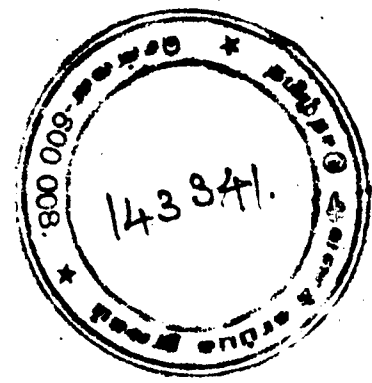




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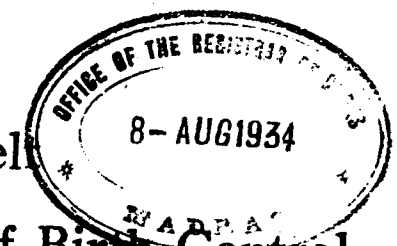
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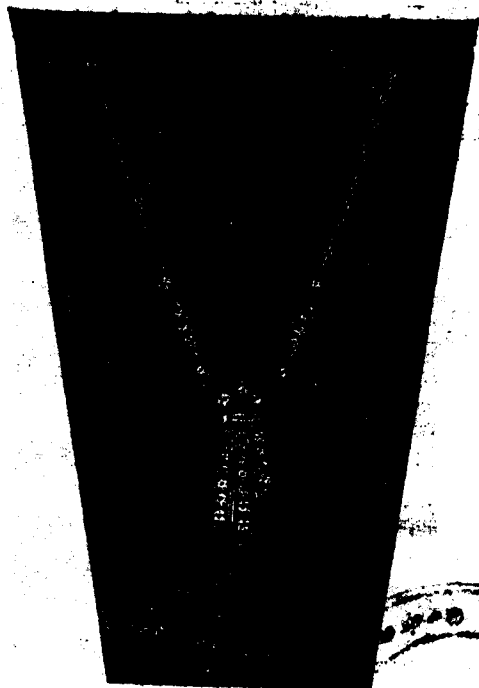
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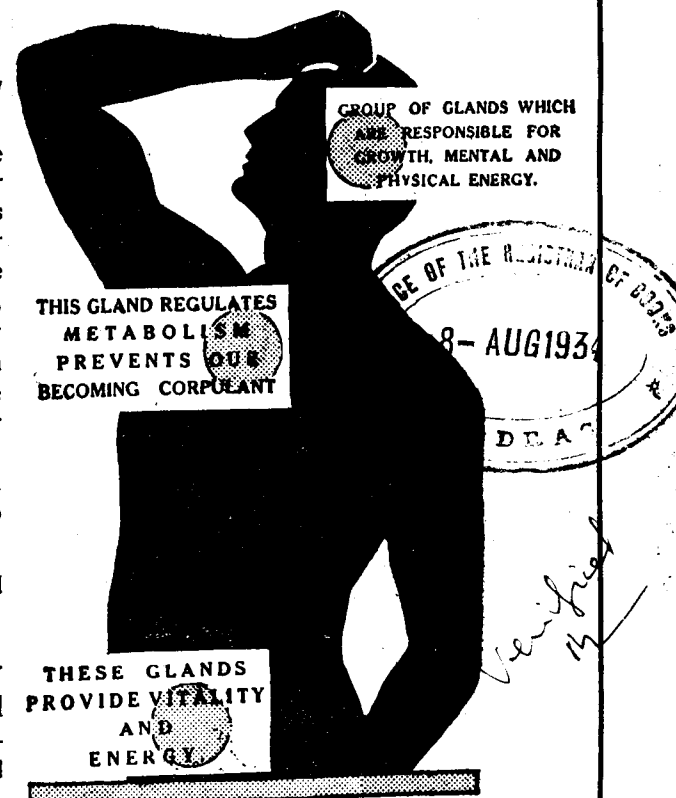
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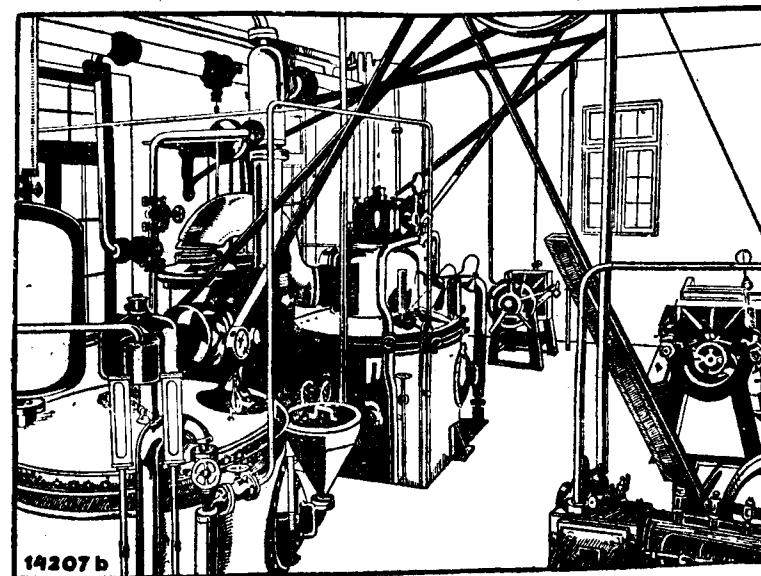
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| TUES. | ... 2 9 16 23 30  | ... 6 13 20 27    | ... 6 13 20 27    | ... 3 10 17 24    |
| WED.  | ... 3 10 17 24 31 | ... 7 14 21 28    | ... 7 14 21 28    | ... 4 11 18 25    |
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| FRI.  | ... 5 12 19 26    | ... 2 9 16 23     | ... 2 9 16 23 30  | ... 6 13 20 27    |
| SAT.  | ... 6 13 20 27    | ... 3 10 17 24    | ... 3 10 17 24 31 | ... 7 14 21 28    |
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| SUN.  | ... 2 9 16 23 30  | ... 7 14 21 28    | ... 4 11 18 25    | ... 2 9 16 23 30  |
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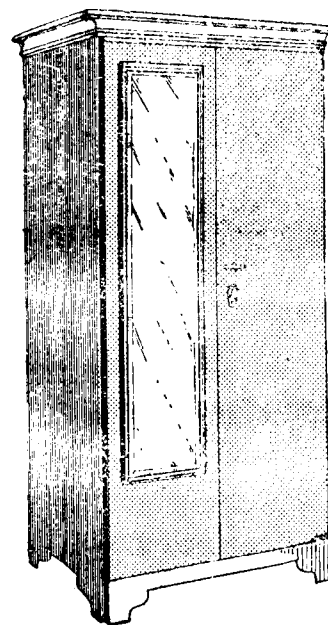
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[No. 8.]

## The Tariff Board and the Steel Industry

BY DR. P. S. LOKANATHAN, M.A., D.Sc.

WITHIN the limits of the space permitted to me, it is not possible to review even briefly the most salient features of the report of the Tariff Board on the Iron and Steel Industry, which has recently been issued. The primary task assigned to the Board was to enquire in respect of each protected article in the industry, whether it was still necessary to continue protection, and if so the extent to which protection was required. The report must of course be judged by the success with which the Board have fulfilled the main task they were called upon to perform. But it is permissible to point out that the present report on the iron and steel industry bears on every page of it evidence of the deep knowledge and the constructive ability of the Tariff Board who have thus been able to play the dual role of inquisitor and guide.

While giving glowing testimony to the work of the Tata Iron & Steel Co. all round, in reducing costs, in Indianising the staff and in carrying on various schemes of Welfare Work, the Tariff Board have delineated, with a sure touch, the technical and business conditions of the Company and have thrown out useful suggestions for further reform.

The Report, however, raises several issues of varying degrees of importance.

There is firstly, the question of differential duties which, without impairing the extent of protection required for Indian industry, undoubtedly secure for the British manufacturers substantial preferences as against the Continental and other foreign producers. The preferences are not merely based on differences in the qualities of the products but on the sources of supply. Secondly, the failure on the part of the Tariff Board to estimate separately the fair selling prices of tested and untested steel and the imposition of such a high duty on untested (Continental) goods as will bring about an equality in the prices of these two different qualities of steel have the inevitable consequence of altering the direction of consumption from untested to tested material or in other words, of shifting the demand from Continental goods to British goods. If this were all the result, it would not matter. But since Tatas' production includes a considerable quantity of untested Steel (the exact amount of which has not been given in the report of the Tariff Board), the demand for it will also fall off, and hence the Company will be compelled to sell untested steel at a loss. Thirdly, in the case of articles which upon calculations of fair selling price for Indian goods and estimated prices of foreign goods do not

require any protection, the Tariff Board have recommended the removal of protective duties and in some cases of even the revenue duties. In the case of billets for reasons given by the Tariff Board, which seem to be quite sound, they are against the imposition of any revenue duty. But in the case of structurals and plates, the Tariff Board have stated that if from fiscal considerations revenue duties have to be imposed (1) the amount of protection now proposed to be conferred on fabricated steel which depends upon the supply of these articles for its raw material must be correspondingly increased and (2) that an equivalent excise duty may be imposed on the production of such articles by Tatas.

In the judgment of the present writer, the importance of the third and second issues is far greater than of the first. Generally speaking, the principle enunciated by the Tariff Board on p. 69 is quite sound, that an excise duty may be levied on individual articles manufactured by a protected industry on which no protective duty is required by levying the duty on both imports and local production at a uniform rate so calculated that on the total consumption the aggregate amount of revenue desired by Government may be realised. "Such a course has the advantage, besides safeguarding the Indian industry and supplying the deficiency in revenue, of preventing so high a price as will follow if the whole duty is levied in the form of an import duty." The theoretical soundness of this proposal rests, however, on certain assumptions which past experience of the calculations of the Tariff Board justifies us in questioning. Calculations

of cost and forecasting of market prices are notoriously difficult to make with any confidence. The fact that the Tariff Board took such great pains to explain the divergence between their estimates and the actuals is a warning that too much reliance cannot be placed on their figures. The fair selling prices f.o.r. port of Tatas' tested structurals and tested plates are calculated to be Rs. 111 and Rs. 110 a ton compared to Rs. 113 and Rs. 114 respectively of British goods. Should the Board's estimates go wrong by Rs. 10, there is no doubt that the Indian producer will suffer. Further, here is an industry which after struggling for several years has taken great pains to reorganise itself with a view to reducing costs all round and dispensing with protection in a few years as the Tariff Board hope, and this is hardly the appropriate time to impose an excise duty and cause embarrassment. It is one thing not to grant protection to individual articles produced by a protected industry; but if Government needed revenue, an industry which upon the whole still requires protection should not be denied the incidental benefits of a revenue duty.

Even theoretically there is some difference between a case where there is neither an import duty nor an excise duty and one where there is an import duty of, say, 10 per cent. and a corresponding 10 per cent. excise duty. For in an integrated industry like the iron and steel industry, where the finished product at one stage of production is the raw material at another stage, the levy of an excise duty at an intermediate point impinges not merely on that part of production which, like the imported goods,

is for sale but also on that part of production which is only raw material for further stages of production. In the present case for instance, if countervailing excise duty is to be levied on the whole of *local production*, it is obviously unjust; it must only be on that part of production which is directly sold. It is true that the Tariff Board have proposed an increase in the scale of protective duties for goods which use the taxed material corresponding to the amount of customs and excise duties. But it does not quite meet the position. The point is that by the levy of an excise duty on goods at one stage of production, the industry loses the advantage it might otherwise have of reducing the costs in the later stages of production and of securing a better return on balance. Further constant variations in the scale of revenue and excise duties (which are likely to happen when fiscal considerations are allowed to tax what is raw material for one industry) will upset calculations of industrial cost and be hardly conducive to efficiency. The Tariff Board have shown a considerable lack of perception of the practical effects of their tax proposals.

In face of the above, it seems to us that the Tariff Board are too optimistic when they hope "that the success of the Tata Company should be sufficient to encourage the establishment of another". The financial success of the Tata Iron and Steel Company has neither been so long nor rendered more certain by the recommendations of the Tariff Board as to warrant such a hope. The capital required for another steel works like that of the Tata Company is not also easy to raise.

Since writing the above, the Government of India have introduced the Steel Duties Bill by which it is proposed to levy an excise duty of Rs. 4 per ton on all steel ingots produced in India and to impose a countervailing Customs duty on imported steel of all kinds equivalent to the excise duty on steel ingots. This countervailing duty is additional to the protective duties recommended by the Tariff Board. But how the Government of India have been able to ascertain accurately what amounts of duty on imported steel goods like bars, plates and sheets will correspond to the excise duty of Rs. 4 per ton on ingots which are used in the production of these goods, we cannot tell. An import duty of  $1\frac{1}{3}$  times the excise duty on ingots has been proposed to be levied in the case of some of the steel products; while in others  $1\frac{1}{2}$  times the excise duty is proposed. While the excise duty is on steel ingots which are the raw material for all steel products, the countervailing import duty is on all steel products which use the ingots in varying proportions. Naturally the difficulties of adjusting the equivalence between a duty on raw material and a duty on the several kinds of finished products using the raw material in varying proportions are very great. Without information as to the amounts of ingots used in each case, and as to the proportion which the cost of steel ingots bears to the total cost of production in each case, it is not possible to say if the countervailing import duties now proposed are adequate. If they are not adequate, foreign goods will enjoy an advantage over Tatas' goods.

# Early Hindu Colonisation in Sumatra

BY

DR. RAMESH CHANDRA MAJUMDAR

[This is the second of the series of articles on "Greater India" which Dr. Majumdar commenced in the last Number. Three more articles will follow in succession, *viz.*, those on Java, Bali and the Malay Peninsula in the forthcoming issues of the *Indian Review*. In these articles, the writer throws a flood of light on the efforts made by our forefathers to spread our culture and civilization among the peoples of the Far East.—ED. I.R.]

THE geographical position of Sumatra marks it out as pre-eminently the site of the earliest Hindu settlement in Indonesia. Being situated mid-way on the route between India and China, important harbours and trading stations must have developed on its eastern coast from an early period. The beginning of Hindu colonisation there may be placed two or three centuries before the Christian era.

The first definite reference to a state in Sumatra occurs in connection with an embassy reported in a Chinese account of 644 (or beginning of 645 A.D.). The name of the kingdom is given as Mo-lo-yeu, which has been easily identified on the authority of I-tsing's writings with modern Jambi in Sumatra. The name, which no doubt represents Indian Malayu, may perhaps also be traced, under the form of Mo-lo-che, in a list of kingdoms given in a Chinese text of the seventh century A.D. The same list includes another kingdom Telang-po-houang, which has been identified as Tulangbawang in south-eastern Sumatra.

But neither of the two kingdoms Malayu or Tulangbawang flourished for a long time. They were all superseded by a mighty kingdom which rose into importance about this

time. This kingdom is referred to as Fo-che or Che-li-so-che by the Chinese, Sribuza by the Arabs, and Sri-Visaya in the South Indian records. To M. Coedes we owe the brilliant hypothesis, now generally accepted by all scholars, that all these names are but different renderings of the name Sri-Vijaya. Some of Coedes' arguments and specially his identification of Sri-Vijaya with Palembang may not be accepted as valid, nor can we accept his contention that Sri-Vijaya was the original home of the Sailendra power and thus the seat of a mighty empire in the Pacific. But his main thesis that there was a kingdom called Sri-Vijaya in Sumatra has been supported by several inscriptions found in Sumatra itself. The identification of Sri-Vijaya must remain for the present an open question, but we can safely regard the kingdom as comprising the south-eastern part of Sumatra and some of the neighbouring islands.

The earliest reference to Sri-Vijaya has been traced to the Chinese translation of a Buddhist Sutra, named *Che-eul-yeou-king*. This translation, made in 392 A.D., contains a description of Jambudvīpa, which is quoted in *King-liu-yi-siang* compiled in 516 A.D. We read there that "in the sea there are 2,500 kingdoms. . . . the first king is called

Sseu-li. . . . . the fourth king is Cho-ye". The first name refers no doubt to Ceylon. As to Cho-ye, a commentator of the sixth century A.D. says that it means "Victory". From this, Ferrand concludes that Cho-ye stands for *jaya* (victory), and he takes this country to be Sri-Vijaya.

But even if Sri-Vijaya existed as an independent kingdom in the fourth century A.D., it did not attain any great importance till a much later period. It is only towards the close of the seventh century A.D. that Sri-Vijaya came into prominence. I-tsing, writing between 689 and 692 A.D., says that the Malayu country is now the country of Sri-Vijaya. In other words, Malayu was now absorbed in the growing kingdom of Sri-Vijaya. The political greatness of Sri-Vijaya, thus hinted at by the Chinese pilgrim, is corroborated by independent evidences. The most important of them are five inscriptions, which form the groundwork for the study of the history of Sri-Vijaya. Of these one is written in Sanskrit and the rest in old Malay language. The Sanskrit inscription (No. 5) was found at Ligor in the Malay Peninsula to the south of the Bay of Bandon. Of the four Malay inscriptions, three were found in Sumatra,—two (Nos. 1-2) near Palembang, and one (No. 3) in the province of Jambi (ancient Malaya),—while the fourth (No. 4) was found at Kota Kapur in the island of Banka.

No. 1 is dated in Saka 605 (683) A.D. and refers to a king of Sri-Vijaya having done some good to his country by virtue of magical powers acquired by him.

No. 2 is dated in Saka 606 (684 A.D.) and refers to some pious deeds and pious

hopes of King Sri Jayanasa. (The name may be a mistake for Jayanaga. Stutterheim reads it as Jayawaga).

Nos. 3 and 4 are nearly identical copies of the same record. It begins with an invocation to the gods who protect the kingdom of Sri-Vijaya. It holds out threats of severe punishment to the inhabitants of countries, subordinate to Sri-Vijaya, if they revolt or even aid, abet or meditate revolt, against the suzerain authority. Punishment was to be meted out, not only to actual rebels, but even to their family and clans; on the other hand the people who would remain loyal to the government of Sri-Vijaya, together with their clan and family, would be blessed with all sorts of blessings divine.

This is the general sense of the record which, as we learn from a postscript added to No. 4, was engraved in Saka 608 (686 A.D.) at the moment when the army of Sri-Vijaya was starting on an expedition against Java, which had not yet submitted to Sri-Vijaya.

These four inscriptions prove incontestably that Sri-Vijaya was already a powerful kingdom before 683 A.D. and that it had established its political supremacy not only over Malayu (Jambi) but also over the neighbouring island of Banka. The ruler Jayanasa was a Buddhist, and the two inscriptions found near the capital, *viz.*, Nos. 1 and 2, are definitely Buddhist in character. These corroborate in a way the statement of I-tsing that the king of Sri-Vijaya as well as the rulers of neighbouring states favoured Buddhism and that Sri-Vijaya was

a centre of Buddhist learning in the islands of the southern sea.

I-tsing tells us that the king of Sri-Vijaya possessed ships, probably for commerce, sailing between India and Sri-Vijaya. We also learn from his memoir that the city of Sri-Vijaya was the chief trading port with China, and there was a regular navigation between it and Kwang-tung.

That Sri-Vijaya was fast growing into an important naval and commercial power appears clearly from the Ligor (formerly called Vieng Sa or Vat Sema Murong) inscription (No. 5). This inscription dated in Saka 697 (775 A.D.) refers to the mighty prowess of the king of Sri-Vijaya. He is said to be the overlord of all neighbouring states whose kings made obeisance to him. He made three Buddhist *chaityas*, and his chaplain and his disciple built other *stupas* and *chaityas*. Now this inscription shows that the Buddhist king of Sri-Vijaya had extended his political supremacy over the Malay Peninsula, as far at least as the Bay of Bandon, before 775 A.D.

The inscription thus gives clear indications, in broad outline, of a purely aggressive policy pursued by the kingdom of Sri-Vijaya during the century 675-775 A.D. By 686 A.D. it had absorbed the neighbouring kingdom of Malayu, conquered the neighbouring island of Banka and sent a military expedition to the powerful island kingdom of Java. Before a century was over, we find its power firmly established in the Malay Peninsula as far at least as the Bay of Bandon.

The Chinese Annals state that several embassies came from Sri-Vijaya to China during the period between 670 and

741 A.D. The date of the earliest embassy cannot be ascertained, but there is no doubt that it was before 695 A.D. By an imperial edict dated in that year, orders were issued for supplying provisions to the ambassadors of different countries then living in the Chinese court. Thus provisions for six months were to be given to ambassadors from North India, South India, Persia, and Arabia; provisions for five months were to be given to ambassadors from Sri-Vijaya, Chen-la (Combodga), Ho-ling (Java), and other kingdoms; to envoy from Champa, provisions were to be given for only three months. It appears therefore that Sri-Vijaya was already recognised as a leading state, the only one in Sumatra to be individually referred to before the close of the seventh century A.D.

Two other embassies from Sri-Vijaya visited China in 702 and 716 A.D. In 724 A.D., the king of Sri-Vijaya named Che-li-t'e-la-pa-mo (Srindravarman) sent an ambassador with presents consisting of two dwarfs, a Negro girl, a party of musicians, and a parrot of five colours. The ambassador is called Kumara. It might be a personal name or denote the crown prince. The emperor conferred on him the title of tcho-tchong (general) and presented him 100 pieces of silk. He also conferred an honorary title upon the king.

In 728, the king of Sri-Vijaya again presented the emperor with parrot of motley colours. In 742, the king sent his son to the Chinese court with customary offerings and was again rewarded with a honorary title.

[The next article in this series will be on "Java". The first on "Borneo" appeared in the July issue. Ed. I.R.]

# The Congress Campaign

By MR. C. RAJAGOPALACHARI

ON the 18th April, 1934, the All-India Congress Committee adopted a council-entry programme, and a Parliamentary



MR. C. RAJAGOPALACHARI

Committee was appointed to set up candidates to contest the ensuing elections to the Legislative Assembly. The entry of the Congress in this election contest, after a long period of civil resistance and abstinence from Parliamentary activities, has naturally attracted great public attention. The circumstances of the case have given a character to the contest different from that of ordinary elections.

What is the issue which the Congress has placed before the electorate? The most comprehensive and yet simple answer is, that the Congress appeals to the electorate for a vindication of the prestige of the national condemnation of the Government's repressive policy in regard to the Indian National Congress

institution and its activities during the last struggle and it is on this aspect of the position that most voters will vote. Those who understand the constitutional position will identify with the Congress the rejection of the White Paper scheme, the alternative to the White Paper scheme being self-determination through a Constituent Assembly.

What the Congress has been striving to attain and demanded at the Round Table Conference through Mahatma Gandhi on behalf of the nation is real freedom and not a costly pretence of representative institutions to be kept up in India retaining all real control abroad. The White Paper scheme expressly denies any national control over defence forces, external affairs, and in effect denies it in finance and fiscal and economic policy.

The White Paper proposal is a budget of what are euphemistically called safeguards, but which are really devices to maintain the domination of British interests wherever they conflict with those of India. The proposed constitution directly or indirectly excludes from the control of the popular representatives all those spheres of administration that are deemed most important in any Government by reserving them for the Crown and its nominees, or by placing them in the hands of Statutory bodies over which self-governing India will have no real or immediate control. By all manner of devices it is sought in the scheme and in the preliminary arrangements therefor to neutralise and make empty and void of substance any transfer of responsibility to representatives of the people.

A constitution that excludes the army from Indian control and does not give to the people of India any voice over the military expenditure and which reserves from the vote of the legislature a large part of even the civil expenditure cannot save the people from economic ruin and emasculation. As against this, what the Congress has been striving for all these years is well known, *viz.*, true national independence. The Congress, therefore, appeals to the electorate for a mandate to reject the White Paper :

The White Paper in no way expresses the will of the people of India, has been more or less condemned by almost all the Indian political parties and falls far short of the goal of the Congress. If it does not retard the progress towards it. The only satisfactory alternative to the White Paper is a constitution drawn up by a Constituent Assembly elected on the basis of adult suffrage or as near it as possible with power, if necessary, to the important minorities to have their representatives elected exclusively by the electors belonging to such minorities.

The Congress has suffered and struggled for national freedom but it does not claim the right to frame a constitution in place of the White Paper scheme which it wants the people to reject. It has laid down in the above resolution its policy in respect of the framing of the constitution, which is to have it done by a Constituent Assembly that will include all the component parts of the nation in proportionate measure.

