. S. Khurshed Ali, Hyderabad, Deccan.

INDIAN ASTROLOGERS' FORECAST

The earthquake disaster, which has been widespread in the Gangetic belt, was predicted long ago by Hindu astrologers, according to whom the convergence of 7 planets into the Capricorn sign of the Zodiac foreboded a calamity. In some places in Northern India, *purohits* (priests) and pandits recited prayers and offered sacrifice in temples so that the severity of the disaster might be mitigated while the earth rocked,

A rather stout woman was trying to squeeze her way into the crowded bus. A man who was trying to get off the bus, began to laugh at her futile efforts.

She looked angrily at him. "H'm," she gasped, "if you were half a man you'd help me on instead of grinning like a Cheshire cat."

The smile on the man's face grew larger. "Madam," he said, "if you were half a lady you wouldn't need any help."

He was about to leave for the office. His wife handed him a small parcel.

"What's this, dear?" he asked.

"It's a bottle of hair tonic," she replied.

"Oh, that's very nice of you, dear," he said, "but—"

"It isn't for you; it's for your typist," she explained. "Her hair is coming out badly on your coat."

"My friend," said a solemn man, "have you ever done aught to make the community in which you live the better for your living in it?" "I have done much," replied the other humbly, "to purify the homes of my fellow-beings." "Ah!" continued the solemn man with a pleased look, "you distribute tracts?" "No, I clean carpets."

"That coat looks shabby," remarked Hicks to his intimate friend, the poet. "Why don't you have it turned?" "Do you think this coat has three sides?" asked the impecunious one.

LIFE INSURANCE AGENT: "My dear sir, have you made any provision for those who come after you?"

HARDUPPE: "Yes, I put the dog at the door and told the servant to say that I'm out of town."

PRETTY GIRL: "It must have taken a lot of courage to rescue me as you did."

FIREMAN: "Yes, I had to knock down three other fellows who wanted to do it."

"My husband wanted a diary that locked, so I bought him this one."

"How nice! And did you buy yourself anything?"

"Yes, A duplicate key."

WIFE: "The couple next door seem very devoted. He kisses her every time they meet. Why don't you do that?"

HUSBAND: "I don't know her well enough yet."

"How would you define a successful business man?"

"A man who can make more money than his wife can spend."

SHE: "Let's go to the cinema."

HE: "Which one?"

"Doesn't matter, one's as dark as another."

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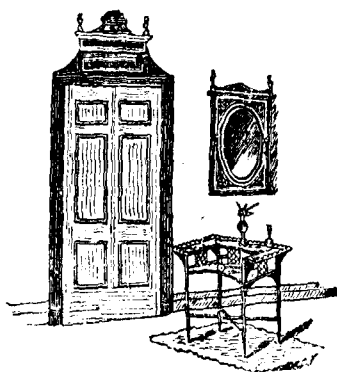
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—*Indian Medical Gazette*, Sept, 1929, pp. 481-487.

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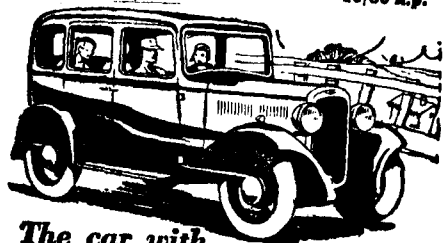
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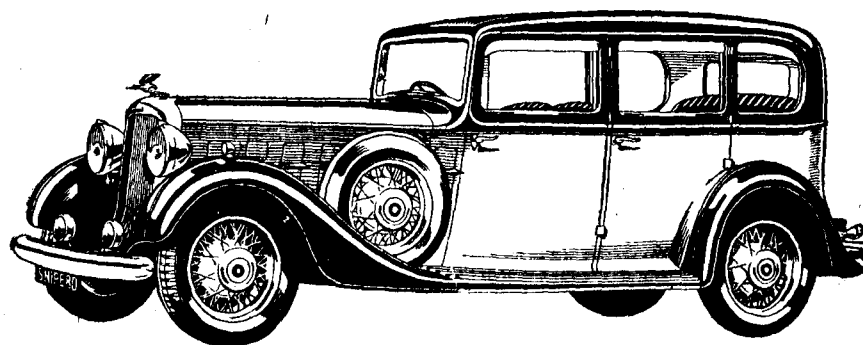
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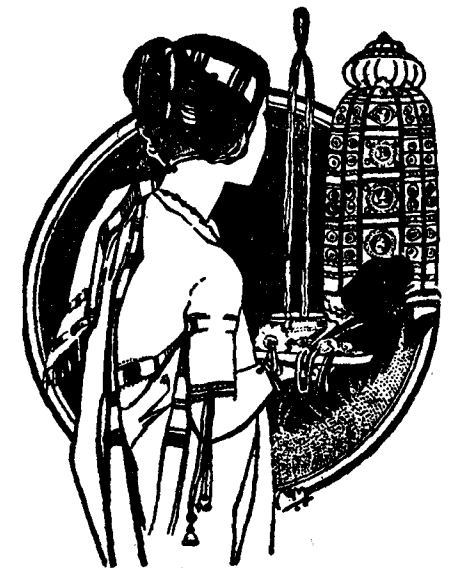
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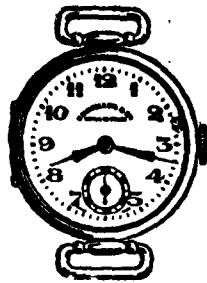
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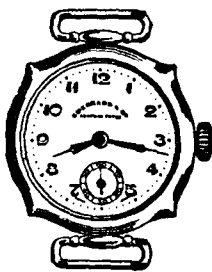
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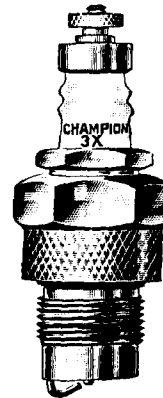
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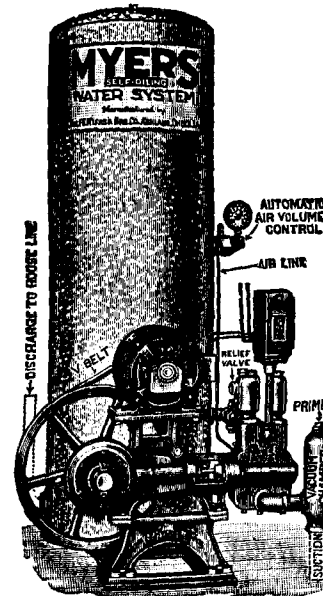
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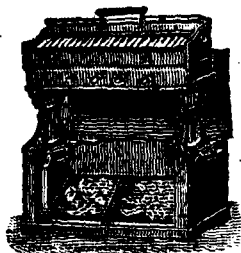
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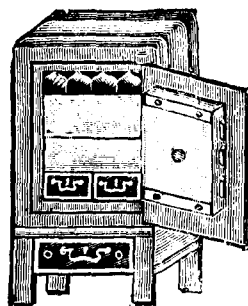
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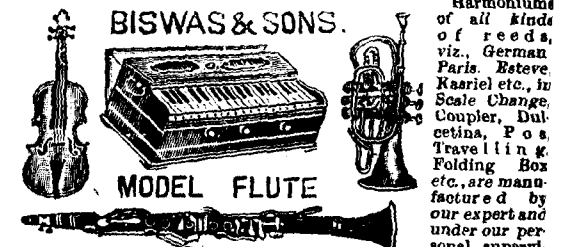
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