Such an Assembly can effectively bring about an agreement in regard to matters over which important minorities desire safeguards. It would not be an Assembly of irreconcilable members setting forth the maximum separatist claims of groups and communities, but a responsible body of true representatives of the nation with power to decide on all matters as to what

the nation desires on the whole to be the form as well as substance of the constitution.

Even while engaged in a grim struggle with the Government which involved the utmost strain on all its resources, the Congress has maintained uninterrupted work in the furtherance of its constructive programme, namely, the re-organisation of rural life in every aspect, the removal of untouchability in every form, the eradication of the drink and drug evil, the advocacy of total prohibition, the revival of hand-spinning, the protection of indigenous cloth as against the competition of foreign cloth, the promotion of *swadeshi* manufactures wherever they can replace foreign goods and the spread of the national *lingua franca*. The Congress candidates stand for all these things and will do the utmost in their power to give effect to the Congress policy in regard to these matters besides doing their utmost for the undoing of the wrongs done under the regime of repression.

The Congress is founded on the will and the aspiration of the people of India. It is the emblem of the country's honour and the symbol of the ultimate sovereignty of the people. It behoves the electorate to respond whole-heartedly to the appeal of the Congress and help to win a great and deserved moral victory over the Government. If the Congress lose in this contest, all India loses, and not only the Congress or Congressmen. If the Congress triumphs, it will begin a chapter of self-determination for the whole nation in which all parties and all communities will take their proper share.

# A Year of President Roosevelt

BY DR. SUDHINDRA BOSE, M.A., Ph.D.

(Lecturer in Political Science, State University of Iowa, U. S. A.)

"WE must act; we must act quickly," said President Franklin Delano Roosevelt in his inaugural address a year ago. In one year he has shown more imagination and more action



PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT

since Abraham Lincoln than any other President of the United States. The hammering rapidity of President Roosevelt's acts embodies a philosophy of statesmanship quite in contrast with some of his slow-moving predecessors. President Coolidge, for instance, represented a philosophy of drift: Let Nature take its course; do not cross a bridge till you come to it; do not think much about the bridge till you have come to it; and when you have come to it, you must not cross it if you can possibly avoid it. Mr. Roosevelt dislikes drift and inaction. Thumbs down on the crude Coolidge philosophy.

A year ago the American people were in a jam. Roosevelt moved quickly to break the jam. They were in distress. He has moved swiftly to

relieve the distress. They were indignant. He has moved to drive the money-changers from the Temple, to prevent and punish wrong-doing. Panic was quelled. Recovery has followed.

Roosevelt is attempting to lead the people into a period of co-operation, instead of the rugged and ruthless individualism of the Hoover regime. Roosevelt's plan is a product of home-spun American common sense: to lighten the burden of the average citizen, to establish the principle that citizenship carries the right to earn one's daily bread, to create a more abundant life for all.

## PRESENT SITUATION

The achievements of the Roosevelt administration, up to this time, may be itemized as follows :

1. All the major industries have been got under permanent trade codes, which regulate hours and wages. A large number of lesser industries have also been got under temporary codes which include wage and hour provisions. Incidental social benefits in the way of abolishing child labor and banning sweatshops have been realized.

2. Elaborate machinery for control of wheat and cotton production has been set up and the campaigns for enlistment of growers pressed energetically. Disregarding questions as to whether the crop reduction schemes will work, progress has been made in the application of them. The knottier problems of meat control and of dairy products control have not yet been solved, but beginnings are being made.

3. The principle has been legally established of the right of American labor to bargain collectively and to be represented by its own chosen delegates. It will revitalize the American labor movement and spread the idea of trade unions to many industries hitherto closed to them.

4. The federal government has established by law the minimum wage principle.

5. The United States government is now engaged—at Muscle Shoals—for the first time in the gigantic business of manufacturing, distributing, and selling electrical power at a reasonable price, after years of hopeless battling for this policy.

6. Government is offering direct aid to the starving unemployed. In complete contravention of the position taken by ex-President Hoover, the federal government now recognizes its duty and obligation to see that no American starves.

7. The effort to force out additional purchasing power into the hands of consumers in general has had considerable success. There are at present encouraging signs of increased consumer buying. The *New York Times* recently reported that a survey among manufacturers and retailers showed notable increase. That means business is picking up.

If failures to date were also catalogued, they would be headed by the ineffectiveness as yet of farm credit machinery and the halt in the rise of agricultural prices. These things are producing some dissatisfaction in the agricultural areas, and a demand for kinds of inflation which the government wants to avoid.

In addition there has arisen a large number of troublesome controversies between labor unions and some of the major industries. Price fixing in the gasoline industry and in certain retailing trades, as well as in dairying, is being reluctantly approached. And there are some other difficulties. They could not be avoided.

That—fairly, if briefly stated—is the present situation, as the United States enters the second year of the Roosevelt administration.

#### REVOLUTION LOGICAL

What is now under way is a peaceful revolution; it is a logical expression of facts and conditions. It is a condition of two main ideas. One is simply a redistribution of the national income, having for its object a greater degree of

equality in the respective shares. The other is the replacement of unlimited competition in industry and commerce by a principle of co-operation, the effect of which is to "affect with a public interest" all the important industrial and commercial activities in the country. This involves intensive public regulation and control, the result of which is to make government the "senior partner" in all important business enterprises. That is the essence of the "revolution" which is now at work. It is a revolution, however, by popular consent.

When things get normal once more, will the American people return to the old system as it existed prior to the advent of Roosevelt? Not exactly. The "time limits" in the various statutes are, many believe, wholly illusory. In the first place, *laissez-faire*, as Americans have had it in the past generation, has failed to work in the opinion of the mass. In the second place, the mass through the government is in control of the civil power which it will be most reluctant to give up.

The laws of the Roosevelt "New Deal" are on the statute-books now. Unless the Supreme Court of the United States intervenes, they will remain there for some time to come. Speaking at Vassar College, President Roosevelt said: "It is also true that the people, through government, are extending as a permanent part of American life—and not just for one or two years—they are extending their insistence that individuals and associations of individuals shall cease doing many things that have been hurting their neighbours in bygone days."

#### ROOSEVELT IS DYNAMIC

Mr. Roosevelt is amazingly popular with his fellow-citizens, who, as everyone knows, are incorrigible activists and pragmatists. He is popular because he has done something good. If last year's general election could be repeated to-morrow, he would receive a far greater majority than he did a year ago.

Even those left-wing liberals, who do not favor some of Mr. Roosevelt's policies, praise his attitude toward his high office. He has held it in the best American tradition with complete simplicity. He has done much to decrease that insidious tendency in Washington under Mr. Hoover to adorn the Presidency with the trappings of royalty. It was noticed that whereas the former President Herbert Hoover was habitually guarded at his summer camp during vacation by a company of marines at government expense, there was no such flummery, not a uniform, at Roosevelt's summer home. Mr. Roosevelt has exalted his office by regarding himself as a citizen temporarily projected into a high place, seeking no personal advancement or glorification.

Notwithstanding the enormous powers granted him by Congress, Mr. Roosevelt has assumed none of the airs of a dictator. He has chosen, instead, to hear the criticism, to profit by it, and to modify his policies when it seemed wise to do so. He is neither bull-headed nor pig-headed, but level-headed.

Franklin D. Roosevelt is affable, approachable, modest, but also dynamic. The way in which he has borne himself in office, the charm of his radio voice, the friendliness which everybody has felt for him—all these have done their share in winning the public to him. Moreover, his courage, optimism, and creative audacity have disarmed many of his enemies.

## THE TEMPLE ENTRY BILL

BY MR. BASANTA KUMAR CHATTERJI, M.A.

IF there is difference of opinion between two sections of people, it does not necessarily mean that there will be breach of peace. Peace is disturbed only when one section tries to compel the other section to act against their conviction. Reformers consider untouchability

I wish I could convey the momentousness of the changes which have taken place in this country within the past few months. They are profound. Americans are not yet out of the woods and no man knows what still lies before them. But the great thing is that a mental revolution has taken place with a machine-gun rapidity which defies belief. People are now hopeful and confident. Co-operation is in the air. I hear no more of "rugged individualism", as I used to under the Hoover administration.

In short, Roosevelt is laying the foundations of a new social order by placing human rights above financial rights. He is seeking to socialize the profit-making motive by making its operation subordinate to a body of ethical principles from which "their practice has been wholly alien". Capitalism must be put into leading strings of principle. This has naturally threatened the supremacy of the financial and industrial barons, and are reluctant to adjust themselves to a new mental climate. But Roosevelt will doubtless find a way to make them come across. The White House will not be dominated by the Wall Street. Democracy and industrial feudalism go ill together. Already I find some of the "big business" men actually thinking about new methods and a square deal, about being decent to their people in their industries and their competitors. I even see the taint taken off Socialism to a considerable degree. Indeed, the Roosevelt experiment is big with promise not only for America, but for the whole world.

to be a very bad custom; Sanatanists consider that it is a very good custom,—good for all, including the Harijans. Reformers may of course try to convince the Sanatanists that the Sanatanists are wrong. But if the reformers try to compel the Sanatanists to act against

their conviction, there will be cause for grave irritation. Such irritation will not be less even if it is conceded that the reformers are in the majority. For the majority has no right to deprive the minority of liberty of action according to their faith.

But (it may be argued) the minority cannot be allowed to act in a way which is highly offensive to a section of people; if the orthodox Hindus consider people of lower castes as untouchable, it is highly offensive to the latter; hence the orthodox Hindus cannot be allowed to treat any persons as untouchable. But this argument is not correct. It is well known that orthodox Hindus treat as untouchable not merely people of lower castes, but also Mahomedans and Christians. If it is highly offensive to low-caste people to be considered as untouchable, it will be equally offensive to Christians and Mahomedans to be considered as untouchable. But no legislation is proposed to prevent orthodox Hindus from considering Mahomedans and Christians as untouchables. The reason is that any person or group of persons has the right to consider any other person or group of persons as untouchable. You may call it superstitious or foolish. But you cannot call it illegal.

As regards temples, the main question is what was the intention of the donors of the temples? Is there any evidence? If not, what should be the presumption? These questions raise various legal points which can only be decided in a court of law. The Temple Entry Bill is so framed that even if there is clear evidence that it was the intention of the donor of a public temple that certain castes should not be allowed,—still, if the reformers are in the majority in that locality, they can secure the admission of the excluded castes, thus violating the intention of the donor. For the bill defines a temple as “a place used as a right as a place of public worship by the Hindu community generally except the excluded castes”

and provides that if the majority of the Hindus of the locality are in favour of the admission of the untouchables then such admission will be enforced. It will be seen that no account has been taken in the bill of the intention of the donor. The bill will thus secure the admission of Harijans (provided the majority of the public are in favour of the innovation) even if the intention of the donor is to the contrary. In other words, the bill provides, on the strength of a majority, to validate a breach of trust.

It is not merely with respect to existing temples that the bill deprives Sanatanists of their legitimate right. For if Sanatanists build a new temple with the express stipulation that Harijans will not be allowed admission and throw it open to all Hindus of the higher castes, such a temple will come within the definition of a “temple” in the bill and, notwithstanding the express desire of the donors to the contrary, the reformers (if they happen to be in the majority) will be able to secure the admission of the Harijans. In other words, the bill makes it impossible for Sanatanists to have a public temple of their own.

If the bill is enacted, it will deprive orthodox Hindus of their legitimate rights, as shown above. If the bill is not enacted, the reformers will not be deprived of any legitimate right. For the reformers have, even now, every right to construct a temple and take Harijans inside. As regards existing temples, where the public has the right to regulate the method of worship, they can admit Harijans if the majority are inclined to do so. The bill assumes that where the public have the right to enter and worship, they have also the right to admit Harijans. This assumption is wrong in principle and should make the bill objectionable not only to Sanatanists but also to those reformers who are liberal enough not to grudge Sanatanists the right to worship publicly by excluding the Harijans.

## PROVIDENT INSURANCE SOCIETIES

BY MR. M. S. NATARAJAN, M.A. (ECON.)

IN India, the Life Assurance Companies tend to look down on the Provident Insurance Societies with lofty olympian contempt. The former have also more or less succeeded in creating a vague impression that the latter are an excrescence on the Insurance development of the country. It needs no elaborate defence to prove that such an impression has been mainly created on account of the professional jealousy on the part of the big companies. In spite of the impression referred to above, there appears to have been a great boom in the starting of the Provident Insurance Societies during the last 3 years. The almost phenomenal increase in numbers, however, requires a little elucidating to the public in respect of the form, functions, and part played by these societies in the economic structure of our land.

Very few of the existing provident societies are survivors of those which numbered as much as 1,200 about a quarter of century ago. There is no doubt that most of those societies were ill-conducted and had the flimsiest financial foundation. The enactment of the Provident Insurance Societies Act of 1912 meant a greater control by the Government on the societies and that naturally put a quietus to most of them.

After 1912, the number of the societies came down from the count of hundreds to few tens and have risen again to the figure of hundreds only in 1930 and 1931. The following table would illustrate what is meant by the phenomenal increase in the number of the societies in India during the last 3 years:—

| Years.<br>(Financial year<br>ending). | Total number<br>in existence. | The accumulat-<br>ed funds (for<br>those societies<br>which are<br>available). | The combined<br>income (for<br>those societies<br>which are<br>available). | The paid up<br>capital (for<br>such of those<br>that have a<br>paid-up capital). |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                       |                               | Rs. (lakhs).                                                                   | Rs. (lakhs).                                                               | Rs. (lakhs).                                                                     |
| 1929                                  | 69                            | 9                                                                              | 5                                                                          | 1                                                                                |
| 1930                                  | 166                           | 10                                                                             | 6.5                                                                        | 1.4                                                                              |
| 1931                                  | 265                           | 15                                                                             | 8.25                                                                       | 2.67                                                                             |

It will be seen from the figures that while the total number in India has nearly quadrupled, the progress in the financial position has not equally kept apace. If the increase in the number of societies in India during the last 3 years has been phenomenal, the rate of increase in Bengal has been even more so. While the total number of societies in Bengal in 1929 was only 21, it had risen to 81 in 1930 and 150 in 1931. In other words, Bengal possessed in 1931 as much as 52 per cent. of the societies existing in India. The financial position of the societies too, as far as available statistics go, show that the societies in Bengal are comparatively better off than those in the rest of the provinces of India.

An analysis of the location of the Provident Insurance Societies is bound to be interesting. In 1931, as already stated before, Bengal stood first having 150 societies in all. Second came Bombay with 48 societies followed by Madras with 41 societies. The United Provinces was fourth in the list and had only 15 societies. Central Provinces had 3, while Assam and Delhi each possessed 2. North-Western Frontier Province, Bihar and Orissa, Mysore and Burma had 1 society apiece.

Of the 265 societies working in the year 1931, as many as 215 were transacting business either on the dividing plan or on the basis of call societies, and the remaining 50 were conducting ordinary life assurance business. It is really a moot point with regards to those societies conducting life assurance proper, whether such small societies having generally tiny resources and little talent could afford to take the risk of running the life assurance business pure and simple. The consensus of opinion in India and abroad favours the view that life assurance proper is normally the function of well-equipped insurance companies as such and that the small

provident societies would do well to leave it out. The writer of this article is however of opinion that while as a rule, the provident societies should not tackle the life assurance business in its pristine purity, they may be permitted to do so on fulfilling certain conditions analogous to those of the life assurance companies in respect of the Government security, etc.

The provident societies are classified according to Government into 4 groups. The first group is known as the dividing societies; the second as the bonus societies; the third as the pension societies; and the fourth as the death-call societies. Of these 4 groups, the least important are the pension societies and there are very few of them in existence. A small subscription usually of 1 rupee is collected from the subscriber and a pension of 2 or 3 rupees per month is given to the widow of the subscriber on his death. These are generally under the aegis of the foreign missionary bodies. The bonus societies similarly collect monthly subscriptions ranging from 8 annas to 1 rupee, and allot a fixed amount usually between 200 and 300 rupees as payable to the nominee of the deceased subscriber. The death-call societies, generally, definitely fix the number of members to be admitted and the amount to be paid. These collect a subscription of a rupee or 2 from their members whenever one of their members dies and hand over the collections to the nominee of the deceased after deducting a certain percentage for the up-keep of the society. The dividing societies work similarly, but the claims need not be on account of death alone. Marriage, sickness and even unemployment and accident form claims for benefits in the case of the Dividing Societies. All these societies, in addition to the subscriptions they collect monthly from their members, further augment their financial resources by levying an admission fee which varies according to the age of the prospective members from Rs. 4 to Rs. 12.

The provident societies have all the paraphernalia of the board of directors, secretaries, treasurers, etc. Though the directors may act without any honorarium, the secretaries and others get handsomely paid. Instances are not rare, where the secretary obtains as much as one-fourth to one-third of the monthly collections as his remuneration.

The present boom in the starting of these societies naturally brings to one's mind the causes that contributed to the downfall of many societies in the past. The one serious incubus of these societies past and present is the unhealthy habit of their members getting into arrears with regards to the subscriptions. Another bane, equally serious, is the agitation sooner or later by their members for a larger bonus. The desire for greater bonus widens the membership to all classes of undesirable persons, and the natural concomitant evils, such as the larger arrears, lack of proper supervision, the opportunity for the misuse of funds, all merrily follow in its wake.

If only they choose to do so and set about it in the proper manner, these little societies could contribute much to the betterment of economic conditions of the poorer people. It is the poor artisans and members of the lower middle class that are generally obliged to take recourse to the Marwari or the money-lender whenever such contingencies as death or marriage occurs in their family, and pay the penalty heavily for their lack of foresight and thrift. The provident societies are easily the best institutions calculated to administer to the needs of the humbler and poorer, but nevertheless the most important section of the people of this country.

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## Why is Bernard Shaw a Socialist ?

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

WHAT is the secret of Bernard Shaw's world-wide fame? The question is not easily answered. Nor is there unanimity on the



MR. BERNARD SHAW

causes of his reputation. It is not unfair to assume that the vast majority of the lovers of Shaw have often no better ground for preferring him to others than that he is universally admired, endlessly discussed, and nearly always misunderstood. Shaw is constantly in the limelight. Shaw himself never misses an opportunity to catch the public eye. False modesty is not one of his failings. A considerably smaller number of people, superficially acquainted with Shaw's writings, are struck by his brilliant dramatic powers—his sparkling wit, biting satire, his high sense of comedy, his penetrating analysis of social problems, and last but not least the vigour of his prose-style. Shavian wit is a by-word with educated people the world over. Shaw's 'comedic' sense has raised him head and shoulders above his fellow dramatists, while his keen analytical powers, and his nervous prose are unique features of his creative genius. But to a still smaller group, Shaw's renown is based on his clear-sighted vision of the great problem that faces the future of human civilisation. Shaw is one of those who proclaim a new world-order.

Shaw's genius has many facets. This is one of the reasons why the appreciation of Shaw has

so often been one-sided. People have failed to see the wood for the trees. Indeed, no great writer can be truly evaluated, until the unity underlying his works is firmly grasped. What is this unity in the case of Shaw? Is it the unity of his ideals? Has he any ideals at all? This is the fundamental question. One thing is clear. An Irishman, having had to fight his way up, Shaw never fell a victim to that moral smugness characteristic of so many of the 19th century English writers. Dickens, Ruskin and a few others had seen the evils from which contemporary England was suffering, but they had neither the vision, nor the analytical technique of a later age which could give them the clue to their solution. Shaw, having come later, was more fortunate in both respects. Social ideas had made enormous progress during the century. A few leading minds had brought the vast array of their intellect to bear on the problems facing European society. Unlike his predecessors, Shaw came into the heritage of a rich harvest of ideas ready for reaping. Shaw's spiritual ancestry must be traced back to Ibsen, Karl Marx and Henry George.

Ibsen influenced Shaw in two ways. The sage of Norway, as Shaw has called him, helped him not only in creating a new dramatic tradition in England by breaking away from the artificiality of the French drama then reigning supreme in England, but also to look upon drama, like all vital creative art, as the expression of contemporary life. Not only was the window of British drama thus opened to the fresh air and light of new ideas, but an effort was made to root it in real life. He made it a powerful critical medium. Shaw's dramatic works signified clear break from the romanticism of the contemporary British drama. Shaw dared to look at life in all its stark reality. Shavian literature is thus essentially a 'literature of revolt'—revolt

against hypocrisy, crime, cruelty, injustice and poverty.

While Ibsen gave Shaw the impulse to look at drama from a new angle, the ardent idealism which distinguishes Shaw's best works from those of his contemporaries and lends them a certain unity of purpose is to be sought in the great social thinkers of the nineteenth century, above all, Karl Marx, and, to a lesser degree, Henry George. Shaw's early struggles, which to a keen intellect like his, not unnaturally, seemed unreasonable, probably predisposed him to new ideas, but what gives him distinction is that others having tasted poverty, sometimes even more bitterly, did not react in the same fashion. He was one of the very first among the great literary figures of Europe to have caught a glimpse of the coming order of things. In the words of Shaw himself, "the earlier nineteenth century literature, for all its invective, satire, derision and caricature, made amiable by its generous indignation, was not a literature of revolt. It was pre-Marxian. Post-Marxian literature, even in its most good-humoured pages by men who never read Marx, is revolutionary".

Henry George's *Progress and Poverty* made him realise for the first time the phenomenon of modern poverty in its true social setting. In modern civilisation, progress and poverty are concomitant terms. Wherever there is progress, there is poverty. It is progress for some and poverty for many. True, there was poverty in the past, but it was the common lot. It had none of the degradation it signifies in modern civilised conditions. Karl Marx took him further on the same road. He supplied Shaw with the technique of social analysis. Shaw was no longer content to note the association of progress with poverty, he plumbed the depths to discover the cause of poverty. His conversion to socialism is the sequel. Like all true socialists, he believes that either the present economic, that is, capitalist order must be mended,

or it will end civilisation. Shaw never tires of quoting his friend, Professor Flinders Petrie, who is responsible for unearthing the ruins of half-a-dozen or more extinct civilisations. Why did they collapse like a house of cards in the height of their glory? Why could they not defend themselves against external aggression, or did they succumb to the strain of their internal instability? Whatever the immediate cause, history gives the same verdict in every case. It is the division of society into rich and poor—riches for a few and grinding poverty for the multitude, leading to internal strife and final decay.

Shaw is not a believer in 'art for art's sake'. He is convinced that literature is deficient to the extent that it is devoid of moral earnestness. Indeed, in his opinion, this is the prime distinction between good and bad literature. All his writings in consequence are imbued with 'one increasing purpose', namely, the amelioration of mankind: the perpetuation of human civilisation. It is this which lends greatness to all his works, although at first sight Shaw's destructive role appears the more prominent. The stupidity and crass materialism of human beings often exasperate him, but he is no pessimist. Even if human civilisation were doomed, he would not grieve; for, in his eyes, evolution is creative. He looks upon creation as the continual unfolding of the 'Life-Force'. If humanity ceases to justify itself, it will surely be replaced by a higher order of creation. Who cannot but be moved by the final soliloquy of Lilith (*Back to Nethuselah*), when she says: "Of Life only there is no end; and though of its million starry mansions many are empty and many still unbuilt, and though its vast domain is as yet unbearably desert, my seed shall one day fill its matter to its uttermost confines. And for what may be beyond, the eyesight of Lilith is too short. It is enough that there is a beyond."

# The Colonization Scheme

By MR. P. KODANDA RAO, M.A.

(Editor, "The Servant of India")

WITH reference to the report of the Preliminary Committee appointed by the South African Government in connection with the colonization of Indians, it is necessary to remember two governing factors. The first is, that the colonization scheme was to be primarily organized by the Government of India for the benefit of Indians in this country, and the South African Indians were to be free to avail themselves of the facilities. It was primarily a scheme for Indians of India and only secondarily for Indians of South Africa. This was agreed to by the South African Government, however much they were keen on promoting the emigration of South African Indians and reducing their number in South Africa. No scheme of emigration, rather colonization, promoted by the South African Government in order to reduce the Indian population in South Africa has any claim on the co-operation of the Government or the people of India or of the South African Indian community. This fact is frankly recognised by the report of the Preliminary Committee.

It is true the Committee suggested the appointment of a larger Joint Committee of India and South Africa, in order to explore the possibilities of colonization in certain British Colonies. That suggestion, except for the countries mentioned, is not new. It was there in the South Africa-India Agreement of 1932. The second feature of worthy importance is time. It was said in the Agreement that the Joint Committee should be appointed in the year in which it was signed; but by common, if tacit, consent, no Committee was appointed during that year. It was obvious that, however much the Union Government were anxious to promote the emigration of South African Indians, their own local circumstances did not permit of rapid action.

The conditions in India are even more unpropitious for the appointment of a Committee contemplated in the Agreement and recommended in the report under review. There is no great and insistent demand in India at the present moment for a colonization scheme to absorb the surplus population of India. The attention of our publicists has been almost wholly absorbed in the discussion of the future Constitution of India, and the last few years have been a period of turmoil, agitation, repression, and unsettlement. The time has not yet come when Indians will and can turn their thoughts to colonization schemes abroad. Moreover, a scheme of the kind contemplated by the Preliminary Committee requires enormous funds and highly evolved organization. The present financial position of India does not permit of any such vast schemes being undertaken in the immediate future. The question has perforce to be held over until more propitious times. The constitutional issue in India must be settled in the first instance and the financial position must be improved in the second instance. Even then, it is doubtful if a colonization scheme will ever succeed, whether the Government of India, even under the New Constitution, will have the power to protect its nationals abroad effectively and can therefore give its cordial consent to colonization.

The Committee seems to regret that the White Australia policy might stand in the way of the Australian Government permitting colonization by Indians within its jurisdiction. It is amusing, to say the least, that the Committee did not realise that there are vast spaces in South Africa itself which can be colonized by the small number of Indians in the Union, and that there was no need to ask other Dominions to remove the gnat in their eyes while oblivious of the beam in the

eyes of South Africa herself. Strange as it may seem, *Pax Britannica* is more effectively solicitous of Indians in the countries outside the Empire than within. If a colonization scheme is to ensure equality of political and economic rights to Indians, perhaps it is best to think of countries outside the Empire and not within. These are some of the considerations which must make an Indian pause before he gives his consent to a colonization scheme.

The Committee recognized that Indian opinion in South Africa is almost unanimously hostile to any scheme of emigration of South African Indians to other countries. Though there was a split among the Indians, there is no difference on this basic question. The difference was really over the question of co-operating with the Preliminary Committee of Enquiry or not. The Government of India, as represented by their Agent in South Africa, were also not hopeful that there would be a large stream of Indian emigrants from South Africa taking advantage of a colonization scheme. However much one may wish to deceive himself into believing that the colonization scheme was meant for the benefit of the South African Indians, there is no getting away from the fact that the Union Government has no such solicitude for the welfare of the Indian

emigrants from its shores. If neither the Government of India nor the Union Government can effectively guarantee the welfare of the emigrants, there is not a slightest justification for promoting a colonization scheme.

In the circumstances, it is hoped that the Union Government will freely recognize the inappropriateness of promoting, by joint action of India and South Africa or otherwise, of a colonization scheme to any or all countries recommended by the Preliminary Committee of Enquiry. India has no desire to back out of the second Cape Town Agreement. But it must be recognised that the present is not the time for inaugurating such a scheme. It may be unfortunate but it is inescapable. It is to be hoped that the South African Government will not take it ill, if India is unable to initiate or take part in such an enterprise at present and will not seek to revenge itself on its unfortunate and helpless Indian citizens. After all, over 80 per cent. of Indian population are South African nationals, and the Union Government has solemnly acknowledged its obligations to these people in the Cape Town Agreement of 1927. Uplift and not emigration is the proper and just solution of the Indian problem in South Africa.

## The Ethics and Economics of Birth Control

BY MR. D. S. GORDON, M.A., LL.B.

(Assistant Professor of Education, Mysore University, Mysore)

THE recent observations of the Census Commissioner regarding India's population, and the proposals made in Madras and Bombay to establish birth control clinics in certain institutions, have brought to the forefront one of the most vital problems of modern civilisation as it appears in this country. Birth control is so intimately connected with the life and outlook of the people that it is very important for them to think scientifically and dispassionately in this matter.

And yet very few people are able to think in this manner at the present moment. One of the most curious things in human history is the fact that although man is quite ready to make use of scientific knowledge in the conquest of nature, he has seldom been willing to apply this same knowledge to his own life and conduct. When it comes to a question of his beliefs about himself and his aspirations as to his future life, he instinctively draws a line. In these matters

he would rather be guided by tradition, dogma, superstition, revelation, or anything else than order his existence on this planet in the light of knowledge.

Birth control is so intimately connected with the things which man holds sacred that scientific thought and investigation in this field can scarcely be expected to find ready and wide-spread acceptance. When the Rev. Thomas R. Malthus published his famous "Essay on Population" in 1798, in which he suggested that population tended to outrun the means of subsistence, even his educated contemporaries wondered how, of all people, a parson could propound such an extraordinary theory and hold such unorthodox views. Nor were the economists of his day slow to find fault with his mathematical statement of the problem if they did not altogether deny his thesis.

But much water has flowed under the bridge since these criticisms were first urged. Now in most civilized nations of the world it has been found that the natural unfettered increase of population is a menace to reasonable existence. Hence birth control methods have been in vogue among them for some generations. No doubt they were first practised only by the well-to-do classes, but gradually, with the growth of popular education and the keenness of the struggle for existence, they have filtered down to other classes also.

In the East however, the situation is quite different. Here, partly owing to the prevailing low standards of life and partly owing to less rigorous climatic conditions, the need for birth control has not been generally recognised. Moreover, the natural agents of destruction—war, famine, and pestilence—which Malthus had stressed, have always operated with such vigour in this part of the world that there was no room for any conspicuous increase in numbers. But in the past few decades, the establishment of more settled administrations on the one hand, and the adoption of modern medical and sanitary

appliances on the other, have materially altered the conditions of life. The result therefore is that the same methods which have proved so successful in keeping population down in the West have now come up for consideration in the East also.

Here again there seems to be a fundamental difference between the orient and the occident. The latter has, on the whole, quietly adopted birth control first, and then thought about its moral implications, whereas the former has proceeded the other way round. It wants the issues to be fought out first. Not that the battle was shirked in the West. As a matter of fact it is well known that Charles Bradlaugh and the late Mrs. Besant were among the first to begin the war there, which is now being carried on with such conspicuous success by Marie Stopes and Margaret Sanger, among others. What is now happening in India, therefore, is not the main action but only the subsidiary repercussions.

In whatever country the struggle goes on, however, it must be remembered that the fundamental issues are the same. The orthodox position may be briefly and simply stated. It is the same among people of all religions, although it is perhaps best represented by the Catholic Church. To men of this way of thinking the sex impulse is implanted in man for the purpose of continuing the race. Therefore any artificial interference with this impulse by human agency is a violation of God's plan and is thus immoral and sinful. Self-continence alone may be permitted as a means of birth control although even this is logically untenable.

This orthodox position is one which readily appeals to many ordinary people. But it is full of difficulties. In the first place, it offers no practicable solution to the world's greatest problem at the present time, namely, over-population; for self-continence as an effective means of birth control is unthinkable. In the second place, the discoveries of modern science are unfavourable to the orthodox position. Sex and procreation

do not appear to be so inevitably connected as the orthodox would want us to believe. On the one side, the biologist can give us instances of sexual reproduction in nature, as well as of mating without reproduction. On the other side, the modern psychologist has been able to distinguish carefully between the sex and parental instincts, so that it is no longer possible to maintain the teleological view of sex.

Indeed, most of our popular notions about sex are a legacy of the near past; for as anthropologists such as Westermarck, Havelock Ellis and J. G. Frazer have pointed out, mankind in the primitive state was unable to connect the sex act with child-birth because of the considerable interval of time between the two events. But with the growth of knowledge and civilization, man has evolved the opinions which we hold to-day. It must be remembered, however, that these opinions varied from age to age and from community to community. It is not at all certain, therefore, that our opinions in this regard at the present time are by any means final. On the other hand, the social developments in Soviet Russia and in the United States of America seem to indicate possible changes. The writings of Bertrand Russell and Judge Ben Lindsay point to the same conclusion, while current literature, especially fiction and drama, unmistakably reflect the same tendencies.

The popular view of sex is essentially medieval. To the medieval mind sex was an evil thing. In all religions, therefore, the celibate has been thought of as a purer person than one who was married. Indeed, from the theological point of view, the sex act is a sin, the original sin; and although marriage is declared to be a holy state, it is only less holy than celibacy. Priests are therefore required to remain unmarried, and doctrines of immaculate conception are thought necessary. In all this thinking it seems clear that civilized man, and especially the man of religion, has been afraid of sex. He did not

know what to make of it. The result is that he has attempted such an explanation of this phenomenon as would agree with his preconceived notions about his origin and destiny.

As against these theological considerations, the views of scientists are on a different plane altogether. It is true that the ultimate significance of sex and procreation are still to some extent unsolved problems in biology. Nevertheless certain things are definitely known. It is known, for instance, that nature does not regulate fecundity in the interests of the species. Indeed among certain living creatures, such as salmon for example, nature has been found to act in a most cruel and destructive manner. But man being a rational animal, must perforce deal with the sex instinct in such a manner that it shall result in the highest good for everybody.

But what seems good in reason or science does not seem to be equally good in religion. Man's material and spiritual interests appear to be antagonistic to each other. The ordinary person is therefore perplexed. He asks himself: What shall I think about birth control? How shall I act in regard to it? Shall I seek guidance from religion or from science, or in a compromise between the two? Most people are choosing the last alternative. Even the Lambeth Conference of British Clergy, which made an honest effort to solve the problem, could not give a definite lead from the standpoint of religion alone, and left the matter practically to individual conscience. The truth is, neither religious dogma nor scientific theory can be helpful by themselves. Life is a compromise.

The facts of life must be squarely faced and considered with understanding and sympathy. Considered in this manner birth control seems indispensable for man's existence as well as necessary for his highest development both physically and morally. A wise and good God who has created man in his own image and who has endowed him with intelligence, could not

condemn him to unintelligent procreation as a mere animal. The bringing of a human life into the world must not be an unthinking and haphazard affair. Such an event must be governed by certain physical, moral and economic considerations. No man has a right to have a child when he knows that it will be physically or mentally defective, or if he has reason to think that he will not have the wherewithal to give it a reasonable existence.

Formerly parents of limited means used to think of children as a cheap form of insurance. Parents hoped to be supported by their children in old age. But nowadays such expectations are proving more and more difficult to realize. However filial and dutiful the children may be, the cares of life are pressing so heavily upon them that they can hardly be expected to provide for others.

Nor are the sufferings and sacrifices of parents in bringing up their children by any means negligible. These things frequently undermine the parents' health and shorten their life. The bearing and rearing of abnormal numbers of offspring is one of the most important causes for the low average duration of life in India. The mother of a large family grows prematurely old and debilitated, if she does not die in one of the child-births. The father frequently shares the same fate, being overwhelmed by the cares of having to provide for a larger number of dependents. Large families mean greater incidence of death. However loving the parents may be, it soon becomes a physical impossibility for them to take sufficient care of all their children, so that some of them necessarily die young. Similarly nations which have a high birth-rate have a high death-rate also. No wonder then that the infantile mortality figures for India and China are among the highest in the world.

It is sometimes said that the rich desire empty cradles from purely selfish motives; that they,

who are able to provide the best citizens, thus shirk their responsibility to the state. There may be some truth in this accusation. But in the case of the poor, the adoption of birth-control practices is a sure sign of intellectual and moral progress, for it shows that these people no longer leave the size of their families to the haphazard determination of nature but that they are realising their own responsibility in the matter. They are cutting the coat according to the cloth.

The whole problem of birth control is coming to a head in India. It is not a day too soon that this problem should be seriously considered. The people can no longer tolerate their present miserable existence. You advertise for a post on a miserable pittance of 30 rupees a month, and hordes of educated people wait at your door for the job. Not a day passes without your hearing of somebody or other committing suicide because economic troubles have rendered life insupportable. Sufferings such as these are very real and wide-spread. It is sometimes argued that this is because the country's natural resources are still undeveloped; or that our educational system is defective. But neither of these arguments can so well account for the present state of things as the fact that the country is overpopulated. Some good people have started the Baby Welfare Movement with a view to help poor parents out of their difficulties. But they forget that unless this well-intentioned effort is accompanied by some instruction in birth control methods they defeat their own object.

The medical profession has a special responsibility in this matter. They, above all others, must educate public opinion and give the lead. It also rests with them to make provision for proper facilities for those who come to them for help. At the present time the public is absorbing information from popular books on contraception that are being placed on the market. Some of the methods advocated in these books are harmful or worthless. The result is that children are no longer the incidents of marriage but they are becoming its accidents, according to the effectiveness or ineffectiveness of the method employed. Authoritative guidance is therefore needed.

# The Art of Letter-Writing

BY PROF. B. TANDON, M.A.

IT is wrong to say that the art of letter-writing is dead, though the melancholy fact remains that it is not all alive. Cheap postage, telegraph, telephone and above all modern hurry account for the "baldness and scrappiness of present-day letters". Carlyle with the instinct of a prophet knew that the advent of the penny post would kill the letter by making it cheap. "I shall send a penny letter next time," he wrote to his mother when the cheap postage was about to come in, and a delightful branch of literature has within the last several decades all but faded and withered. For letter-writing is essentially the "most leisurely of arts", and modern conditions in spite of great unemployment are far from congenial for indulgence in epistolary pastime.

Much of this might appear paradoxical in view of the fact that the type-writer clicks in every alternate home and huge bundles of letters and packets are delivered by the postman four times in the day. The type-writer, too, has killed the personal letter, and most of the covers that are received and despatched every day are trumpery stuff, which one would not look at if one could avoid without a breach of duty. It is interesting to recall in this connection Gladstone's complaint that he was generally obliged to write each day nine out of ten letters for which he did not care with the result that he could not get time to write the tenth letter for which he cared. A personal letter is the thing that matters.

And what are letters without the personal element? In the words of Herbert Paul: "They are like history without events, poetry without invention, Blue Books without dates, or novels without love." A good letter is "an easy and agreeable talk on paper". It is the nearest approach to drawing-room conversation.

Leigh Hunt knew it and this is how he begins an intimate epistle to Mr. and Mrs. Shelley:

Whenever I write to you, I seem to be transported to your presence. I dart out of the window like a bird, dash into a south-western current of air, skim over the cool waters, hurry over the basking lands, rise like a lark over the mountains, fling like a swallow into the valleys, skim again, pant for breath, there's Leghorn—eccomi! how d'ye do?

And who can improve on the recipe of that delectable English essayist, Alpha of the Plough? Here is his advice:

You must be personal, not abstract. You must not say: "This is too small a thing to put down." You must say: "This is just the sort of small thing we talk about at home. If I tell them this, they will see me, as it were, they'll hear my voice, they'll know what I'm about."

How few of us know that the most effortless letter makes the best reading! "Familiarity is not its weakness, but its supreme virtue." It is not necessary that every great prose-writer should also be a good letter-writer. Look at the list of the greatest figures in the English literature, and how few of them have attained a high degree of excellence in the epistolary art!

Leave out the Paston letters and come to the first half of the 17th Century when James Howell earned for himself the nickname of "the father of epistolary literature". Howell had plenty of leisure and his best work was done inside His Majesty's prison-house. By the way, long-term simple imprisonments ought to be most conducive to the growth of letter-writing; for in the modern age outside the jails there is no leisure. One should not be surprised if some of the Civil Disobedience prisoners in India come out as potential letter-writers with a prodigious reputation in this branch, but alas! the opportunities for communication are few and letter-writing cannot

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be a one-sided affair. It takes two to write a letter, as it takes two to make a quarrel.

From Howell to Walpole is a big jump, but it is idle to tarry on lesser luminaries whose output is scanty though occasionally brilliant. Lord Chesterfield's letters to his son are his only title for remembrance by posterity, though Dr. Johnson thought very little of them. In the words of the great literary dictator: "They teach the morals of a whore and the manners of a dancing master." Dr. Johnson's outburst must be taken with more than the proverbial grain of salt; for he had a grouse against the noble Lord, and his own immortal letter addressed to that patron of learning is characterized by great dignity of thought and language. It is also not fair to pass over Gray who wrote nothing without writing well and whose letters abound in descriptions of nature and tell us a great deal about the poet himself. But Horace Walpole has justly been described as "the Prince of letter-writers". Few possessed such a "glorious gift of gossip". This is what A. G. G. says about him:

There are moods in which there is no companion quite so delightful as Horace Walpole. You may dislike the man with his elegant sneer, his mockery and his heartlessness; but you cannot resist the fascination of his pen. To read his letters is like going a journey into a strange land in company with one who knows everybody, has seen everything, is at home everywhere. The eighteenth century leaps to life at his touch. You take snuff with the great, move to the innermost circle of an exclusive governing society, hear the latest bet and the newest scandal at the club, suffer all the romantic miseries of eighteenth century travel, share in all the emotions of that wonderful time when the British Empire was being founded east and west, and in the very different emotions of a later time when a foolish king was doing his best to raze the fabric that Chatham had erected. Walpole's letters, in short, are a stethoscope through which we hear the beating of the heart of the 18th century.

Then comes Cowper, the supreme master of the craft. His letters are "the glory of the English language". Written in retirement they describe the incidents of every-day life in a graceful and chaste English. Good humour is the

sauce not only of conversation but also of letter-writing. And Cowper's letters abound in humour. Many letters have been spoiled, because the writer had an eye on the public under the belief that they would some day go to the Press. And the least element of artificiality or pretence is fatal for a personal letter. Happily, Cowper's letters do not suffer from this blemish, and they are "a thing of beauty and a joy for ever". As models they are almost unsurpassed.

The genial humour of Charles Lamb is to be found not only in his delightful epistles, though essays and letters are widely different branches of literature. A good essay is seldom a good letter. It is said of Lord Byron that he was too much interested in Lord Byron to be an ideal letter-writer, but Herbert Paul is full of praise for the epistolary gift of this great Bohemian scholar. Let the critic speak:

Even his hurried scrawls from Harrow are characteristic, and his dashing epistles from Cambridge are worth tons of morbid self-analysis. Here and there are touches of the reckless fun in which he afterwards revelled, as when he confesses that his handwriting is as bad as his character. That can hardly have been so, as it was not absolutely illegible. But if a bad man writes good letters one need not complain. There are so many good men who write bad letters that we may even be grateful when once in a way the antithesis, true or false, is reversed.

Byron does not fall into any of the dangerous traps with which a letter-writer is confronted. He does not argue or sermonise. "His letters are not essays, or lectures, or leading articles or even fragments of autobiography."

Macaulay and Carlyle have written letters of no mean order. The letters of Macaulay are almost exclusively descriptive but, within their limits, they are unapproachable. Mr. Carlyle's letters are good, but those of Mrs. Carlyle are far better. It is true that "she sometimes wrote a disagreeable letter, but she never wrote a dull one". And this is a supreme achievement which is attained by only one other woman letter-writer, Lady Mary Montagu who deliberately prepared her correspondence for publication and advised one of her friends to preserve

her letters. Mrs. Carlyle had no eye on a wider public. Spontaneity and frankness are the strongest points of her epistles. Edward Fitzgerald has not attracted much attention as a letter-writer, though to the classical scholar his letters are intellectual treats.

This brings us down to the modern age which is so much condemned for its neglect of the most pleasant branch of English literature. But it is refreshing to know that the race of letter-writers is not extinct, and G. W. E. Russell is the finest exponent of a beautiful art. I quote *in extenso* the rich tribute paid to him by a contemporary English writer :

He is the most instant correspondent I know. You write by one post and have the answer by the next—and not a perfunctory answer, but a jolly letter spreading over page after page with quips and cranks and stories and sly thrusts and ironical comments. And he will go on answering letters for ever and ever, and each one is longer than the one that went before and more subtle and elusive and gay.

What a fine combination—promptness and excellence! Good letters are not written in hot haste but Russell's way is different. His is a happy power which excites the envy and emulation of all the toilers in the epistolary field.

It is the glory of letter-writing as an art that it can be cultivated not only by learned scholars, but also by humble figures who are still struggling for literary recognition. There are many silent and obscure Walpoles and Russells whose letters can thrill the readers with their intimate gossip and familiar ease. For cementing literary friendships there can be no more potential agencies than elegant epistles. And the cheapness of the postage should not be a handicap but an advantage in the cultivation of this neglected art. I cannot resist the temptation of quoting a fine sentence from the personal letter of an intimate literary friend, who has already been recognised as one of the finest Indian writers in the English language. Says he :

Good letters—the really good ones—are a passport for our journeys to literary realms—the double fascination

*being that the journeys are incredibly cheap and the realms incomparably beautiful.*

Would that more writers were attracted to this unexplored branch of literature !

The pity is that most people do not know what to write in a letter. They are in the position of the lady mentioned by Horace Walpole, whose letter to her husband began and ended thus : "I write to you because I have nothing to do : I finish because I have nothing to say." A personal letter throws light not only on the general conditions of the times but it also holds the mirror to the nature of the writer. It is, therefore, of great historical and biographical value. No two men will write quite similar letters. Give me a man's letters and I will tell you what kind of man he is. It was said by Carlyle that a well-written biography was almost as rare as a well-spent life. Shall I say that a well-written letter is rarer than an intellectual prodigy ?

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# Unemployment : The Lesson of Ceylon

By MR. JOHN HOCKIN

WHILE public attention is centred upon the problem of constitutional reforms, the hovering menace of unemployment seems to attract little attention. Yet this alarming outcome of progress and development is of far greater importance to the masses of the people than the most sweeping reform laws. To-day it constitutes no more than a departmental problem that defies solution, but those who can read the writing on the wall are emphatic in their prophecies that a day will come when unemployment dwarfs all other aspects of administration in the Middle East.

To appreciate the gravity of the situation it is only necessary to examine the comparative census figures for India. During the decade ending in 1931, the population increased by no less than 33 millions, or over 10 per cent. To-day 353 millions, or about 1/6th of the human race, are confined in a country that, despite its size, does not represent more than 1/25th of the total land area of the Earth. Not only is the Indian birth-rate far higher than that existing in Europe, but the extension of medical facilities will result in a sharp decrease in the death-rate. This has already occurred in Ceylon, particularly with regard to infant mortality which has dropped by no less than 18 per 1,000 in the past two years. This improvement is directly attributed to the child welfare work that is going on and illustrates what will occur in India when medical education gains a firmer foothold. It is therefore apparent that India's population is not only increasing at an alarming rate but that it is likely to increase still more rapidly in future years.

Although external economic factors have made it impossible to compile reliable statistics, it is certain that India's trade has not, and cannot, expand in proportion to her increase in population. Ultimately this state of affairs

can only result in unemployment on a dangerous scale.

The extent of unemployment existing in India to-day cannot be gauged with any degree of accuracy. For Ceylon, however, figures are available and they show that unemployment has now reached a proportion of 1 in 40 of the population. Although this appears of small account in comparison with European and American figures, it becomes of the greatest importance when we learn that it has replaced a figure too insignificant to record. Up to a few years ago unemployment was virtually non-existent in the Island.

Attempts have been made to charge that popular scapegoat, the slump, with entire responsibility for this menacing development. While the severe economic depression that has existed in the Island during the past three years has naturally accentuated the occurrence of unemployment amongst the Ceylonese, it has also acted as a mask for deeper and more alarming tendencies. These tendencies are largely independent of economic conditions and it is in their influence upon the over-population problem that the danger lies.

In Ceylon, as in India, agriculture has always been the staple occupation of the masses of the people. A generation or two ago, however, the growth of industrial enterprise began to attract labourers to the towns, where higher rates of wages soon resulted in the raising of the standard of living and ideas. Town workers scorned to allow their sons to return to work on the land as their forbears had done for centuries, and so it came about that the industrial population was not only increasing in proportion to the continued influx of peasants from the country but also in accordance with the urban birth-rate.

Now the scope for industrial development in Eastern countries is strictly limited and is likely to remain so throughout the present century. In Ceylon, commercial enterprise in the towns is wholly dependent upon the prosperity of rural agriculture. It follows that every labourer who migrates from the land is retarding industrial progress in the cities. Yet it is to the progress of industry that he looks for the future employment for himself and his children.

The creation of this vicious circle has been the basic cause of the incidence of unemployment in Ceylon. It is in the town that the workless are found; in the rural districts the depression has caused a general lowering in the standards of living but surprisingly little distress. It follows that the solution of the Island's economic difficulties cannot be expected to do more than ease the unemployment situation for the time being. A permanent cure can only follow a whole-hearted response to the launching of a "back to the country" movement.

It is certain that the East will attempt to set such movements on foot. Already Ceylon is making a timid effort to persuade the surplus population of the towns to undertake agricultural development. Yet Ceylon's scheme, like the majority of the schemes that will be tried in the future, is doomed to certain failure. The growth of education is proving an insuperable barrier.

Illiterate parents in Ceylon to-day are encouraged to send their children to school. Better-class parents are advised to make every effort to give their sons the benefit of a university education. In India, where 92 per cent. of the population can neither read nor write, propaganda is being directed along the same lines. Those who preach universal education for Eastern countries in the present stage of their development ignore the disastrous consequences that such a system would entail.

Already we are having a foretaste of the effects of premature education. The junior grades of the medical, legal and clerical professions in India and Ceylon are pathetically overcrowded with young men, the majority of whom can never hope to turn their university learning to profitable account. These youths have been encouraged to undergo an intensive training only to find that there is no employment for them when they have taken a degree. To work as agricultural labourers would offend their dignity and would clash miserably with the inclinations and ambitions that have been developed in them. Yet such manual labour is frequently the only alternative to starvation. Some of them are driven to work as coolies and bitter disillusionment often force them to seek a dangerous outlet for their enthusiasms. The anarchist gangs that exist in the underworld of India are largely recruited from young men of this type and Bengal terrorism has proved the depths to which they sink.

If this is the result of the restricted progress that has already been made in Eastern education, what is to happen when succeeding generations of working-class children in ever-increasing numbers are sent to school? Many of them will not, it is certain, be content with the same living conditions as their parents. They will want to find work as clerks, or in shops, or in factories, where wages will be higher and conditions more in keeping with their new ideas. Agriculture will be more and more neglected as the years go by. The movement from the country to the towns will receive a tremendous impetus and it is inconceivable that industry will be able to absorb a fraction of those who seek to better their prospects. The result can only be unemployment and discontent on a wide and dangerous scale.

# Agricultural Education

BY MR. NYAPATHI KRISHNA RAO, B.A., B.L.

THE basic factor for any vigilant progress of our villages is the spread of education suited to their agricultural requirements in all its varied and scientific aspects. Since the introduction of Western education in our country, a feeling of indifference, if not dislike, has grown towards villages among the educated few. In spite of the fact that India is an agricultural country, the villager has been practically relegated to the background and has been consistently denied association with the flower of the school and the university, which would have had splendid psychological effects upon the village. The reasons are not far to seek. The village sentiment and tradition inherited from his forefathers play a large part in determining his attitude towards new ideas and improvements. There is not that economic instinct in him to produce more, to produce efficiently, and to produce at the minimum cost. A general 'dulness, inelasticity and unprogressiveness' is the curse of the villages. To attract young men that leave our secondary schools and colleges to the village and to raise the former from a stage of inertia and passivity, active measures which would conduce to the mental and moral development of the individual ryot are important problems that demand solution.

It may be said that the ordinary ryot is not inclined to go through the mill of education and, in fact, does not care to equip himself with agricultural knowledge so long as he gets the meagre starvation allowance for his family. Though this is partly correct, the way in which the system of educating the ryot is handled, goes a long way in understanding the present situation. Examples of the West are abundant and a judicious use should be made of them. As Mr. Fay points out: "The properties of the soil having been analysed, the land is no longer the master but the servant of the farmer.

The year's crop is less open to extreme variations, and more and more the predictable result of previous calculation. Such a change in the methods of cultivation reacts profoundly on the character of the agriculturist, making him less fatalistic and more expert in that process of arguing from cause to effect, which is at the bottom of the shrewdness that makes the business man." Leadership alone is required which can forestall, foresee and forearm and the ryot is bound to learn and improve under proper guidance.

The success depends upon the harnessing of the ryot through efficient instruction by imparting the necessary training to the village youth and the adult ryot in the manifold aspects of agriculture by practical and successful demonstration. The object of education is to prepare the boys in the villages for the life which they are sure to follow. Under the present conditions, the elementary education in villages is a mere replica of that in towns. Also, there is a great wastage in the system of rural elementary schools. The consolidation and concentration, as proposed by the Champion scheme, increases the quality of education and helps the spirit of competition. In America, the single teacher has been found to teach inefficiently and indifferently. Supervision of the numerous and the distant outlying schools is rendered difficult. "The school being larger, the children in it being more numerous and a spirit of emulation being awakened, the parents are found to take a more lively interest." The Royal Commission on Agriculture, in para 447, speaking of the wastage of single teacher schools recommends, wherever possible, the policy of establishing central schools and converting single teacher schools into branch schools.

Along with the consolidation of schools, the next step is to change the character of education. Teachers, with an expert knowledge

of practical agriculture, who can translate successfully theories into action, who can infuse confidence into the village folk, and who can train the youth into ideal farmers, are required for the purpose. The village schools should be equipped with gardens or farms on which teaching by illustration would prove far more beneficial than teaching in the abstract. The system that is adopted in America, of organising school exhibitions called fairs and clubs is a very practical step that has to be taken into consideration. There are the corn clubs where boys are encouraged to pick out particular ears of corn in their father's fields which ears were destined by virtue of their exceptional quality, to become progenitors of pedigree seeds. School fairs are intended to encourage specialization. The children are invited to attend the periodical fairs in which products of their private plant raising are shown, judged and awarded prizes according to their several merits. The grain-grower's guide, referring to the live-stock clubs, speaks of them thus: "These clubs have excited no end of interest among older exhibitors and fair visitors and have created a vast amount of enthusiasm, not only among the boy contestants but outsiders as well. They have proved instructive and have had the effect of identifying the boys with a practical, useful, and fundamental phase of live-stock improvement. They are educational to an extent scarcely foreseen by those who originated the plan. . . . The organization of these clubs and their progress creates a great deal of local pride and co-operation. It proves a splendid publicity movement."

Besides the improvement of elementary schools, with an agricultural outlook and training manned by an efficient staff which, if organized now, would take at least a decade to fructify, the propagation of agricultural knowledge among the adult ryots is an imminent necessity. The practical side of improved agriculture has to

be soaked into the ryot day in and day out. The futility of classes, lectures, articles and books is plain enough. Individual instruction, heart to heart talk, and solutions to questions on the spot, change the mentality of the ryot. In the Continental countries and in America, the system of Country Agent or Agricultural Representative is introduced, by which each individual ryot is closely brought into touch with expert instructors who act as guides, philosophers and friends in the several branches of corn, bee-keeping, poultry, plant-growing, dairying, etc. From this it may easily be gauged how far the system of demonstrators in this province has worked to the betterment of the ryot. The spirit of red-tapeism, the superiority complex of the officials, and the lack of personal touch with the ryot population stand in the way of rapid agricultural improvement. The system of transfers and the policy of retrenchment naturally prevent uniformity and continuity in the spread of agricultural demonstrations. Further, experts in every branch are required to probe fully into each subject and enlighten the villagers on the adaptation of new methods suited to their requirements.

Lastly, the universities and high schools are the ultimate repositories of all systematic education in agriculture. In high schools agriculture may be made an optional subject, and every encouragement by way of endowments, donations, and prizes should be given to push on its study. The present drawback appears to be a lack of co-ordination between the University and Agricultural Department. The subject of agriculture ought to be made attractive and capable of fruitful employment, as for instance, by the Government granting small plots of land to the students, supplying them with the necessary capital, and awarding prizes for meritorious results. The plan of the United Provinces Government is full of potentialities, which may be given a fair trial in our Presidency. After all, success ultimately depends upon the sympathetic nurturing of the agricultural cult.

## Rasputin: the 'Holy Devil' of Russia

BY MR. K. V. MATHEW, M.A., LL.B.

IN the history of human thought many people are remembered for their ennobling sacrifices. But persons who assumed the garb of saintliness to lead lascivious lives and yet venerated are not rare. Most conspicuous among them is the sensual prophet Rasputin of Russia, who was regarded as a saint by many of his contemporaries but was universally denounced as a mean scoundrel after his death.

'Without repentance you cannot be saved. How can you sincerely repent unless you have sinned? Therefore sin, repent and be saved.'

That was the substance of the teaching with which Rasputin the 'Rascal Monk of the 20th century' ensnared thousands of his credulous countrymen into a life of sin and licentiousness.

Nearly 18 years have elapsed since he was murdered. Yet the secret of his weird influence remains as inexplicable as ever. Truly has he been described an enigma, a dual personality whose-like the world has never seen and may never see again.

In appearance he was lean yet imposing, dressed in a flowing garment with long straight hair. His face was rather emaciated and he had a pair of strange colourless eyes which cast its piercing look all around until the object of his hypnotic gaze, fascinated and attracted, deprived of all power to resist, succumbed a helpless victim to his desires. If he had the look of a holy man, it betrayed the horror of a witch as well. Cleanliness he never considered a virtue. Though always drunk to the full, no jovial remarks escaped from his thin meditative lips. He was ever serious, serious in his drink, serious in his teachings, serious in his lewdness alike. Yet strange to say he passed off for a popular saint whom many people actually worshipped.

Rasputin in Russian means the 'Dissolute'. But report goes that he derived his name from the name of his native village Rasputie which means 'a place leading to several ways'. Born

of poor parents in 1873, he joined the theological seminary of his native village early enough. But his over-topping precocious genius soon brought him into trouble. Theology was useful to him only to rationalise and to advocate the cause of his sensual orgies to the acceptance of the female folk of Russia. For the early traits of his promising immorality, Gregory Rasputin was declared a scapegrace and turned out of the institution. Thereafter, left to his own wanton resources, he gathered followers like himself and embarked upon a regular crusade against all prevailing ideas of religion and morality. The part he and his companions played in shaping the destiny of the Tsar family and the Russian Empire is too well known to need any reference here.

That he possessed certain supernatural gifts cannot be denied. His prophecy that his death would be followed by the downfall of the Royal family proved too true to be disputed. Slowly his fame as a saint and a miracle worker, who could heal people by the mere touch, spread all over the country. No wonder Tsar Nicholas and his German wife Alexandra Feovodorovna, of St. Petersburg, were only too glad to admit into their household his long procession of saints which included Phillippe, a French gaol-bird; Koliba, an epileptic idiot; and Ossipova, an imbecile, among many others. On account of the Gallic law, anxious for a male child, she gave encouragement to all. The birth of the longed-for heir Duke Alexios, after four daughters in succession, in 1904 was celebrated with great pomp.

This delicate child was suffering from an incurable disease, Haemophilia. So dreadful it was that for hours together the child used to roll in its bed with pain and the whole family spent many a sleepless night by its side. Doctors of great renown all over Russia could do nothing to cure the child which they gave

up as lost. But at times when the child was writhing under extreme agony, Rasputin, by his mere presence, could give it perfect relief. No wonder he was in great demand at the palace and he became the family 'favourite'.

About his very first appearance, it is said that the nurse who conducted him into the palace, forgot her mission and stood gazing at him so enraptured that she lost all her self-control. In spite of his untidy appearance, many women in Russia at one time or other considered themselves all sanctified by his holy contact. He was so dear that long processions used to wait upon him to escort him into their household. When Rasputin was away, even the Queen fell badly out of temper and the 'King preferred Rasputin to scenes of hysteria'.

Towards the close of the Tsar regime, he became so powerful that his word was law. Wantonness was his rule and to command everyone, his prerogative. In the name of

religion, he betrayed women both high and low without anyone to question him. In spite of his illiteracy, he was clever and cautious and it required the utmost strategy by the conspirators, of which Prince Dimitri was the head, to get rid of him. Different versions are given about the manner of his death. But the one generally accepted seems to be that Prince Yusupov got him heavily drunk at a dinner held at a place on the outskirts of Petrograd and taking him out shot him and his body was hidden in the ice.

Following his death, one after another members of the Royal family were butchered and his prognostications all justified themselves. For several days his death was kept a secret. When the manner of his end was known, many people refused to believe that it was possible to kill him at all.

From the facts gathered about him, his life seems so incredible that it defies all accepted canons of human psychology.

## GUSTAV CASSEL

By MR. P. R. SRINIVASAN, M.A.

*Editor "The Indian Finance"*

GUSTAV CASSEL\* is an honoured name in economics. Though the value of the economic theories particularly associated with his name cannot be accurately estimated except in a longer perspective than is possible for any of his contemporaries, there can be no doubt for some long time to come economic thought will revolve round his favourite ideas, now in opposition, now in applause. For not only the character of his thought but the course of current economic history has served to invest his ideas with a paramount importance. It has often been

suggested that his theories, and notably the theory of the purchasing Power Parity are undue simplifications of essentially complex economic phenomena. But it is forgotten that that is a charge which you can lay at the door of every economic theory. The economist always finds himself between the devil of undue simplification bordering on a commonplace and the deep sea of delineation of detail, which means only a series of hypotheses which take us farther away from useful or intelligible generalisation. The practical value of the theory of Purchasing Power Parity lies in its refutation of the comfortable belief, rampant in the post-War period,

that the exchanges can be manipulated to the permanent advantage or disadvantage of any country. Its essential validity, no one questions. Its accuracy no one need exaggerate. Nor can here be any question of its value as a working basis for determining the external value of a currency. It has justified itself by elucidating a knot of embarrassing questions regarding the exchanges.

Great as is the work of Professor Cassel in the field of pure economics, his name will rest mainly on his service in combating, however vainly, the wave of deflation which followed the restoration of European currencies in the post-War period. Like Mr. Keynes in the sphere of a number of economic and political problems, Prof. Cassel is now a Cassandra in relation to the Depression which started in 1929. From the earliest international monetary conference in the post-War period, he has uttered a distinct warning against the dangers of deflation. He laboured hard to clarify historically the relation between the production of the precious metals and the rate of economic progress. It may be that more careful researches might show his estimate of the rate of economic progress at 3 per cent. per annum to be another case of undue simplification. But there is no denying the fact that he was the first to popularise the idea that it is absurd for civilised humanity to subject its economic fortunes to the vagaries inseparable from the production of one mineral. And it is a significant fact that, while the monetary conferences of Genoa and Brussels were ready to give the sanction of international opinion to the movement for combating the shortage of gold, no such wide-spread support or response was forthcoming for Prof. Cassel's demand that the rot in prices should be arrested and the deflationary movement reversed.

The monetary theory of the depression is now generally recognised to be one-sided. And

it may be said that Prof. Cassel has tried to assign to the monetary factors more responsibility than belongs to them for the depression. But nobody has proved to the satisfaction of an impartial man that a concerted inflationary movement would not have lessened the severity of the depression. At any rate, the wiseacres who ruled over the realms of international finance will be hard put to it to defend the deflationary policies which they pursued in the face of unequivocal advice from competent authorities like Prof. Cassel or Mr. Keynes.

There is a touch of sadness in the latest writings of the eminent Swedish economist, as has inevitably hardened in the attitude which prompted him to give up in sheer despair the idea of even appending a convincing minute of dissent to the Second Report of Gold Delegation. But he has not altogether ceased to plead for the stand-point for which he has all along stood.

The retirement of such a prophet from the professorial chair he has occupied so long is fittingly celebrated by the most eminent among his co-workers with a volume rich in the best and the latest in modern economic thought. Needless to say, the writers are drawn from all nations; and to those who know only English among the European languages, it is a pity that many, though by no means the majority, of the essays are in French and German. And one can, therefore, better appreciate the courtesy of the Swedish economists in submitting their contributions in English instead of their own vernacular.

In the short compass of this article, it is manifestly impossible to indicate the main conclusions of each essay, not to speak of a general summary. And it will be easily appreciated that essays bearing on so many different problems of modern economics do not

\* ECONOMIC ESSAYS IN HONOUR OF GUSTAV CASSEL. By Fifty leading Economists. Allen and Unwin, Ltd. Pages 720. Price 30 Shillings net.

lend themselves to a running survey or comment. One might even wish that the volume had been planned with an eye to unity. But it should not be difficult to see how such a plan was ruled out by those in charge of the work.

The casual reader of the volume in honour of Gustav Cassel will, no doubt, be struck with the progress that has been made in the classification of method in economic enquiry. Economists to-day are more conscious than ever of the mistakes and misconceptions that have crept in as a result of foggy ideas regarding the relation of economics to life as such. They are conscious of the hiatus between theoretical analysis and the facts of economic life, the inaccuracy of available statistics and the exact nature of the pitfalls in their application. Modern economics rests largely on the intelligent combination of refined theoretical analysis and the technique of interpretation of statistics. Almost every essay bears witness to the improvement in this regard.

Amidst the baffling variety of the subject matter we might for purposes of this review pick out a group of essays which have a semblance of unity, inasmuch as they have a direct bearing on the problems presented by the depression. There is the opening essay of Johan Akerman of the University of Lund on "Saving in the Depression" which inclines to the non-monetary theories of the depression and expresses a frank disavowal of the views of Cassel. But James Angell of the Columbia University avers that "proper manipulation of the monetary and financial mechanism can be made to produce a reasonable degree of stability in general business conditions". And he has increased the chances of its general acceptability by pointing out that, though excessive contraction of the supply of bank credit cannot be rectified by central bank action alone, "over-contraction can be largely prevented through

the prevention of prior over-expansion". Mr. Angell lays emphasis on the need for reducing the element of accident and for long range objectives in public policy. And this takes us to the idea of the composite commodity-currency, which is examined by Mr. J. M. Clark and which is invested with an unparalleled importance in the politics of current economy by Mr. Roosevelt's monetary experiments. Mr. Clark inclines to the view that the possible benefits of this currency are of a different and lesser sort than those claimed and that they are balanced by uncertainties and positive dangers, so that the large and certain costs may deter us from adopting it. Less directly connected with the depression than those mentioned above but with unquestionable bearing on it, is the essay on "Economic Theory and Unemployment" in which Mr. Graham of Geneva lends confirmation to the views propounded by Professor Pigou in his *Theory of Unemployment*. From all this, it is a relief to turn to the examination of the relation between economic theory and human liberty in which Prof. Gregory comes to the conclusion, which is incontestably true that the problem of individualism *versus* a more or less egalitarian economics is in the last analysis a choice of values with no standards of objective judgment. Most people bemoan the fact that the crucial issue of modern civilization, namely, individuals *versus* socialism is to be decided by a show of hands. To realise that it is just in the fitness of things would be to pave the way for bloodless reform out of the free choice of the individuals concerned.

The volume under review is a mine of variegated wealth, which one might exploit according to one's fancy and is thus worth the careful study of every one anxious to regard one's self as a student of economics.

# INDIAN AFFAIRS

BY "AN INDIAN JOURNALIST"

## H. E. Lord Willingdon's Speech

LORD WILLINGDON, who has been in closest touch with affairs in India, must certainly know the mind of this country much better than retired Pro-Consuls and politicians at home with axes to grind. His Excellency therefore did well to stress his view of the Indian situation at Edinburgh with an emphasis and authority justified by his position and intimate knowledge of conditions in India. Lord Willingdon knew the audience he was addressing and the wary and almost defensive attitude he took up was possibly dictated by the exigencies of the occasion. He praised the loyalty of the Princes and people of India to the British Crown and pleaded with them that "their aspirations be dealt with in a spirit of real sympathy and friendship". "If that was done," concluded His Excellency, "India would in future prove to be, as in the past, a source of strength and security to our great Commonwealth of Nations." As Mr. Lausbury has emphasized in his statement of Labour's Indian policy:

All who speak for Britain, from the King to Lord Willingdon, have again and again pledged the British Parliament to grant full Dominion Status to India and to make her an equal partner of the British Commonwealth of Nations. We of the Labour Party have agreed with this.

But what is more to the purpose is that this Dominion Status is no longer to be treated as a pious wish to be realised in a far distant future but a thing to be immediately attained. Then, will England have fulfilled His Excellency's claim that Britain had been working for a century to develop in the minds and character of Indians the spirit of responsibility which, in due course, will fit them to undertake the full powers of administration of their own affairs.

That time, we say, has now come and it is up to England to make good her oft-repeated declarations and pledges.

## Anti-Indian Law in Zanzibar

The Indian Settlement in Zanzibar is as old as that of the Arabs. Our countrymen in that colony have prospered and settled themselves securely in their new home casting their lot with their neighbours—Arabs and Africans. Only last year Arabs and Indians in meeting assembled put in a joint plea for a revision of the Constitution asking

for a further advance in the Constitution of the Legislative Council by introducing the principle of election to the same with adequate representation for all communities in the absence of which the interests of the public suffer.

The new ordinances, so drastic in their features and so suddenly sprung upon the unsuspecting Indians, undoubtedly savour of discrimination against our countrymen. And the National Indian Association has lost no time in urging the Government of India to intervene. The Bills, we are told, have already passed the second reading and one wonders why things should be rushed in such indecent haste. One result of these ordinances, besides putting Indian traders at a disadvantage, will be to create bitterness between them and the Arab and African communities—communities with whom our countrymen have been living in perfect cordiality. This is the greatest mistake that could have been made, for there could be no peace where this communal ill-feeling is once aroused, and we therefore welcome Mr. Bajpai's assurance to the Assembly the other day that the Government of India would take steps to safeguard the legitimate rights of Indians in Zanzibar.

## Sir Prabhaskar's Scheme

In the debt redemption scheme which Bhavnagar is carrying out at the instance of the veteran statesman, Sir Prabhaskar Pattani, we have the example of a great and stupendous work carried out by persistent effort and untiring zeal. Only the inspiring lead and generous

enthusiasm of one of Sir Prabhaskar's foresight and devotion to his people could have made headway with a scheme so far reaching in its effects yet so beset with difficulties. Writing from London, Sir Prabhaskar observed in a communication to his officials:

If the Kheduts are contumacious it is because of their ignorance; if the Sowcars are uncompromising oppositlonists, it is because of their selfishness; if uninformed friends who ought to know better, criticise the good work we have taken in hand, it can be because their friendship may be of a character which cannot be called true friendship. All eyes are on us. On our success depends the future state of India. Small though the State is and insignificant therefore the enterprise in one corner of the large Continent, it has the seeds which, if they sprout into plants, will open many eyes and many well intentioned rulers and officers will welcome the experiment and imitate it. I shall not be sorry even for the failure, for it would be failure in a good cause.

That was the spirit in which the scheme, which has already borne excellent fruit, was conceived and executed. The Report published by the Commissioner shows what success has so far been achieved and how the peasantry has been rescued from the clutches of indebtedness and is now in a fair way to become a strong self-reliant unit in the State. The problem of rural indebtedness is being solved before our very eyes in Bhavnagar, and the example of a progressive peasantry making for a healthy village community cannot but be stimulating to their neighbours in British India.

#### The New Vice-Chancellor of Calcutta

We congratulate Mr. Shyamaprasad Mukherjee on his appointment as Vice-Chancellor of the Calcutta University. Mr. Shyamaprasad is perhaps the youngest Vice-Chancellor of any University being only thirty-three, but he has already shown proofs of inheriting some of the vigorous qualities of his illustrious father. Hence the general satisfaction over his appointment to an office of which the late Sir Asutosh was such a distinguished ornament. There are many problems awaiting the immediate attention of the University, and the talent and energy of the young Vice-Chancellor will be fully exercised in tackling them. We have no doubt Mr. Shyamaprasad will prove equal to his opportunity.

#### The Controversy among Scientists

Sir Visveswaraya, presiding over the second meeting of the new Academy of Sciences in Bangalore, took a very charitable view of the controversy between the North and the South, between the scientists of Bengal and the scientists of Bangalore. In the interest of science and the reputation of the persons concerned, we wish we could say with the great Mysore statesman that "it was evidently a sign of emulation and enthusiasm between two groups of scientists in their desire to advance a good and great cause". With him too we plead for that union of head and heart between all scientists which alone can make for success. For there could be no surplus scientific talent in the country: "If they were divided they would be scattering their force; but uniting they could conquer all obstacles and make the academy a great success."

#### A Plea for Practical Science

Sir Visveswaraya is evidently gratified at the success Indian scientists have achieved in the sphere of pure science and theoretical researches. But he urged them to take a broader and practical view of things. Pure science without practical application is as futile as aspiration without effort. Europe and America have made great headway, just because scientists there realise the enormous possibilities of applying theory to practice. Abstract science of itself could do little to alleviate human suffering or redress human wants unless it is yoked to the practical arts. In Japan as in America, efforts are made by the universities to stimulate investigations in industry and commerce—knowledge that can always be transmuted into practical power. "It seems a pity," said Sir Visveswaraya, "that so much marketable energy and talent is being spent on theoretical science, while comparatively little is done for industries and constructional engineering, which would help to give employment and bread to the people." This is an aspect of the problem that deserves the special attention of Government and university authorities all over the country.

#### The Colonisation Report.

In another page Mr. Kodanda Rao, who was with the Rt. Hon. Sastri in South Africa, draws pointed attention to the fact that

no scheme of emigration promoted by the South African Government in order to reduce the Indian population in South Africa has any claim on the co-operation of the Government or the people of India.

From the first, Indian opinion both in South Africa and in this country has been definitely against any scheme whereby domiciled Indians could be repatriated to this country or lured abroad. They mean to stick to the land they have made their home and they claim all rights of equal citizenship where they are. And now the Report of the Colonisation Committee offers no satisfying reasons why they should shift. Even according to their findings, the three Colonies selected are

not altogether congenial to Indian occupation, and insult is added to injury when it is proclaimed:

It is too late in the day for India to become a competitor in colonisation with Western Powers in the more settled parts of the world and, therefore, the appropriate field for Indian colonisation must be sought in countries which, to a great extent, are still in a primitive state.

It means as Sir Kurma Reddi, ex-Agent-General to the Government of India in South Africa and now Law Member of the Government of Madras, shrewdly observes:

They are entitled to occupy those countries to the complete exclusion of others, even if their own population is not more than three or four per square mile and even if there are vast expanses of land requiring to be developed and even though such lands can be developed only from labour drawn from other countries. Italy and China have repudiated this claim. India may not be able to do so at present but the time may come when after receiving Dominion Status, she may be able to put forward claims similar to those of Italy.

This is not a position to which self-respecting Indians can subscribe.

## WORLD EVENTS

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

#### HITLER AND MUSSOLINI

THOUGH they were enemies in the Great War, yet the similarity of their present form of government is drawing together the two countries of Italy and Germany; their rapprochement may mean the isolation of France, and may also sow the seeds of future trouble in Central Europe. Be that as it may, the friendship and closest co-operation of responsible statesmen is a big factor in preserving peace among the nations. The German Chancellor—Herr Hitler—has paid a visit to Signor Mussolini, and the conversations were conducted on Italian soil; the talks have not been made public, but an inspired announcement has been made which shows something of what transpired at the meeting.

A better understanding has been arrived at between Germany and Italy; evidently Mussolini advised Hitler to go slow in connection with

Austria; both countries are anxious to build up trade connections with the Danubian States, and an understanding was reached in that connection. Monetary problems, disarmament deadlock, Germany and the League of Nations were probably subjects of the conversation.

#### CHINA AND DEPRESSION

Last month I took occasion to comment on the report on Chinese affairs by the League of Nations' expert—Dr. Rajchman. The *Economist* of London has recently issued a most informing Supplement on China and the Depression, being the report and findings of a special enquiry conducted by the famous British Economist, Sir Arthur Salter, on the invitation of the Chinese Government. The Report starts off with this statement:

China is now suffering from a severe economic depression, due partly to the reactions of the world depression and partly to certain factors in her internal political situation and her external relations.

China's troubles can be divided into two main classes: monetary and political, and both of these causes are dealt with at length in the Report. Another problem is the huge population which is vainly trying to eke out an insufficient existence by agriculture and the backwardness of industrial development. Sir Arthur stresses the necessity of a more rapid industrialisation to relieve the pressure on the land. To do this, the country needs more railways and better roads. As a summary on Industrialisation, the Report says:

1. The greatest part of China's industrial development for some time to come should consist in the encouragement and extension of industries for the home market.

2. Export industries should be limited to those in which China has special advantages.

3. Industries requiring a relatively small capital investment are preferable to those requiring a large capital plant.

4. Industries should for the most part be built first upon China's agricultural production and mineral resources.

China is troubled financially by the vagaries of her silver standard and her adverse balance of trade, resulting in an export of silver on trade account. She needs a gradual industrialisation, but more particularly a greater increase of agricultural production per unit of land. A great increase is urgently needed in railways and road service. Economic planning and civil law and order are absolutely requisite to progress in China.

#### SHIPPING SUBSIDY

One effect of the trade depression is the falling off of sea-borne exchange of goods which interferes considerably with the shipping business. For a long time some countries have given subsidies to their shipping companies to enable them to engage in the carrying trade and to compete with other more favoured countries. But the British Government have stood out against that practice, believing that the shipping companies should be able to finance themselves. And British shipping has been able to do that until the last year or two. But now the loss of trade and the increased costs have hit British

shipping badly, so much that they cannot continue without some outside financial help.

After much study and long negotiations, the British House of Commons has recently passed a measure granting a subsidy not to exceed £2,000,000 for one year for the relief of British tramp shipping, which has suffered much from subsidised foreign shipping competition. The President of the Board of Trade, Mr. Runciman, said that the sea-borne trade of Britain had fallen off by one-third since 1923, and a subsidy could only be given on condition that shipowners worked out a scheme preventing undue domestic competition and guaranteeing greater use of British tramp shipping in preference to foreign subsidised shipping.

#### SOCIAL SERVICES

A comparison of Government budgets to-day with what they were fifty years ago reveals that we have made great progress in the matter of providing for what are called the social services. Mr. Lloyd George years ago imported some social ideas from Germany; Australia took them from Britain, and now America is beginning to organise State relief along the lines of social services. Perhaps Australia has gone ahead more and is spending a larger sum each year for her population than any other country. Australia's population is less than 7 millions, and yet the several States spent in 1931-32 not less than £20,587,000 or £3.3 per head for the social services. The Commonwealth Government spends on the average in a year for old age and invalid pensions the large amount of £12 millions. Unemployment relief in 1931-32 amounted to over £10 millions. The following table is quite illuminating in this respect:

| State.                | Total<br>Expenditure. | Expenditure<br>a head of<br>population. |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------------------|
|                       | £                     | £. s. d.                                |
| New South Wales ...   | 9,381,000             | 3 13 0                                  |
| Victoria ...          | 4,698,000             | 2 11 10                                 |
| Queensland ...        | 2,820,703             | 3 0 7                                   |
| South Australia ...   | 1,810,000             | 3 2 9                                   |
| Western Australia ... | 1,308,000             | 3 0 4                                   |
| Tasmania ...          | 597,000               | 2 12 10                                 |

#### GERMAN DEBTS QUESTION

There was likely to be bad feeling and possibly more trade nationalism if Germany had persisted in her moratorium on the payment of debts. Britain took quick action in saying that if the debts were not paid, reprisals would be taken on German goods entering Great Britain through a Clearing House arrangement. The German Government threatened a counter-move, but there was not much point to it, because of the fact that Britain is one of Germany's best foreign markets. A conference was called, and at the conclusion it was stated that an agreement on the debt question had been reached which was acceptable to both parties. That is excellent news, and relieves the situation a great deal. America is now troubled about her position and is demanding similar treatment. Possibly other creditors will also make the same demands, so that probably Britain's prompt action has saved the situation and been of advantage to others as well as herself; it has likewise saved Germany from further misunderstanding and more bad feelings.

#### U. S. SILVER POLICY

The promoters of bimetalism and the silver party in American politics have won a victory in getting the President to advocate the use of silver for monetary purposes and to pass the necessary legislation to that effect. A Bill has been passed by Congress allowing 25 per cent. of silver with 75 per cent. of gold as the metallic cover for the issue of the U. S. paper currency. The Government is now purchasing silver in America to carry out that policy at 50 cents an ounce; that will force up the price of silver in America and benefit the producers and dealers in the metal there, but foreign silver imports are to be prohibited which have a lower selling price. China may benefit to some extent, but one fails to see how this new policy is going to benefit either trade or the monetary situation in the rest of the world.

This policy has been tried before and has not succeeded; there are two or three difficulties in the way which seem to be insurmountable; they are: the international control of the production of silver, the international agreement as to the ratio between gold and silver, and the further question of this policy promoting a currency debasement leading to inflation. If these difficulties could be overcome, and say half a dozen of the leading nations would agree to work bimetalism, there would be some chance of its succeeding, but not otherwise; for one country, even such a nation as America, to try it alone means taking a great risk.

#### KEYNES ON AMERICA

Mr. J. M. Keynes of Cambridge has recently been visiting the United States with his eyes open; he has been writing to the *Times* on his return and telling what he thinks about "The New Deal". On the whole he has been favourably impressed; he favours spending large sums on capital expenditure to relieve unemployment which, in turn, will help to bring about a business revival, but he urges the Administration to be sure to have normal enterprise and trade recovery take the place of all emergency programmes as quickly as possible.

#### SOUTH AFRICAN LOYALTY

One would have expected disaffection and open hostility to the British connection to have lasted for a long time in South Africa after the experiences of the Boer War; but it is remarkable how one patriot after another has been won over to accept and to preach the continuance of connection with Great Britain. General Smuts was an ardent critic of the British connection at one time; General Hertzog was a strong nationalist at another time, and yet we find now both of those men advocating strongly the advantages to South Africa of retaining the British connection.

# Trade and Finance

By "SRIVAS"

## GILTEDGE AFTER THE LOAN

IT is significant that while the last Review of trade and finance was written soon after the close of the new loan, and the extremely bearish conditions of the giltedge market, there is now a buoyant, bullish sentiment after nearly a fortnight of rise in prices. In the third week of last month at the time the last Review was written,  $3\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. paper quoted only Rs. 87-14. But it has now touched Rs. 89-8; and  $3\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. new loan which was quoted Rs. 98-6 is now over the level of Rs. 99-4. Four per cent. 1960-70 has gone up from Rs. 103-5 to Rs. 105-7. One of the circumstances obviously helpful to the rise in giltedge prices in India is the improvement in sterling loans which are strong even at the time of writing. Three and half per cent. Indian stock has gone up from £90-7 to £92 during this period. Other scrips show a corresponding advance. It can easily be guessed from this that those who had acted on the assumption that after the closing of the loan, prices must be on a downward trend, find themselves sadly mistaken and have now to reap the consequences of the blunder, which in the face of unanimous expert opinion in favour of strong giltedge must be pronounced to be almost perverse.

## RESUMPTION OF TREASURIES

It is interesting to enquire into causes that have brought about this rise in giltedge prices and the possible trends in the near future. The state of India's stocks in the London market has already been mentioned. Within the country what has perhaps been most helpful to a rise in giltedge is the decision of the Government not to hurry the resumption of sales of treasury

bills. Normally, one would expect sales of treasury bills to be announced in the week following the closing of the list for the new loan. If treasury bills had been resumed, then it is not as if the Government would have suffered from a surfeit of funds. But there was the consideration that delay in the sales of treasury bills would accentuate the ease in the money market which would in turn reflect itself in the state of giltedge prices. It is not to be supposed that on these grounds there was a case for indefinite postponement. At the time of writing we have had one week of sales of treasury bills and the results of the auctions show that the Government are in a position, so far at least as the present is concerned, to get their short-term money at a rate of less than Rs. 0-13 0 per cent. Obviously, conditions like these cannot continue for long; and the market is bound to hold out for higher rates. And within a fortnight one should not be surprised to see the level of Re. 1. per cent. being reached.

## FUTURE OF GILTEDGE

But what matters is that in this week the rate was only Rs. 0-12-6 per cent. and that for some time inordinately low rates of discounts prevailed. In the face of such money conditions, the sentiment is that the giltedge market is bound to be bullish. Add to these the circumstance that when the bear raid was at its worst, the market built up an oversold position, which is far from being liquidated in full now. In the course of a few days the Government would be paying off nearly Rs. 15 crores towards the unconverted portion of the 1934 and 1934-37 loans. Giltedge being the only avenue of investment, the pressure of such a large amount

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will mean the rise of Re. 1 or Rs. 2 in giltedge prices. With the bears covering and with the non-co-operators of the loan bidding for scrips, there is bound to be a very lively and soaring giltedge market.

## THE STEEL REPORT

Outside the world of finance, the most important development of the period under review is the publication of the report of the Tariff Board on the question of protection to the Indian iron and steel industry. Generally speaking, the Board has found that the scheme of protection devised by the Tariff Board in 1926 has been successful in the face of tremendously adverse circumstances; that the Tata Iron and Steel Company have reduced costs to the level anticipated by the Board, in some cases even to lower levels; that on all articles sold by the Steel Company in direct competition with British imports, either no protective duties are required at all or, if any are required, the rates are lower than normal rates of revenue duty. It will be seen from this that the Tariff Board came to the conclusion that protection in present conditions is required only against Continental goods, and even in the case of Continental goods, they state that, if full economic price is charged, the Indian industry will be able to stand the competition from the Continental manufacturers, with no more aid than what is afforded by the normal rates of revenue duties. In coming to this conclusion, the Board note not only what has been so far achieved by the Company in respect of production and costs, but also the economies that can be effected before long by improvement in the open hearth which is the weakest point and also by economies in fuelling. The element of time inevitable in the realisation of such economies is provided for in the calculations of a fair selling price by working an arithmetical average for the period of years for which the present protective scheme is now recommended.

The following table extracted from the Report shows the rates of duty recommended by the Board in 1926, the specific rates now in force and the duties recommended by the Board as the result of their present enquiry:—

|                             | Duties recommended by the Board in 1926. | Existing specific duties. | Present estimated duties. |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
|                             | Rs. per ton.                             | Rs. per ton.              | Rs. per ton.              |
| Rails                       | ... 13                                   | 16 $\frac{1}{4}$          | Nil                       |
| Flsh-plates                 | ... 6                                    | 7 $\frac{1}{2}$           | Nil                       |
| Structurals—                |                                          |                           |                           |
| (1) United Kingdom (tested) | ... 19                                   | 23 $\frac{3}{4}$          | Nil                       |
| (2) Continental (untested)  | ... 30                                   | 37 $\frac{1}{2}$          | 43                        |
| Bars—                       |                                          |                           |                           |
| (1) United Kingdom (tested) | ... 26                                   | 32 $\frac{1}{2}$          | 10                        |
| (2) Continental (untested)  | ... 37                                   | 46 $\frac{1}{4}$          | 39                        |
| Plates—                     |                                          |                           |                           |
| (1) United Kingdom (tested) | ... 20                                   | 25                        | Nil                       |
| (2) Continental (untested)  | ... 36                                   | 45                        | 25                        |
| Black Sheets—               |                                          |                           |                           |
| (1) United Kingdom (tested) | ... 35                                   | 43 $\frac{3}{4}$          | 11                        |
| (2) Continental (untested)  | ... 59                                   | 73 $\frac{3}{4}$          | 32                        |
| Galvanised Sheets—          |                                          |                           |                           |
| (1) United Kingdom (tested) | ... 38                                   | 53                        | 10                        |
| (2) Continental (untested)  | ... 38                                   | 83                        | 40                        |
| Sleepers                    | ... 10                                   | 12 $\frac{1}{2}$          | Nil                       |

It will be seen from this that in the case of most of the products, a removal of revenue duties has been recommended by the Tariff Board. There is a spirited protest in some quarters against what may be construed to be a transgression on the part of the Board of the limits of their domain. There is every reason to think that the Steel Protection Bill, which will shortly be before the Assembly, has been drawn up to embody the recommendations of the Board. Whether the Assembly will try to secure greater advantage over the industry is more than one can say at present.

# Diary of the Month

June 25. Gandhiji is bombed at but providentially escapes.  
 June 26. Gandhiji returns to Ahmedabad and is given a warm reception.  
 June 27. The Shah of Persia arrives at Istanbul and is given a great reception.  
 June 28. London presents the Freedom of the City to Lord and Lady Willingdon.  
 June 29. Zaro Agha the 160 year old man of Istanbul is dead.  
 June 30. Gandhiji visits his old Satyagraha (now Harijan) Ashram at Sabarmati.



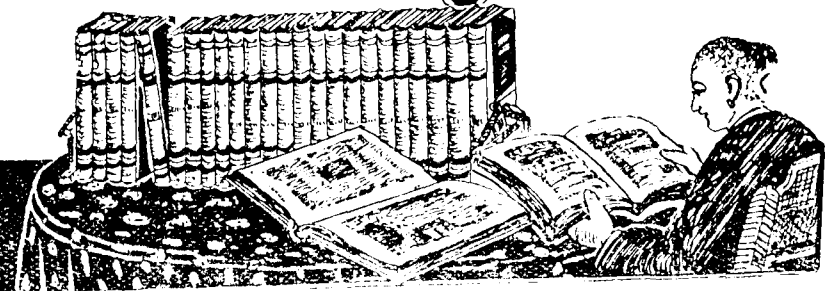
THE RT. HON. SIR SHADI LAL

July 1. Sir Shadi Lal assumes the office of Privy Councillorship in London.  
 July 2. Ex-Chancellor General von Scheleicher of Germany is shot dead.  
 July 3. Britain and Germany reach an agreement with regard to debt negotiations.  
 July 4. Mr. N. R. Sarkar is elected Mayor of Calcutta Corporation.

July 5. Admiral Okada becomes the Premier of Japan.  
 July 6. Herr von Papen is exonerated. He continues in the Cabinet.  
 July 7. Mr. M. Vissanji resigns the president-ship of the Indian Merchants' Chamber, Bombay.  
 July 8. King Leopold of Belgium becomes virtually the Dictator.  
 July 9. The Conference of Ministers and Directors of Industries meet at Simla under the presidency of Sir Frank Noyce.  
 July 10. The Begum and Nawab of Bhopal entertain Lord and Lady Willingdon at Hyde Park Hotel, London.  
 July 11. Mammoth meeting in Bombay condemns anti-Indian Legislation in Zanzibar.  
 July 12. The Tariff Board Report on Iron and Steel industry is published.  
 July 13. Britain and Japan sign a Commercial agreement.  
 July 14. Mr. K. F. Nariman is elected President of the Congress Reception Committee.  
 July 15. The final Session of the Assembly commences at Simla.  
 July 16. The German Himalayan Expedition meets with disaster.  
 July 17. H. M. the King opens the new Central Library at Manchester.  
 July 18. Dr. Rabindranath Tagore meets Gandhiji at Calcutta.  
 July 19. The American general strike has been called off.  
 July 20. H. H. Aga Khan and Mr. Polak urge representation against anti-Indian legislation in Zanzibar.  
 July 21. Gandhiji lays the foundation-stone of Children's Wing of Chittaranjan Seva Sadan at Calcutta.  
 July 22. An Island disappears as the result of an earthquake in Panama Canal zone.  
 July 23. The Assembly passes the Bill for extending the operation of the Bengal Criminal Law Amendment Act.  
 July 24. Mahatma Gandhi opens the Cawnpore "Tilak Bhawan".  
 July 25. The Indian Steel and Iron Duties Bill to give effect to the Tariff Board's recommendations is introduced in the Assembly.



## THE WORLD BOOKS



THE PRIVATE LETTER-BOOKS OF JOSEPH COLLET. EDITED by H. H. Dodwell, M.A. Longmans Green & Co.

Joseph Collet was a servant of the English East India Company which appointed him Deputy Governor of Bencoolen in 1711. In Sumatra, where he bore up wonderfully against the influences of the climate and the people alike, he built Fort Marlborough and contrived to render the settlements in the Island more prosperous and orderly than they had ever been before. His appreciative masters promoted him to be Second in Council at Madras with the promise of reversion to its Governorship. He was the Governor of Fort St. George from 1717 to 1720. The important episodes during his Governorship have been detailed by H. D. Love in Vol. II of *Vestiges of Old Madras*, and by Professor Dodwell in the Introduction to this book. The latter details Collet's ancestry and the stages of his Eastern career as well as the manner in which his way of thought became less strait-laced and more secularised by his stay in the East. We learn how he dabbled in theological problems and was interested in problems of missions and education. The judgment of Dodwell upon his Madras career is that he fell into line with men like Pitt and Harrison, his predecessors, though he was more pious than them and laid, along with them, the foundations of the Empire that Clive and others were to build.

ESSENTIALS IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF RELIGION. By J. E. Turner. George Allen and Unwin, London. Price 12s. 6d.

The outstanding merit of this book, the latest addition to the Library of Philosophy under the general editorship of Professor Muirhead, is its comprehensive view of religion and religious development. Dr. Turner defines religion as the explicit wholeness of response on the part of humanity to the entire universe. And religious development is the progressive reorganization of the total content of human experience in its explicit wholeness. Thus science, art, ethics and social economy are only different aspects of religion, and therefore the development of religion must proceed *pari passu* with the advance of each of these. From this standpoint, the author surveys religious experience and traces its evolution from its primitive beginnings to the highest levels so far reached by man. And in doing so he presses into service the conclusions of modern psychology and the recent scientific discoveries. His chapters on Immortality, Knowledge and Fate, Authority and Tradition and Divine Personality are particulars interesting though somewhat unconnected. And he concludes his survey with a note of robust optimism that the universe we live in is neither alien to our spirit nor indifferent to our true interests but friendly to us in every way.

**THE DISCOVERY OF THE SELF: A Study in Psychological Cure.** By Elizabeth Severn. Rider, London. 7s. 6d. net.

This is an interesting volume on psycho-therapy. The author gives a clear account of psycho-analysis and notices its defects, principally two, *viz.*, the need for a complementary process of psycho-synthesis and the present non-recognition of physical diseases as largely due to psychical causes and curable by psychological methods. Some diseases are due to emotional violence done to the psyche at a very early age, the subject often not having been conscious of it even at the time; as the result of such violence the self is shot up and fragmented; the cure consists in tentatively throwing a bridge over to each fragment from the present and then re-assembling the whole self, as it were. The author does this through the employment of what she calls the "Direct Method" putting her patients in a trance, which is very like the dream-state except that the patient is free to speak and act. The results given are very interesting. So too the observations of the author, notably on "falling in love". "The assumption," she says, "that being in love is any security for the maintenance or happiness of a marriage is a fallacy."

**THE GOLDEN TREASURY OF INDIAN TALES.** By Arthur Duncan. Bharathi Publishing House, Bangalore City.

We have received a set of this new series of graded Readers for the young. They are all done in easy and simple style for the benefit of school children. Culled from the inexhaustible store-house of Indian epics and legends, the tales are familiar to old and young and are particularly attractive in their new setting. The books supply the one inevitable defect of English Readers for Indian children—the absence of homely sentiment and familiar scenes so invaluable in the teaching of the young.

**THE INTELLIGENT MAN'S WAY TO PREVENT WAR: A Symposium.** Victor Gollancz.

It is the special virtue of the volume under review that it examines the problems from all standpoints. Sir Norman Angell examines the more deep-rooted causes of the War malaise, such as the inherent tendency of sovereign nationalist states to come to a clash and the psychology of men, which makes international anarchy and war inevitable. Sir Norman Angell considers these psychological factors and the part which education must play in creating the psychology of peace. The other writers, barring Mr. Harold Laski, devote their attention to the more transient problems like the revision of the peace treaties, the problem of Russia and the League as a Road to Peace. By far the most important of these is the chapter contributed by Professor Gilbert Murray who contends perhaps to the surprise of many, that the work that remains to be done by way of revising the peace treaties is quite inconsiderable, inasmuch as the inherent impossibility of most of the provisions of the Treaty of Versailles has led to their virtual annulment.

Professor Laski's is, however, the most arresting contribution to the volume. Those who know the trend of his thought can guess that he sees only one escape from all the trouble and travail of our time, namely, the building up of a Socialist World State. It is incontestable that a comity of socialist States would be deprived of the impetus which capitalist imperialism has supplied for war during the last half century. Likewise economic equality and security would ultimately obliterate those unsocial instincts of the average individual, which have reduced human society alike in parochial, national and international spheres to a cockpit of varying magnitude. The Intelligent Man's Way to Prevent War is at once stimulating reading and the source of incalculable good to the human race.

**MODERN FRENCH SERIES.** By H. F. Collins, M.A. Messrs. Macmillan & Co., Ltd., London.

Mr. H. F. Collins, Headmaster of the High School for Boys, Chichester, has undertaken the general editorship of this modern series of School Readers in French. Three volumes of this new series, *viz.*, *Le Cryptogramme* by P. G. Wilson, *Le Tisserand et L'Enchanteur* by Maurice Farney, and *L'Île Fereor* by A. C. Smith, received by us show that the aim of the Series is to supply pupils learning English as their first language stories in French, which have proved highly popular with boys and girls in France. The Series has been graded in years to meet the syllabus requirements in English schools, and in addition to the French being clear, firm, modern and direct, there are exercises which can reasonably be tackled by the pupil. An English-French vocabulary has also been added to each volume. The Series may with benefit be used in Indian schools where French is taught.

**THE INDIAN YEAR BOOK, 1934-35.** EDITED by Sir Stanley Reed. Bennett Coleman & Co., Bombay. (G. A. Natesan & Co. Rs. 7-8.)

Yet another edition of this invaluable Year Book is on our table and we commend it for its complete and up-to-date statistics on all matters of interest to the public. There is welcome improvement in the last section containing copious and accurate information regarding a number of Indian princes and chiefs. This section is fully illustrated and is an attractive and useful addition to this hand-book of reference. The usual "Who's Who in India" giving brief accounts of leading personalities in the country covers over a hundred pages. The whole matter is well grouped under appropriate sections, and the convenience of arrangement leaves nothing to be desired as the copious index at the end of the book affords facility for easy reference.

**TRAVANCORE: A guide book for the visitor.** By Emily G. Hatch. Oxford University Press, Bombay.

Travancore is a beautiful country of hills and dales, which has been able to preserve many old customs and ancient heritages if only because she is shut off from the other parts of the country and has been happily free from their vicissitudes. There is a continuity of history and tradition as she has been ruled continuously for centuries by Hindu sovereigns. Mrs. Hatch has gathered together a great deal of information from old records and legends—information that is made available in a handy and attractive form in this guide book. Travancore and its environments, its arts and crafts, its history and antiquity, the beauty and variety of its scenery and the luxuriant growth of its vegetation, its warm climate and the natural gentleness of its happy people make it an attractive place to tour. The visitor will find in this book much to interest and guide him through this land of beautiful sites and scenes.

**FLOWER OFFERINGS.** By Prabhakar R. Kaikini. With a Foreword by Prof. A. Menezes, M.A. The Bombay Book Depot, Bombay.

"The pieces in this volume may not be 'poems'. But I challenge the most diehard of critics to say they are not poetry"—thus comments Prof. Menezes in his very interesting foreword to this book of prose-poems. Mr. Kaikini has doubtless taken Tagore as his spiritual master and has adopted the style and manner of the 'Gitanjali'. That is not to say that the book is an echo of the great poet's thoughts, for there is much in those poems which is peculiarly the writer's own—"that curious mixture of intensive faith and virginal shyness". The style is pleasant and flexible, and there is a wistfulness in the writer's treatment that is altogether attractive. We congratulate the young poet on his fine effort.

## Hyderabad

### NIZAM'S STATE CURRENCY

The circulation of H. E. H. the Nizam Government's Currency Note is increasing steadily, and the Government's review, on the working of the Paper Currency Department for the year ending October 1933, adds that since the commencement of the Note issue in 1927, the figures for the gross and net circulation have increased from Rs. 60 and Rs. 525 lakhs in the first year of issue to 11.5 crores and 10.18 crores respectively in the year under review.

Compared with the figures of issue in 1932, these show an increase of 1.1 per cent. and 13.8 per cent. respectively, while the average increase in gross circulation during the past 15 years has been at the rate of Rs. 73.68 lakhs per year.

The figures, as they stand, compare favourably with the total notes in circulation in British India which amounted to Rs. 1,796,559,000 on the 15th October 1933. These figures, when compared with the total population of the Hyderabad State and British India, show an average of Rs. 7.8 and Rs. 5 per head respectively. It is hoped that the average will continue to improve at least for some years to come. The Hyderabad Paper Currency is fully backed, as in British India, by Reserve in Silver Coin and Government of India Securities.

The statistics quoted indicate that as against the total Note issue of Rs. 11.05 crores, the Silver reserve amounts to Rs. 7.57 crores and investments in Government of India Securities, Rs. 3.50 crores.

### MILITARY SECRETARY TO H. E. H.

H. E. H. the Nizam has appointed Nawab Hamid Yar Jung Bahadur, Military Secretary. The Nawab is a son of the late General Sir Afsur-ul-mulk Bahadur, Chief Commander Hyderabad Regular Forces. He is reputed to be an experienced polo player in Hyderabad.

## Mysore

### THE LATE DOWAGER MAHARANI

We regret to record the death of the Maharani Dowager and mother of H. H. the Maharaja of Mysore. Though Her Highness had been bed-ridden for some time, her end was sudden and unexpected. She was 70 years at the time of her death. The whole of Mysore State is in mourning as Her Highness was, as a Correspondent says,

a great personality whose period of Regency for over ten years during the minority of H. H. the Maharaja Sri Krishnarajendra Wodeyar Bahadur was marked by a highly enlightened policy of administration under the able guidance of Dewan Sir K. Seshadri Aiyar. Many acts of public good and many works of public utility, which have conduced to the prosperity of Mysore, were all carried out under Her Highness's orders.

### SIR BASIL'S TRIBUTE TO MYSORE

The progress and prosperity of Mysore owes not a little to the personality of the Ruler whose birthday was recently celebrated with much éclat in his capital. *Reuter* reports that the occasion was also celebrated in London with a Dinner held under the chairmanship of the Trade Commissioner for Mysore in London, Mr. Ranganatha, when speeches were made eulogising the Maharaja's services to the State.

Sir Basil Blackett, proposing the health of the Maharaja, paid a warm tribute to the Maharaja's enlightened rule, progressive outlook, and devotion to his subjects' welfare. He said that when, during his membership of the Government of India, the decision was reached to remit 10 lakhs of Mysore's contribution, they were well aware that the money would be devoted to the welfare of the State, and not to the Ruler's private purse.

Mr. Ranganatha, replying, pointed out that the object of the Maharaja's rule was the promotion of the welfare and prosperity of his people. He mentioned that the State recently appointed a Trade Agent in Japan and established connections with Germany, but its primary duty would be to strengthen the trade links between Britain and Mysore.

## Baroda

### MUSLIMS IN BARODA

Rao Bahadur Ramlalabhai, Acting Dewan of Baroda, assured the members of a Muslim deputation, who waited on him in connection with the proposed removal of the Khajwi Masjid to another locality in the interest of the city improvement project, that the State Government would give every consideration to the views of the Muslim community and that nothing would be done to hurt their feelings.

### ART EDUCATION IN BARODA

Dr. Wiener, who has been appointed Curator of the Picture Gallery and Superintendent of the School of Arts at Kalabhavan at Baroda, was for many years teacher of the history of Art at the Humboldt Academy in Berlin and has written some important works on the subject, particularly on Asiatic Art of various schools.

### CONDUCT RULES FOR BARODA SERVICES

With a view to regulating public speeches and addresses by State servants, the Baroda Government, in a notification of the latest *Government Gazette*, publishes an amendment to the rules regarding the conduct of the State servants. The amendment prohibits publication in a newspaper or delivery of speeches at a public place by a State servant on subjects which are likely to create ill-feeling between His Highness's Government and his subjects or with British Indian territory, or with any other Native State.

### NEW INDUSTRIES IN BARODA

His Highness the Maharaja of Baroda, who is ever keen to encourage the building up of new industries in his State, has recently ordered the appointment of an Industrial Engineer with the object of providing free to the public any details regarding industries they may be interested in. No fees will be charged, we understand, for advice on industrial equipment, plants, etc.

## Travancore

### TRAVANCORE HOME FOR DESTITUTE

In pursuance of an announcement made by H. H. the Maharaja at the Public Durbar on the 6th November 1931, the Travancore Government have sanctioned the starting of a Home for the Destitute and the Infirm at Trivandrum. For starting the scheme and organising it on the lines laid down in the Rules, a provisional board of management consisting of a president and ten members with powers to add, has been appointed. The Home will be named "The Sri Chitra Home for the Destitute and the Infirm" and will be located for the present in the late Fougdari Commissioner's buildings at Pattom. Dewan Bahadur V. S. Subramania Aiyar has been appointed President of the Committee.

Admission to the Home will be restricted to the subjects of the State. The funds of the Association shall consist of an endowment of Rs. 50,000 granted by His Highness the Maharaja, donations, subscriptions, contributions, etc. All persons who pay a donation of Rs. 100 or who pay a contribution of not less than Rs. 12 shall be considered members of general governing body of the Institution.

## Patiala

### PATIALA: A PATRON OF ART

The story of how the Maharaja of Patiala rescued a Hungarian artist from poverty and raised him to the position of Court cartoonist has been revealed in Vienna. When the Maharaja last visited Budapest, the artist M. Bela Kovessy-Klopfer was going through bad times. He was selling cartoons in a public park. The Maharaja saw him at work and ordered some caricatures of himself and his entourage. He was so delighted with the results that he took M. Kovessy-Klopfer into his service. News of this appointment leaked out when M. Kovessy-Klopfer signed the register of a Vienna hotel and added as his occupation "Court cartoonist to the Maharaja of Patiala".

## Bhopal

### BHOPAL ON FEDERATION

Inaugurating the first session of the Third Legislative Council, H. H. The Nawab of Bhopal addressed the House. Reiterating his strong adherence to the Federation scheme, His Highness said:

Our policy in regard to the proposed All-India Federation remains unaltered. We have consistently supported the idea as the best, probably the only, solution of one of the most complex and difficult problems ever set to the human race to solve. Our adherence to it is as strong to-day as it was in the beginning. I firmly believe that a Federation, based upon a true and proper recognition of the rights of the various constituent units and of the several sections and interests that go to make the people of India, represents the only lines along which lies the future of India worthy of her great past, and of the destiny that Providence has kept in reserve for her.

Our willingness to join the proposed Federation has from the very inception of the federal idea been strictly conditioned on the satisfaction of certain provisions which have been time and again unequivocally and clearly stated on behalf of the States. To these may be added, and on this all the States will no doubt be agreed, that the seats in the two Federal Houses are fairly and equitably distributed on some principle applicable to all the States without favour of discrimination. In the best interests of all concerned, I confidently hope that a satisfactory federal scheme will materialise at as early a date as possible.

## Cochin

### COCHIN HARBOUR

The most anxiously awaited Cochin Harbour Conference, which met at Simla in June, writes Mr. P. V. Menon, came to a deadlock. Cochin was represented by Sir C. P. Ramaswamy Aiyar. The financial implications of the fourth stage construction of the Harbour, the jurisdiction over the Port area, the readjustment and distribution of the Customs revenue were the major points on which discussions were held. During discussion, the Travancore and Cochin Delegates raised important questions which required further negotiations and consideration for the other parties of the Conference. The Conference was therefore postponed for October 1934, thus holding up for some months more the construction of the fourth stage of the Cochin Harbour Works.

## Datia

### MAHARAJA OF DATIA'S BIRTHDAY

His Highness the Maharaja of Datia's forty-ninth birthday was celebrated on July 2nd.

Representatives of the Legislative Council, municipal and district boards and other local bodies presented to the Ruler an address in a silver casket. The address recounted several advances made in the administration and assured the Maharaja of the subjects' loyalty.

The Maharaja's reply was read by the Dewan Qazi Sir Azizuddin Ahmed. While thanking the people's representatives, he assured them of his solicitude for their welfare and expressed satisfaction with the working of the local bodies. His Highness said that he was always ready to associate the people with the administration of the State provided they showed aptitude.

In conclusion, he stressed that Indian States and British India were parts of a great Empire, and their destiny lay in the co-operation of both.

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# Indians Overseas

## South Africa

### INDIAN COLONISATION REPORT

The Report of the Indian Colonisation Committee published last month recommends British North Borneo, British New Guinea and British Guiana as fit for colonisation by Indians from India as well as South Africa. "From an economic point of view, India with her ever-growing population has a right," says the Report, "to seek outlets for the surplus population of her congested areas as other nations have done."

But nowhere in any corner of the world is there a garden of Eden awaiting in its positive and innocuous simplicity the disturbing and conquering advent of civilized man. Potential fields for new colonization must be looked for in undeveloped areas still in the shop of untamed nature.

The Committee was merely asked to conduct a preliminary enquiry, which will now be followed by another enquiry by a Joint Commission appointed by the Government of India and the Union of South Africa.

Sir Kurma Reddy, ex-Agent-General to the Government of India and now Law Member of the Government of Madras, interviewed by the Associated Press, said:

India cannot consent to allow the lot of her people to be cast amidst savages. India claims—and the claim cannot be disputed—a very high standard of culture and civilisation.

Sir Kurma, who points out that Indians feel any colonisation scheme must be the result of an investigation made by the Government of India, says the present is no time for such an inquiry owing to the economic depression and the impending constitutional changes.

### MR. HAJEE CASSIM ADAM

We congratulate Mr. Hajee Cassim Adam of Pretoria on his appointment as a Commissioner of Oaths. This is the first occasion when an Indian has been appointed. Mr. Hajee Cassim Adam is one of the leading Indian merchants in the Union. As President of the Transvaal Indian Congress, he has interested himself in all matters connected with the welfare of Indians, political and social.

## INDIAN COMMUNITY IN NATAL

The annual report of the Protectorate of Indian Immigrants, Natal, for the year 1933, records a year of progress and reminds us that the first batch of Indians went to Natal under the indenture system in November 1860. Emigration under the indenture was stopped by the passing of the Indian Act in 1911. The Report says:

During the year under review, there were only 6 Indians (males) who reindentured. The average rate of wages received by them was 42s. 6d. a month, including food, accommodation, medical attention and medicine free of charge.

The approximate number of Indians in Natal at the end of 1933, introduced under the provisions of the law regulating such introduction, and their descendants was 150,920. Out of a total of 36,338 men, approximately 16,000 were employed and of these 6,900 were on sugar estates. In 15 coal mines employing Indians there were 608 men, 429 women and 1,169 children. Wages remained about the same and ranged from 1s. 6d. to 2s. 6d. per shift with food, quarters and medicines free.

There were no complaints from any of the estates during the year. It is observed, however, that Natives are being employed on many estates in place of Indians a great deal, owing to the fact that in the case of Natives, the employer has not the wives and families to provide accommodation for as he has in the case of Indians.

On most of the estates the accommodation for Indian employees is much better, but there is still room for improvement.

The Protector's office, we learn, still continues to be freely used by Indians seeking advice on domestic and other matters.

### CAN INDIA RETALIATE?

The Indian settlers in South Africa may be treated as pariahs, may be deprived of their civic rights and subjected to any number of disabilities, but according to Sir Samuel Hoare's memorandum, India will not be allowed to adopt retaliatory measures against those who ill-treat and oppress its nationals. It seems strange that if the principle of reciprocity is accepted between Great Britain and India, why it should not be accepted between the Dominions and India. "Is England impotent," asks the *Indian Opinion*, "that she could not raise her voice against South Africa?"

## Zanzibar

### ZANZIBAR INDIANS

The Government of Zanzibar are busy introducing a series of special ordinances which, though ostensibly in the interests of Native Africans and Arabs, are likely to affect the position of Indians greatly to their disadvantage. Zanzibar Indians regard the legislation as racial discrimination and likely to drive Indians from Zanzibar. The Imperial Indian Citizenship Association, Bombay, has received the following cable from the Indian National Association, Zanzibar:

"Land Alienation Restriction Measure passed the second reading. The Law Member admitted that the Bill is revolutionary, drastic and racial, and affects the rights of one section of Indians. Mr. Wiggins, only unofficial English member and sometime Acting Law Member, vehemently protested saying that it was unfair and unjust and Government policy anti-Indian. Mr. Wiggins described the Clove Growers' Association as composed only of Government officials with State monopoly, depriving trade rights and speculation at taxpayers' costs. Government are determined on passing the measure."

## Fiji

### INDIANS IN FIJI

We understand that Fiji Indians petitioned to the Secretary of State for the Colonies, protesting against the proposal of the Fiji Government to abolish the present constitution of the Municipalities and to substitute one in which all the members of the Municipal Council shall be nominated instead of elected.

In accordance with the decision of the All-Fiji Indian Conference, an Indian Planters' Association has been formed in Fiji, with a view to unify the Indian Planters in Fiji and to safeguard their interests.

The Indian community of the Fiji Islands is reported to have sent a sum of £350 to the public of Gujarat, who have planned to construct a Girls' College in memory of the late President Patel.

## Kenya

### KENYA LAND PROBLEMS

That some uneasiness exists in the minds of the Indian community in Kenya on the question of land holding is disclosed in the Memorandum recently submitted to the Secretary of State for Colonies by the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry of Eastern Africa, says the Overseas Correspondent to the *Statesman* of Calcutta. He continues:

A section of the Memorandum deals with the question of land in the Kenya Highlands. It is alleged that there is invidious distinction against non-Europeans in the matter of the sub-division of land for industrial purposes and the removal of the Governor's power of veto in such cases is sought.

Emphasis has also been laid on the need for security of land tenure being assured to Indian traders in Native Reserves since at present, it is alleged, that they have legitimate grounds for fearing that they might be asked by Government at any moment to vacate the lands occupied by them.

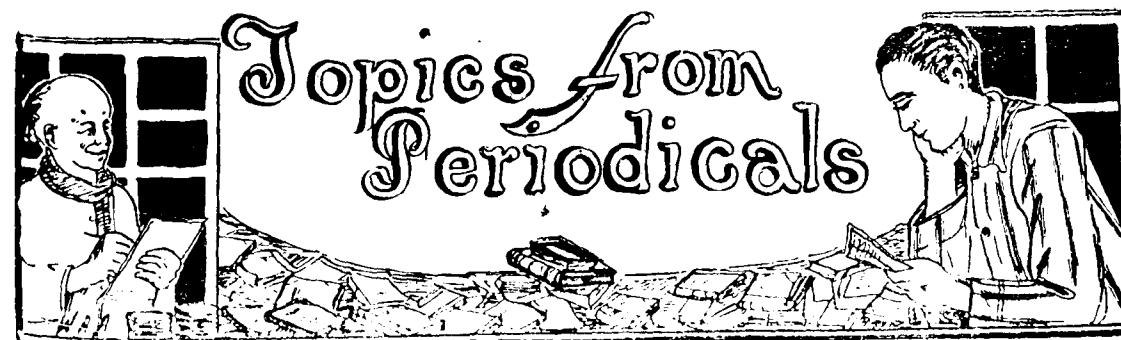
In view of the fact that the Colonial Government are likely to review at the close of this year some of the measures for taxation introduced last year, the Federation also ask that before any action in that direction is taken, a representative committee should be appointed to examine the whole system of taxation in Kenya with a view to distribution being made on an equitable and just basis.

These changes, we are told, are welcomed by the resident Indian community.

## Abyssinia

### INDIANS IN ABYSSINIA

There are about 2,000 Indians in Abyssinia, over a thousand of whom live in the capital town Addis Ababa. Abyssinia is an independent country in Africa ruled over by the Emperor of Ethiopia. British Indians enjoy there the same privileges as other foreigners. They are generally merchants or their employees, but a good number are carpenters, masons, blacksmiths, tailors and barbers. Indian carpenters, masons and barbers are doing well. There is considerable scope, we are told, for enterprising Indian capitalists in the hotel and cinema business. Indians in Abyssinia are a floating population. As a rule they do not live in that country for more than five years. There is, therefore, no appreciable change in their customs and manners. They are, however, a flourishing community.



### THE INDEPENDENCE OF THE BENCH

The British public has learned by long experience to be jealous of the principles of an independent Bench and a public trial. If, for instance, in a criminal trial in any court any one, whether in an official position or not, attempted to interfere with the court in its trial of the defendant, such interference would be as unpopular as it would be ineffective.

That is good and sound so far as sentencing the accused is concerned. A writer in the *June Fortnightly*, though a convinced believer in the independence and security of tenure of the Bench, puts forward the suggestion that, when a Criminal Court has found a defendant guilty of the crime charged against him, the same principles of independence in the Bench do not necessarily apply. In other words, says Mr. Claud Mullins:

I believe that in performing its duty of sentencing offenders, our Bench needs assistance from those who have the best opportunities for studying the offender, his past, his character, and his probable reactions to his sentence, and that they should have a statutory right to report and make suggestions, whether invited by the Bench to do so or not.

The writer goes on to quote the words of that Mr. R. C. K. Ensor who has written

the High Court judges. . . are usually admirable at conducting fair trials. . . But for the task of passing sentences they have seldom any proper equipment, and as seldom do it really well. Much might, indeed, be said for taking it away from them altogether and transferring it to a new section of the Home Office, by which, after the judge and jury had found the facts, as now, and recorded a conviction, an expert decision would be reached in the light of the fullest knowledge and

scientific experience as to what should be done with the prisoner.

Mr. Ensor limits his proposals to the judges of the High Court and is content to leave with Magistrates, and presumably with Recorders also, the duty of fixing sentences. Mr. Mullins, however, does not agree with Mr. Ensor in his constructive proposals. He thinks that public opinion would be rightly suspicious of a system under which sentences would be passed by a new section of the Home Office composed of experts and scientists.

But I am equally convinced that all our criminal courts in plenty of cases need advice and suggestions from those who have the best opportunity for understanding the offender. At present information can be obtained from prison governors, prison medical officers, probation officers, and so on if the Bench asks for it, and if there is time; but unless such request is made, no information is forthcoming, and so deep is the idea of the independence of the Bench that, even when a Bench asks advice how best to deal with a difficult case, candid opinions are not always given.

It must not be forgotten that the British system does not demand of the Bench any training in or expert knowledge of, penology. A valuable first step would, according to the writer, be to give a statutory right to prison authorities and probation officers to report and advise the final decision remaining with the Bench.

The suggestion made here that prison authorities and probation officers should have the right to report and recommend would introduce a new spirit into the work of our criminal courts and bring them more into line with the new spirit now prevailing in our prisons.

## THE SWARAJ PARTY AND THE REFORMS

The India section of the *Round Table* for June contains an article reviewing the progress of events in the quarter ending April. The resume is therefore defective, in that it can not, in the nature of the case, be up-to-date. Referring to the steps taken by the Congress to end civil disobedience, the writer observes :

Congressmen claim that with the cessation of civil disobedience, the Government ought to withdraw their ban on the meeting of the working committees of Congress so as to permit the fullest scope to the new party. They are exhorted also to secure the withdrawal of all restrictive legislation and the release of all political prisoners. Such demands assume that Government's condition, namely, the abandonment of civil disobedience has been fulfilled. In strict fact, it has not; for although the weapon may have been sheathed, and the decision whether to draw it in the future given to one man, that does not constitute abandonment. Mr. Gandhi has thus presented Government with a difficult problem. Their answer was given in the Home Member's pronouncement in the Assembly, on April 16, that Government propose to raise no obstacle to a meeting of the Congress Committee or of the Congress itself for the purpose of ratifying the statement of policy recently made by Mr. Gandhi calling off civil disobedience.

If civil disobedience is effectively called off, the present policy of releasing political prisoners will be expedited, says the writer. The complaint in the Indian press, without exception, is of course that though civil disobedience is dead as the door nail, leaders like the Frontier Gandhi and Mr. Jawaharlal are yet in prison.

Touching the Swaraj Party and the Reforms, the writer truly says that the Mahatma has once again demonstrated his political astuteness by backing them. But the real difficulties of the resuscitated Swaraj Party will begin with the drawing up of their programme.

It may be taken as certain that the maximum effort will be put into election contests and that in Pandit Malaviya's phrase, the Swarajists will seek to capture every seat they can and fill them with strong-souled and incorruptible Congressmen or Nationalists who can put their hearts into the fight. Mr. Aney describes

the position as an acceptance by the Congress of the Government's challenge to demonstrate its control over the classes and masses of India.

The new Swarajists will fight elections on two issues: the withdrawal of all repressive legislation and the rejection of the White Paper in favour of Mr. Gandhi's demands at the Second Round Table Conference.

The writer welcomes the Assembly's interest in economic issues as evidenced by the activities of the winter session.

However large Swaraj, communalism and other political issues may loom to those obsessed with them, the force of the world circumstances that affect the livelihood and happiness of 350 million people is irresistible. The increasing attention devoted to economic affairs is to the interest of India, for nothing will help more to produce genuine political parties than the emergence of real and realised economic issues.

Caution in prophecy is indeed necessary, concludes the writer,

but the indications are that the lowered franchises will strengthen the consumer's voice in the legislatures and that there will be no reluctance to mulct the tariff-sheltered manufacturer, who may one day, writhing under the fiscal scorpions of the future, come to sigh for the whips that he now finds so harsh.

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## INDIAN UNIVERSITIES AND THEIR FUNCTIONS

It was pointed out by Sir P. C. Ray in his Benares Convocation Address that many of the most distinguished men in India and elsewhere were Non-University men and that the great men of action to-day—Mussolini, Hitler and Stalin—had never seen even the steps of a University. While admitting this as a fact, Prof. Gurumukh Nihal Singh, in the course of a lengthy article in the July issue of the *Hindusthan Review*, which has now been revived as a monthly, contends that the majority of men, who have distinguished themselves in public life, business, professions and other walks of life in India and abroad have been men from the Universities.

There is enough prejudice already against university education in India, and it is likely that the popularly elected assemblies would not be favourably disposed towards them and may even wish to punish them for the sins of past governments in neglecting primary education. It is, therefore, all the more necessary for men of influence and eminence to supply the corrective by emphasizing the necessity of giving adequate financial support to the universities and by dwelling upon the value of university education to a country like India, especially at a time when attempts are being made to democratise the machinery of Government in the country.

A University must also perform another important duty, i.e., of acting as a radiating centre of knowledge for the peoples of the surrounding areas.

Every University worth the name should organise series of extension lectures in the neighbouring areas to disseminate knowledge among the general public.

But before the Universities can perform this and other functions, public men and legislators in this country ought to clearly understand the true aims and objects and also the limits of University work and extend to them their full sympathy and support. If that is done, Indian Universities will go on improving and making

rapid progress. In fine, Prof. Gurumukh Nihal Singh points out :

Universities can and ought to help in the advancement of industry through promoting the study of applied science and research in industrial problems, but to train technical experts or technicians is not the work of a University but of special technological institutes and workshops. There is a very great need of starting technical institutions of all types and stages in India, and the Government as well as industrialists and businessmen and other education organisations should co-operate in bringing them into existence. That will help not only industrial progress and the solution of the unemployment problem, but also the reform of the Universities in this country.

## THE WHITE PAPER SCHEME

Mr. R. G. Pradhan, writing on the "Present Political Situation" in India, discusses the prospects of the White Paper scheme, which has been riddled on all sides with criticism. One section condemns it, because it goes too far and the other because it doesn't go far enough. Between the two stands the National Government committed to it and battling for its adoption in the teeth of all opposition. Mr. Pradhan, commenting on the situation, writes in the course of an article in the July *Modern Review* :

One thing is certain. The scheme in its present form or in some worse form, is going to be thrust upon us unless Mr. Winston Churchill succeeds in wrecking it. If Parliament prefers to accept Mr. Churchill's lead and to wreck it, it is its business and we are not concerned with it; our opposition cannot be given up or weakened because it may furnish him with an additional weapon for wrecking it. We shall not be in sack-cloth and ashes if it is wrecked. But I do not think that the scheme will fail to pass through the present Parliament. We shall be confronted with the proposed Constitution as an actual fact. What shall we do then? When we say that it should be rejected, do we mean that the new legislatures should be boycotted? That cannot now obviously be our meaning in view of recent developments. All that our rejection of the scheme would mean is that we do not accept it, that it is imposed upon us against our will and consent, that we protest against it, that its principles are not binding upon us, that we shall work it only under protest, that we shall make what use we can of it with the sole object of promoting our own ends and ideals.

## SOCIAL JUSTICE.

Dr. E. Asirvatham, writing in the *Modern Student* for July, relates how the question of social justice agitates the minds of many in various parts of the country. The working classes all the world over claim that they no longer want charity, but want justice. In politics likewise, says Dr. Asirvatham, men want their due rights and do not want any favours. To an ordinary layman, social justice means a little more than a just distribution of economic goods. The writer illustrates how in the U. S. A., which is the most prosperous country, only 13 per cent. of the population own more than 90 per cent. of the wealth of the land, the remaining 87 per cent. having between them less than 10 per cent. of the wealth.

But the die-hard type of socialist would say that the producer is entitled to the whole produce of his labour, but such a socialist is becoming a rare quantity these days. Others have said that distribution should be according to effort or according to personal need or according to the hardness and unpleasantness of the task performed. The difficulty with regard to these canons is that they all involve a subjective standard. However, such a difficulty is perhaps not an insuperable one.

At the present moment in our national life when the industrialization of the country is proceeding rapidly, and when there are hardly any signs of the healing of the breach between the wealthy few and the poverty-stricken masses, there are at least two distinct contributions according to the writer which we can make.

Actual demonstration of the tremendous possibilities of the simple life. We cannot lay down arbitrarily what constitutes the simple life. Each individual and each family will have to decide that for themselves in the light of their enlightened consciousness. It is our plain duty to renounce all forms of waste, meaningless luxury and all cheap ways of advertising one's wealth. Unless there be excellent reasons to the contrary, we ought to be satisfied with what is absolutely necessary for food, raiment, shelter, and health and for the securing of opportunities for culture, recreation and a reasonable amount of leisure for oneself, one's family and others legitimately dependent upon him. To any one who acts differently, the warning given by Christ is: "Fool, this night thy soul shall be required of thee: then whose shall those things be which thou hast provided?"

## THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS

A writer in the latest Number of the *Landholders' Journal*, under the *nom de plume* of "Nonplussed", says that the success so far of the League is due to a willingness of the Powers to abide by its arbitration. The achievements so far of the League are in the words of the writer:

It prevented quite a cycle of minor wars, inspired the Locarno spirit and also made possible the work of great pacifist statesmen like M. Briand, Herr Stresemann, Dr. Nansen, and Lord Hugh Cecil. This was a record of which the League might be proud.

But the signal failure of the League to solve the disarmament question and the Sino-Japanese question and the withdrawal of Germany and Japan from the League are proofs of its helplessness to enforce its decisions and are clear indications of some inherent defect in the League. The writer probes into the reason for this as follows:

Some say that it is the want of an army which nullifies the noble efforts of the League. Had the League possessed a sufficiently strong military organisation, defiance of its authority would have been impossible. But this would be reverting to militarism which the League is out to kill. . . .

Economic depression caused a break-down and general distrust in the future of the League. It discredited liberalism in the economic sphere, while the rising tide of nationalism and racialism undermined the place of liberalism in the political sphere. The failure to solve the disarmament problem was not unconnected with the rise of Hitlerism and the attitude of the Great Powers regarding the General Protocol had its bearing on the Manchurian affair.

But the most fundamental defect in the League, concludes the writer, seems to have been entirely ignored. It is an organisation for joint and planned action of the great imperial states of Europe and as such can be of little use in preventing states from pursuing imperial designs or in helping subject countries to attain sovereign rights which would mean destruction of their empires.

## LIFE VALUE OF INDIAN PHILOSOPHY.

The gravamen of the charge against Indian philosophy is that it turns away from life, and reality. Indian philosophy preaches the unreality of the world, detachment from terrestrial interests and the unimportance of the life of the moment compared with the endless chain of the past and future existences. Answering these charges, Mr. Anilbaran Roy writes in the June number of the *Kalyana-Kalpataru* that to say that Indian philosophy has led away from the study of Nature is to ignore the history of Indian civilisation.

For to say that Indian philosophy has led away from study of Nature is to state an unfact and to ignore the history of Indian civilisation. Not only was India in the first rank in mathematics, astronomy, chemistry, medicine, surgery, and all the branches of physical knowledge which were practised in ancient times, but she was along with the Greeks the teacher of the Arabs, from whom Europe recovered the lost habit of scientific enquiry and got the basis from which modern science started. In many directions India had the priority of discovery: to take only two examples, the decimal notation in mathematics, the perception that the earth is a moving body in astronomy. "The earth moves and only appears to be still," said the Indian astronomer many centuries before Galileo. This great development would hardly have been possible in a nation whose thinkers and men of learning were led by its metaphysical tendencies to turn away from the study of Nature.

Mr. Roy reconciles this view with the innate philosophical bent of mind. Indian philosophy only places before the human soul the possibility of a greater effort and concentration of knowledge and will, by which it can rise to an absolute being or an absolute bliss—"pessimism with regard to man's normal life, a profound sense of its imperfection, but an unconquerable optimism of his spiritual possibility which, if it does not believe in the ideal of an immense material progress of the race or a perfection of the normal man with earth as its field, does believe in a progress for every individual and a perfection lifted above subjection to the shocks of life." Nor is pessimism with

regard to life the sole note of Indian religious mentality; its most popular forms accept life as a game of God, and see beyond our present conditions the eternal nearness to the Divine for every human being or a luminous growing into Godhead. That can hardly be called a pessimistic theory of existence.

## THE GREATEST MAN OF PEACE

The *Christian Century* has nominated Mahatma Gandhi for the Nobel Peace Prize. There could be no more obvious, nor more impossible suggestion, says the *Unity* of Chicago, obvious because the Indian saint is pre-eminently the greatest man of peace in our time. The journal continues:

"Alone among the world's leaders he preached and practices those principles of non-violence and brotherhood which lie at the heart of every peace gospel ever given to mankind. But this suggestion is also impossible, because the record of the Nobel Peace Prize shows that the trustees of the award are not engaged in honouring peace champions of this Gandhian type.

"It is true that they once decorated Jane Addams and then spoiled their own action by dividing her prize with Nicholas Murray Butler, who is about as much of a peace man as Marshal Pilsudki of Poland, who has been significantly nominated for the Prize this year! But with such chance exception, the Nobel Prize has gone consistently year after year to statesmen and diplomats who have walked the familiar and well-trodden ways of world polity.

"No, the Peace Prize has never quite been able to rise above the level of dynamite and arms in which it had its origin. . . . In this age of wars and rumours of wars, it should have been easy to bestow this Prize upon those heroic men and women who have outlawed war from their hearts and are striving at fearful cost of labour and reputation to do away with it for ever!"

## SANKARA AND BUDDHA

"Buddha and Sankara are the two fairest flowers which historical India offers to an admiring yet critical world," says Swami Ranganathananda in the July issue of the *Vedanta Kesari*. In spite of differences there is a supreme point of contact between them. "What the world wants to-day is the brilliant intellect of Sankara to realise the supreme Oneness of all Existence and the all-inclusive heart of Buddha to embrace the whole existence in a sweeping effort of compassion and love. In India itself, the solution of the most knotty national and social problems depends entirely on this one condition. Vedanta must become practical. The signs of the times point unmistakably to the fact that India has re-discovered the messages of Buddha and Sankara to her own salvation. And the world outside, owing to the changed outlook brought about by scientific knowledge, has begun to feel an attraction towards Indian thought, particularly the Vedanta philosophy. Thus it has begun to catch the spirit of Buddha and Sankara; and if the world looks up to India to-day, it is because she has produced a Buddha and a Sankara."

## ANGLO-JAPANESE RELATIONS

"There is no reason why trade rivalry should embitter relations between the two countries Japan and England, provided the respective peoples can be prevailed upon to carry out the dictum of placing themselves in the other poor devil's shoes," writes Captain M. D. Kennedy, *Reuter's Tokyo correspondent*, in the last number of the *Contemporary Japan*. In trade rivalry alone is to be found the only really serious cause for dispute and friction. Captain Kennedy writes:

Dangerous though this rivalry may become if allowed to develop unchecked, it should not be beyond the powers of statesmanship to find a way by which adjustments, satisfactory to all concerned, can be made to avoid further aggravation of the relations between the two

countries. Naval armament rivalry, which is apt to breed so much ill-will between nations, is virtually non-existent between Britain and Japan, the traditional friendship between the two navies being, in fact, a far more powerful influence than naval rivalry in regulating the relations between the two countries. In land armaments, too, there is no question of rivalry of such a kind as to endanger or embitter relations. It is, in fact, hardly too much to say that, with the sole exception of trade competition, all the circumstances and all the contracts between the two countries tend to enhance rather than estrange friendship.

The respective monarchical systems, the similarity of insular handicaps and difficulties, memories of the old alliance, historical naval connections and traditional friendship, concludes the writer, combine to make for a better understanding.

## CENTRAL BANKS FOR INDIA

The prospects of the early establishment of New Central Banks in New Zealand, Canada and India are discussed in a recent issue of *Midland Bank Monthly Review*. The proposals for the Indian Central Bank, unlike the Canadian and New Zealand, is planned on the model of the Bank of England with its bi-departmental structure, though the model is departed from in the provision of a minimum proportionate reserve against notes instead of a fixed fiduciary issue. The reserve provisions indicate the establishment of India on a sterling standard, a very different proposal from the plan for a gold bullion standard put forward in 1926; and this is confirmed by the obligation upon the Bank to buy and sell sterling on demand at prices close to the parity of 1s. 6d. between the rupee and sterling. The article concludes:

Experience alone will show, moreover, whether the new Central Banks will do within their own countries something worth doing but previously not done, or do better something already attempted with indifferent success. At all events there will be in the future no room for doubt as to where the responsibility for monetary conditions rests.

## THE FUTURE OF INDIAN AGRICULTURE

The newly started weekly *Dawn of India* publishes an article on the "Agricultural problem and its solution" by Mr. Debiprosad Khaitan, besides messages of good wishes from Rabindranath Tagore, the Mayor of Calcutta, and others. We summarise below Mr. Khaitan's plans for rooting out the present-day ills of the agriculturist:

The essential task before us is to convert the labour of our vast population into goods and for this purpose no other method seems to be more efficient than to encourage cottage industries. Most of the commodities hitherto imported or manufactured on a large scale basis could be produced by cottage workers. The agricultural population would thus produce more and as a consequence consume also more. The standard of life would be raised and the spare time of the cultivators fully utilised.

Having arrived at these general principles of a practicable solution, the writer enunciates the following steps for achieving the above ideals:—

1. The first thing to be done in India is to double the price of agricultural commodities.

It is only then that:

(a) The tenants will be able to pay their land rents or revenues, to pay interest to the Mahajan and to meet their other obligations whatever they may be.

(b) The disequilibrium between the prices of agricultural commodities and those of manufactured products will be cured, because wages, interest, etc., being fixed in rupees, the prices of manufactured products will not rise in the same proportion as those of agricultural commodities.

2. The objective being to double the prevailing prices of agricultural commodities, the value of rupee in terms of any other foreign currency will automatically find its level according as every other country manages its own currency to suit its own interests.

The writer concludes by saying that the agriculturists and the zemindars should join hands to put sufficient pressure on the Government to improve their position by increasing the prices of the agricultural commodities without any delay.

## THE INDIAN CENSUS

The two volumes of the census of 1931 afford many interesting details. Amongst them, population and literacy are the two vital questions. The Rev. Alexander McLeish, writing to the July issue of the *National Christian Council Review* under the heading "Lessons from the Indian Census", observes:

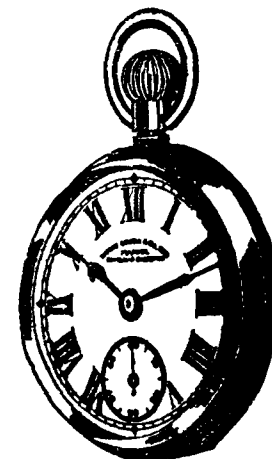
The population has increased by 33,895,298 during the decade, that is, by 10·6 per cent. for all India. It is interesting, however, to note that in British territory this represents an increase of 10 per cent. and in the Indian States 12·8 per cent. This is partly due to the sparsely populated nature of the Indian States, where there are 81,000,000 in 712,508 square miles compared with 257,000,000 in 862,679 square miles in British territory. Population, in short, has increased where there was most room.

The writer gives a fair analysis of the literacy in India. It is perhaps startling to find that literacy is lower in British India than in some of the Indian States.

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## THE PRESS IN INDIA

"To a journalist coming fresh from the up-to-date methods of Fleet Street, as the writer did a few years ago, the newspaper in India presents a rather sorry spectacle of anachronism and wasted opportunities," writes Mr. D. Paul in the course of an article in the *Cavalcade* for June. He writes not to make invidious distinctions, he says, but "to give the professional journalist a few signposts towards improvement."

Indians have such an obsession for time-wasting, heavy political controversy that (a) having to carry so many columns of such stuff militates against bright presentation of news, and (b) each reader has kept more or less regularly to the paper presenting his beloved politics through his own particular tint of spectacles, not much caring to notice whether or not the opposition paper is brighter and more readable—this, be it noted, is the same mentality as that of the London *Times* habitués.

In concluding, the writer gives his frank impression of the *Statesman*, the *Times of India*, the *Hindu*, the *Pioneer* and the *Bombay Chronicle* and urges that journalists should be better organised.

While of late years a few journalists' associations have sprung up as in Mysore, it seems impossible to contemplate anything in the nature of a national union of journalists such as exists in England. "Working and living conditions are so very different; for instance, one could not expect to get a minimum wage standard enforceable all over India, when one considers that a man is richer on Rs. 400 a month in, say, Secunderabad, than on Rs. 800 a month in Bombay; here we live on a vast continent, not a tiny island of uniform conditions. Nevertheless, more journalists' associations would be a good thing and would spread a spirit of helpful co-operation much needed in the profession in India, besides setting a higher standard of dignity and responsibility."

## PARENTS AND CAREERS

Mr. Stephen Foot writes to the latest issue of the *Careers* on the above subject. He feels that parents do not at all understand the aptitude of the boys and that is why there are so many failures in the choice of careers. The writer gives a few interesting instances as to how boys choose their own career and become very successful in spite of their parents' misguided zeal for their children's career.

I should like to make it clear that no parents consciously want their son to be a misfit in life; they are always fully convinced that the course they propose will really be the best for the boy, even though it is not what he wants at the moment and very often they may be right. For a correct judgment, however, it is essential that the subject should be approached without any pre-conceived ideas.

But how are we to do it?

Boys may come to a realization of what their career should be in life by many different ways. The careers section of the School Library will undoubtedly be of assistance, and the boy should be encouraged to browse there in order to find out the kind of work involved in different careers. All may be useful provided that there is a realization of the basic principle that it is the boy who has to live the life and therefore he is the person most vitally concerned with the question of his career.

## INDIA IN PERIODICALS

WAS CURZON MISUNDERSTOOD? By G. R. Stirling Taylor. [The Fortnightly Review, June 1934.]

IN THE WOODLANDS OF COURTALLUM: SOUTH INDIA'S FAMOUS SPA. By R. Ramaswami. [Indian State Railways Magazine, June 1934.]

WESTERN INDIA: AN EVANGELISTIC TOUR. By H. C. Read. [The National Christian Council Review, July 1934.]

THE REDDI KINGDOM OF RAJAHMUNDY. By Dr. N. Venkataramanayya, M.A., Ph.D. [Journal of Oriental Research, June 1934.]

LITERARY RENAISSANCE IN INDIA. By K. Subburayan. [The Indus, June 1934.]

SIR SANKARAN NAIR AND INDIAN NATIONALISM. By K. Vyasa Rao. [Hindustan Review, July 1934.]

THE IMPERIAL TREASURY OF THE GREATER MOGHULS. By Abdul Aziz, BAR-AT-LAW. [Journal of Indian History, April 1934.]

## MULTUM IN PARVO

NEWS

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DEPARTMENTAL

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NOTES

## Questions of Importance

## MR. LANSBURY ON LABOUR POLICY

"A Socialist Government will have many difficult national questions to deal with. None of these will be more urgent or less difficult than the problem of India. The Labour Movement is pledged to grant not self-government only but self-determination to that great nation," observes Mr. George Lansbury in the course of a statement on Labour policy in India. What exactly is to be Labour's future policy?

We must stick to our oft-repeated statement that it is for India to decide whether she will join us as a partner or break the connection and become a foreign power.

The British governing class has received great benefits from India. The Indian Civil Service, the Native States, the Army have all found for its sons innumerable well-paid posts and pensions. We ought to be willing to pay back some of the debt we owe.

I am sure that the socialist movement will only ask for partnership on terms of mutual aid and service to each other. We shall ask that the tie which binds us together will be one not of domination but of brotherhood.

As to what form the Government of India should take, this must be settled by Indians themselves. There is not the least likelihood that any scheme formulated in London will ever be voluntarily accepted, and in this matter it is imperative that any scheme should be freely worked by Indians.

Mr. Lansbury goes on to say that he favours Dr. Besant's scheme of a Commonwealth of India somewhat like the plan adopted in relation to Australia.

Some years ago Dr. Besant and a group of representative Indians, with the valuable assistance of our good friend and life-long champion of India, David Graham Pole, drew up a Commonwealth of India Bill which Harry Snell, John Scurr and myself and others introduced in the House of Commons.

Our contention was that this scheme, with such minor modifications as Parliament should impose, would make a definite advance along the road to Dominion Status. But the Bill never got a second reading. Now years after, Englishmen are drafting schemes which, as I say, and as they know, are certain of rejection.

There is only one way out for a Socialist Government. We should summon, or ask Indians themselves to summon, a constituent assembly and hand over to that assembly the task of deciding the future government of India.

The main point for England, according to Mr. Lansbury, is to make up her mind that she 'shall be prepared to leave to Indians the task of deciding with whom she will or will not federate, and the sort of federal government she will get up within her own dominions'.

All who speak for Britain, from the King to Lord Willington, have again and again pledged to the British Parliament to grant full Dominion Status to India, and to make her an equal partner of the British Commonwealth of Nations.

We of the Labour Party have agreed with this and have added the further stipulation that such membership must be the free will act of India.

Given equal status with all other Dominions, the people of India under the Statute of Westminster have the unequivocal right either to remain with us or go out. The Labour Movement, in supporting the right of choice for India, is only asking for her the same rights as those enjoyed by other Dominions.

The issues are already decided and written down in official documents. All we have to do is to make up our minds to do what has been promised.

The sands of time are running out. This nation of 300,000,000 people, occupying territory as large as Europe (without Russia), awaits the coming to power of the Labour Party with its socialist policy of democracy and freedom. I hope we shall be worthy of their faith and confidence.

## NO MORE WAR MOVEMENT

A number of members and ministers of Christian churches, writing on behalf of the Midland Churches Committee of the No More War Movement, state in the course of a letter to the *Manchester Guardian*:

Only trust can create trust, and we wish to put it on record that we do not rely on army, navy, or air force for our defence and would rejoice if this country decided to dispense with all three of them. We believe that such a decision would evoke such wonder and gratitude from the minds of common folk throughout the earth as might well transform the world.

## MR. BHULABHAI DESAI'S CALL

Explaining the Congress mission to a crowded gathering in Madras on July 3, Mr. Bhulabhai Desai, General Secretary of the Congress Parliamentary Board, traced the history of the Indian National Congress and said that after the last 15 years, the Congress had changed its phase and was now entering a different course in the pursuit of freedom.

The British Government during the Home Rule agitation 15 or 17 years ago came forward with some promises with regard to the freedom of India. I therefore have every right to feel that those who made that promise 15 or 17 years ago have broken it in a manner for which they shall answer the same God whom they called upon to bless for the preservation of freedom during the Great War, which they consider as a fight towards the emancipation of their country. Let God grant them if not the wisdom at least the prudence to recognise our right of self-determination which was promised but which they withheld from us. That is the position in which we stand to-day. . . . The Congress therefore had to turn to the next step, namely, to show the united front of the country in rejecting the White Paper proposals. If the promise had been fulfilled by the Government, there would have been co-operation between the two races of India and Britain. If anybody was responsible for that union being diverted, it was not the fault of India. That promise having been flouted, India fought a war of her own and set up an example to the world that there was another and more powerful instrument of war for freedom. The war of force was a vicious struggle.

We carried that message to the world and suffering shall be the badge of our tribe. Let it be remembered that slavery, that spirit of self-suffering, that spirit and subjection recoil upon those who suffered. (Cheers.)

It is with that spirit of non-violence of resistance and that spirit of daring to assert our liberty, notwithstanding the fact that the opponent has a kind of physical means for violence, that we dared to protest to the world and to those who promised that they shall fulfil them.

For the time being the pressure we have put upon them may not be such as to rouse either their conscience or to wake their good sense. I do not call it misfortune; for, thank God, we have roused the consciousness of the Indian people to the sense and value of Indian freedom. Freedom is not to be measured by the gain that it brings. The measure of freedom is the measure of manhood.

I ask you what is your opinion as regards the measures that the Government have adopted in order to put down

your struggle for freedom. You are going to get a White Paper, the colour of which is exactly contrary to what it claims to be. (Laughter.)

The whole object on which we have now embarked is to see whether at the end of the struggle, notwithstanding the fact that our bodies are bruised, our men have lost liberty, our women have suffered humiliation; notwithstanding those extraordinary powers and measures so far as the intensive struggle for freedom is concerned, *Satyagraha* has been suspended for the moment; the Britisher can claim that though he has to a large extent overpowered our physical power, he has in the least degree affected our spirit. For, there is no greater debasement if the spirit is dead. Death, physical death, is a matter of little consequence. If the spirit in us is dead, we may wind up the Indian National Congress. (Cheers.)

## LORD WILLINGDON'S SPEECH

Lord and Lady Willingdon were presented with the Freedom of the City at Edinburgh on June 29. Speaking on the occasion, His Excellency paid a warm tribute to the loyalty of the Princes and people of India to the British Crown. The Viceroy said that

India was changing very fast and the responsibility for the change was mainly due to the fact that Britons for the past 100 years had been working to develop in the minds and character of Indians the spirit of responsibility, which in due course will fit them to undertake the full powers of administration of their own affairs.

Lord Willingdon said that

he fully realised that there were doubts and difficulties in the minds of many who, while anxious to act generously and fairly by India, were uneasy with regard to the scope of the advance through their lack of practical knowledge of conditions in India.

His Excellency urged that

owing to rapid changes in India, special consideration should be given to the views and opinions of those who had the most recent experience of life in India and those doing Empire service there.

In a country of such vast population as India, continued the Viceroy,

there must be a certain number of misguided and evilly disposed people, whose desire was to subvert or injure the Government, but the Princes and people of India were loyal to the British Crown. They were not unmindful of past benefits. They were proud of their own share in building up the fortunes of the Empire and their aspiration was to move forward until they reached the position of full partnership in working out the destinies of the Empire. They asked that their aspirations at the present juncture should be dealt with by all in a spirit of real sympathy and friendship. If that was done, India would increasingly in future prove to be, as in the past, a source of strength and security to our great commonwealth of nations.

## SIR HENRY GIDNEY'S ADVICE

Sir Henry Gidney, President of the Anglo-Indian and Domiciled European Association of India, in the course of an address to Anglo-Indians at the Doveton College, Madras, on July 4, said:

"You are the sons and daughters of India. Your prosperity depends on how you treat your fellow-Indians. Think that you are Indians first and Anglo-Indians afterwards. If you do so, your future in this country is assured."

Sir Henry said that he was gratified to find that there was an awakening of a political consciousness among the members of his community in Madras. The development of a political consciousness and a sense of civic responsibility among Anglo-Indians was essential to the progress of the community.

Describing his work at the three Round Table Conferences in London, Sir Henry said that when addressing the Houses of Parliament he was surprised to find that few knew anything about Anglo-Indians. Some thought they were a wandering tribe and others thought that they were on the fringe of civilization.

## SETTLEMENT OF GERMAN DEBTS

Mr. Neville Chamberlain, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, made an announcement in the House of Commons that a satisfactory solution of the debt dispute between Britain and Germany had been reached. He declared that an agreement was signed for a period of 6 months, during which Britain had agreed to suspend the Clearing House project, while Germany would provide sterling funds at the Bank of England for the purchase of all British-owned coupons under Dawes and Young loans. The agreement, Mr. Chamberlain added, did not affect the short-term debts nor other medium and long-term debts except that, as regards the latter, Germany had promised that British-holders would be treated as well as others.

## MR. BULABHAI DESAI ON CONGRESS

Addressing a mammoth gathering on 8th July at the High Court Beach, Madras, Mr. Bulabhai Desai vindicated the position of the Congress.

"We do not recant, we do not withdraw, we do not regret the steps and the methods by which we have made intensive effort for making our assertion of freedom felt.

And because for the moment the suspension of the *Satyagraha* movement has occurred, and because we have undertaken the next elections, let them (constitutionalists) not think that we are on the same common and narrow platform on which they have stood. Let them not claim equality with us. If they do so, it is for them to rise and not for us to come down."

## HITLER MOVEMENT IN S. W. AFRICA

The Hitler youth movement in South-West Africa (a former German Colony) and the Union of South Africa (now Mandatory Power of South-West Africa) has been declared illegal and its leader Captain von Iosnitzer has been ordered to leave the country on the 12th July.

The decision, which was taken under the recently promulgated Union Government legislation, follows the police discovery at Nazi headquarters of documents alleged to prove that the youth movement was militaristic and subversive of good order. The local paper, of which Herr von Iosnitzer is editor, is banned. Herr von Iosnitzer was a member of the garrison under the German rule.

## GOLDEN JUBILEE OF THE CONGRESS

The Indian National Congress will celebrate its golden jubilee in the last week of October simultaneously with the Congress session in Bombay. Among the suggestions that have been made are the raising of cenotaphs in important cities in honour of those that have died during the national struggle.

## A SCHOOL IN MEMORY OF DR. BESANT

A school to perpetuate the memory of the late Dr. Annie Besant was opened on June 27, at Besant Gardens, Adyar, Madras, by Dr. G. S. Arundale, President of the Theosophical Society.

Dr. Arundale, declaring the school open, said that it was one of Dr. Besant's very last wishes that this school should come into existence at Adyar.

Education, having a distinctly Indian and Hindu background and at the same time in an international and cosmopolitan atmosphere, will be imparted at the school and every one will be taught to appreciate all that is best in every religion.

Dr. Arundale hoped that the school would be an institution for the future leaders of India, who would help the country to achieve her place among the nations and to bring the whole world nearer to happiness and peace.

## DR. TAGORE ON INDIAN UNIVERSITIES

"In India, the universities endowed high-sounding degrees imposed of borrowed feathers," said Dr. Rabindranath Tagore, lecturing to a crowded audience at the Colombo Rotary Club, on May 10. The lure of material knowledge, continued Dr. Tagore, brought with it humiliation to the intellect in man, and modern India had been made to suffer that humiliation.

Once India provided herself with her own culture, which was the product of her own, but when she thrust aside her own to tread the world of examinations, not for acquiring knowledge, but for notifying that they were qualifying for employment, organised and conducted in English, they became a community of qualified candidates and nothing more.

Universities, according to Dr. Tagore, should not be made into a mechanical organisation for the purpose of collecting knowledge and distributing it merely to equip students to earn a comfortable living. Through the Universities they should attempt to disseminate the seeds of culture to the world.

## A BUDDHIST UNIVERSITY

An International Buddhist Academy, which is a preliminary to a Buddhist University in India, will be started on the Full Moon Day in November next, which is also the anniversary of the Mulagandhikutti Vihara.

The ideal which the Academy has in view is the advancement of research in the various departments of Buddhistic studies.

The proposed University, which will be known as the International Buddhist University, will promote not only Buddhistic studies but also studies in scientific subjects which may be considered to have the greatest bearing on the positive good of humanity.

The ultimate ideal of this University is to advance the cause of human progress and to benefit mankind, through the correct and far-sighted exposition of Buddhism, by bringing out in particular such of its elements as are best calculated to further the attainment of this goal.

This University, which will be run on the lines of the Benares Hindu University, will have a governing body, representing Buddhists and non-Buddhists interested in Buddhism, from Ceylon, Burma, Siam, China, Japan, Cambodia, Tibet, Hawali and India, and also Europe and America.

## EMPIRE UNIVERSITIES BUREAU

Sir Shadi Lal, Sir Bhupendranath Mitra, and Sir S. Radhakrishnan have been elected by the Syndicate of the University on the Executive Committee of Punjab University to represent the University on the Executive Committee of the Universities Bureau of the British Empire.

## GRADUATE DETENUS

Eighty-two detenues sat for the B. A. Examination of the Calcutta University from the places of their detention, and 55 including two girls came out successful this year. Of these, three obtained honours and two passed with distinction.

## OUR HIGH COURTS

A recent decision of the Allahabad High Court setting aside the death sentence and sentences of transportation on a number of accused on the ground of irregularities of procedure on the part of the prosecution gives food for wholesome reflections on the rights and privileges of the Judiciary under the British constitution. It is the glory of that constitution that the High Court can exercise these rights without fear or favour. In delivering judgment their Lordships observe:

It is sometimes said that the court ought to shut its eyes to such irregularities on the part of the prosecuting authorities. We unhesitatingly reject such suggestion as that the end justifies the means emphatically. It can find no countenance in a court of justice. As the result of centuries of experience, a code of principles has been evolved which British courts observe in the investigation of criminal charges, deciding civil disputes and generally dispensing justice. By a rigid and punctilious observance of those principles of administration, British justice has gained a reputation for purity and fairness unsurpassed in any part of the world. Those principles are for the protection of accused not only against the arbitrariness of courts but against the activities of possibly unscrupulous prosecuting authority. His Majesty's judges under the Indian Constitution, are charged with administering law according to the principles of British justice and not according to any rules or methods adopted by prosecuting authorities, seeking justification by a reference to existing condition in the district. In the absence of legislative sanction, this court refuses to countenance suggestions or deviations from those principles.

The wisdom of these remarks were borne out by Sir Shadi Lal, the Chief Justice of Lahore, who laid down the reins of his high office in June after 14 years of service as head of the judiciary in the Province. Sir Shadi Lal is painfully aware of the limitations and the difficulties under which the judiciary in this country has to labour. One of the prime factors that go to mar the independence of the subordinate judiciary in this country is its dependence on the executive authority. Considerations of executive "prestige" or official bias are apt to interfere with the carrying out of sheer justice without fear or favour. Human nature being what it is, it is not possible to expect even-handed justice where judicial and executive functions are combined in the same person. Sir Shadi Lal himself

has been an upright judge, steering clear of political or communal bias, and his valedictory observations in reply to the farewell address of the Bench and Bar of Lahore throw some light on the course of justice in this country. Quoting a recent English case in which a convicted communist was awarded damages against the head of the London Police for detention for an unjustifiably long time of a bundle of papers belonging to the accused which had been lawfully seized by the police, Sir Shadi Lal asked:—

Would it be improper to ask what would be thought of a Judge in India who, imbued with the traditions of British justice, acted in a similar manner? Would he not thereby subject himself to disfavour and even resentment which would be manifested in no uncertain manner? These and other disadvantages that we have sometime should be borne in silence by a person who is true to the oath which he solemnly takes on accepting the office of His Majesty's Judge.

## USURIOUS LOANS IN THE PUNJAB

A case in which a debt of Rs. 300 swelled through compound interest to Rs. 9,200 in the course of 44 years has been decided by the Lahore High Court on June 26.

A zamindar of Shahpur district had mortgaged his land with possession in favour of the village money-lender for Rs. 600; of this sum Rs. 300 bore interest. In the course of 44 years the amount repayable by the debtor became, according to the decree of the Sub-Judge, Rs. 9,500 and an order that the mortgaged land could be relieved only on payment of this sum was passed by the Sub-Judge.

Mr. Justice Hilton and Mr. Justice Din Mohammad heard the debtor's appeal against this order and decided that, in addition to the original amount of Rs. 600, only Rs. 300 ought to be payable by way of interest or damages on account of the debtor having failed to redeem the mortgaged land within the promised period.

It was ordered that the mortgage was redeemable on payment of Rs. 900.

## SCIENCE AND INSURANCE

Science and insurance are dependent on each other in very many ways, says a writer in a recent issue of the *Scientific Indian*.

For instance, life insurance has the greatest appeal for scientists inasmuch as the pursuit of science is attendant with much more hazard to life and property than is met with in any other sphere of human activity.

Who will not admit that scientists are exposed to grave danger every moment of their life?

Scientists are an adventurous sort of people. They delight to probe into the unknown. They love to leap into the dark. They literally live within an inch of death.

The research worker in pure science is unaware what the next stage in his experiment might bring. In spite of all his precautions it might result in explosion or fire. The narratives of the martyrs of science are at least as thrilling as those of regular warfare.

The stories of the explorers and surveyors of unknown tracts are equally blood curdling.

The engineer leads a risky out-door life. He has to handle tools and appliances which are not less lethal than deadly weapons.

The electrician has to command the flow of thousands of voltages, a single spark of which might electrocute him.

The manufacturer of gun-powder, dynamite, T. N. T. and other explosive substances might as well live on the crater of an active volcano.

The industrial worker, like those employed in the match factory and for the painting of luminous watches often suffer from industrial poisoning. They become permanently disabled or prematurely aged by contact with lead, phosphorus, radium, etc.

The foundry man, the machineman and many others always run the risk of losing their limbs.

Instances might be multiplied *ad infinitum*.

Consider next the field of activity of the scientists—production, industry and transport. For example, agriculture and husbandry derive security from crop insurance and cattle insurance respectively. The farm, the factory, the workshop—all of them are shielded by insurance.

On the land, manufactured products, e.g., storage of celluloid and films, and on the sea, commodities of commerce, are given protection by fire insurance and marine insurance respectively.

## SOCIAL INSURANCE IN U. S. A.

A vast scheme of social insurance was outlined by President Roosevelt in a message to Congress, the object being to provide security of home, livelihood and social insurance.

Mr. Roosevelt pointed out that Government had already appropriated millions of dollars for housing schemes while the Bill before Congress enabled legislators to stimulate loans for the purpose of modernising old homes and building new ones. With reference to security of livelihood, President Roosevelt hoped to present to the next Congress a national plan covering the development and use of national resources on land and water over a long period.

The funds necessary to provide social insurance should be raised by contributions rather than by increase in general taxation.

## HINDUSTAN CO-OPERATIVE INSURANCE

According to the figures available for 1933-34, the new business completed by the Hindustan Co-operative Insurance Company is above 2½ crores, which in itself is an increase of more than 50 lakhs over the figures of last year.

This is the second biggest amount of new business written so far in one year among all Indian Companies and is by far the biggest amount of new business completed by any Indian Company of its age and standing.

## INSURANCE IN MALAYA

According to the annual report of the Registrar of Companies, Federated Malay States, there was no registration either of fire or life insurance companies during the past year. The number of life insurance companies on the registers on December 31, 1933, was 25 as compared with the same number in the previous year. The number of fire insurance companies was 10, 5 having been struck off during the year.

## THE REPORT OF THE TARIFF BOARD

The Report of the Tariff Board on the question whether protection to the iron and steel industry in India should be continued, was published on the 12th of last month. Dr. John Matthai, Mr. G. S. Wiles and Mr. G. A. Natesan constituted the Board. The report is unanimous.

The Board recommends a modification in the scheme of protection, but proposes that protection should continue to be given to the industry until March 31, 1941. The report states that the Ottawa Agreement has been successful and beneficial as regards pig-iron, but the Agreement regarding galvanized sheets has now served its purpose and its renewal in the present form is impracticable.

The scheme for protection should, in the opinion of the Board, embody a provision for the variation of the duties, if unexpected changes in the conditions of the market render it necessary.

The power to vary the duties in such circumstances should be vested in the Governor-General-in-Council, to be exercised as occasion arises without a previous inquiry by the Tariff Board and without recourse to legislation.

The Board recommends that in the case of rails and fish-plates, the best means of assisting the industry is to ensure that the requirements of Indian railways are purchased in India up to the total capacity of the Indian industry at a price not below the fair selling price.

Among articles other than rails and fish-plates, the Board considers that no protective duties are required in the case of 1. Structural (tested) of British manufactures; 2. Plates (tested) of British manufacture; 3. Semi-finished steel; and 4. Steel sleepers.

On the remaining classes of steel the Board recommends that protective duties should be levied in the form of specific duties.

The Tariff Board regards it as a development greatly to be desired that steel production should not remain the monopoly of a single enterprise.

There is, they consider, room for another steel works, and the success of the Tata Company should be sufficient to encourage the establishment of another.

The decision of the Government of India on the recommendations contained in the report will be embodied in a Bill to be introduced at an early date in the Legislative Assembly during the present session.

## INDIAN INDUSTRIES CONFERENCE

The proposal to constitute an Industrial Intelligence and Research Bureau for the purpose of improving industries in India was outlined by Sir Frank Noyce, Member for Industries, Government of India, when opening the Industries Conference at Simla on July 9th. Sir Frank Noyce said that they were anxious that the Bureau should be of the utmost value to the country and he wanted the delegates to say how this could be done. Referring to the States, Sir Frank said that he hoped that they would come in as full collaborators and co-operators in the scheme. There would be no charge for the utilisation of the service of the Bureau, but it was hoped that in return for this, the States would also place their own sources of information at the disposal of the Bureau. Sir Frank concluded:

What we are asking you to do is to let us try out this experiment, and if it proves successful then to decide in consultation together in what directions its operations can be extended and how it can be made more useful.

## MR. BHULABHAI DESAI ON KHADI

The economic aspect of *khadi* was emphasized by Mr. Bhulabhai Desai in opening the Third All-India Khadi and Swadeshi Exhibition on July 5, in Trichinopoly. Mr. Bhulabhai said that *khadi* had passed through all stages of thought and action and to-day *khadi* was a vital necessity in the economics of the country.

## MRS. NAIDU AT WOMEN'S UNIVERSITY

"To break down the barriers of caste, colour and social limitation is the work that has to be done by Indian women, and education that is given to them should be the knowledge that is true, deep and enduring so that they can consecrate themselves in the service of the country and the world at large. You will have justified your education and vindicated yourselves when you became vassals of liberation that shall make India free," declared Mrs. Sarojini Naidu addressing the graduates of the Indian Women's University, on June 30.

She said the founder of the university had got his ideal from Japan.

The object of the university was not to isolate Indian women but to train them up in the way most natural to them for citizenship and its responsibilities.

To the average type of Indian woman a home was the ultimate goal. A special environment was necessary to evolve her spiritual and other capacities to their fullest to fulfil their task.

True education recognised no geographical boundaries to discriminate between communities or races. It made no distinction between Hindus and Muslims. Educated women, she asserted, should influence the destinies of their country. Their work, therefore, should be creative. Education should not be looked upon as so much knowledge in mental store-rooms. Education to be expressive of native genius must be through the medium of the mother-tongue.

Professor Karve was a pioneer of this movement and the Oosmania University that used Urdu as a medium of instruction followed the Professor.

Mahatma Gandhi had himself affirmed his faith in the gospel of the mother-tongue. Graduates, Mrs. Naidu affirmed, must sacrifice some time for this cause and then freedom would have its true foundation.

## LEGAL DISABILITIES OF HINDU WOMEN

The following appeal has been issued under the signatures of Lady Abdul Qadir, President; Rani Lakshmbai Rajwade, Chairwoman; Mrs. Charulata Mukerji, Organising Secretary; and Mrs. Renuka Ray, Social Section Secretary, All-India Women's Conference.

It is the considered view of the representatives of India's women, as expressed in the last Annual Session of the All-India Women's Conference at Calcutta, that a Commission with a non-official majority and a strong representation of women should be appointed without delay to enquire into the present disabilities of women in regard to marriage and inheritance and make suitable recommendations to remove the same. This is an appeal to all women interested in women's welfare to start a nation-wide campaign to arouse public opinion and impress on the Government of India the urgent necessity of appointing the Commission. We must make it clear to the authorities that it is not a mere passing of a resolution at the Conference, but that we are earnest about it, and we shall only be satisfied when our just and reasonable demand is fulfilled. We are sure that we shall obtain the unstinted help and support of those of our men who have helped with so much enthusiasm the cause of women's advancement so far.

## HINDU WIDOWS' RIGHTS

Speaking at a tea party held in Bombay on June 29 in honour of Dr. B. S. Moonje, Mr. M. R. Jayakar referred to the plight of the Hindu widows and the duty of the Hindu Maha Sabha to them, and remarked:

According to the figures in my possession, I can say that on an average nearly thirty Hindu women are being daily converted to Islam. Within the last fortnight, eleven cases have occurred of Hindu women being kidnapped in the Bombay Presidency. Under these circumstances, Rescue Homes are absolutely necessary.

## MISS SAKUNTALA

A meeting of the Senate of the Calcutta University has accepted the recommendation of the Syndicate for awarding the Ghose Travelling Fellowship for a year among others to Miss Sakuntala Rao to enable her to prosecute advanced study and research abroad in connection with the educational system for women. She will work in England under the guidance of distinguished professors. She is the first woman in India to have been awarded this Fellowship.

## THE LOST LAW BOOK OF BRIHASPATI

The Government of Baroda have undertaken to publish in the Gaekwar's Oriental Series the reconstruction of the text (with a translation) of the ancient, and now lost law-book of Brihaspati, which Rao Bahadur K. V. Rangaswami Iyengar, Trivandrum, has been preparing. They have also appointed him to edit in addition the oldest extant digest of Hindu Family Law and Custom, the "Smriti Kalpataru" of Lakshmidhara, Prime Minister of Emperor Govindachandra of Benares. This is a vast work of about 40,000 *granthas* full of quotations from numerous authorities which are now lost. The "Kalpataru" is invariably cited by later writers with profound respect and is a work of paramount authority. Complete manuscripts of it do not exist at present. The Baroda Government have arranged for the collection of all the manuscripts for Mr. Rangaswami Iyengar, and when published, these books will be monumental additions to the literature of ancient Indian culture.

## EDITORIAL "WE"

Use of the word "We" by both speakers and writers is primarily intended to avoid the appearance of egotism. Also it gives speeches or writings a ring of authority that is lacking with the use of the first person singular. Editorial use is slightly different, as a statement by an editor is understood to be supported by the publishers or entire staff.

## BOOKS RECEIVED

- INDIAN RELIGION AND SURVIVAL. By Mrs. Rhys Davids. George Allen and Unwin, Ltd., London.
- THE MINGLING OF THE RACES. By G. M. Trevelyan, O.M. Longmans Green & Co.
- THE NEW APPROACH TO THE VEDAS. By A. K. Coomaraswami. Luzac & Co., London.
- THE PEACE AND THE PROTESTANT SUCCESSION. By G. M. Trevelyan, O.M. Longmans Green & Co.
- SELECTIONS FROM GANDHI. By Nirmal Kumar Bose, Navavidhan Publication Committee, 89, Machubazar Street, Calcutta.
- FORTY-FOUR YEARS A PUBLIC SERVANT. By C. A. Kincaid, C.V.O. Blackwood, London.
- INDIAN MELODIES IN STAFF NOTATION. By Prof. Sambamurthy. (A pamphlet in 11 pages.) Arthur Stockwell, London.
- THE REDUCTION OF LAND REVENUE ASSESSMENT. By R. Sivarama Iyer, B.A., B.L. Venkateswar Press, Madura.
- VIJAYANAGARA: ORIGIN OF THE CITY AND THE EMPIRE. By N. Venkataramanayya, M.A., Ph.D., University of Madras.

## MAHATMAJI'S FAST

Mahatma Gandhi has decided to observe a week's fast early this month to expiate the crime of assault committed by some of his followers recently at Ajmer, when the leader of a Santanist black flag demonstration was roughly handed by the reformers. In the course of a statement explaining the reasons for the penance, Mahatmaji observes that the Hartian movement is purely religious and admits of no violence on the part of the reformers even in spite of provocation. Its success is possible only through the purity and penance of the reformer.

Mahatmaji adds: "It is, perhaps, fitting that the end should be signalled by a penitential fast."

"The cause," he concludes, "will be best served by greater dedication."

## THE NEW MAYOR OF CALCUTTA

The controversy regarding the election of the Mayor of Calcutta came to an end on July 4 when the Calcutta Corporation by 44 votes to 37 elected Mr. N. R. Sarkar as Mayor. Mr. A. K. Fazl-ul-Huq, who was Mr. Sarkar's rival, was defeated.

Three members including Mr. Huq did not vote, while Mr. Sarkar voted for himself. All Muslim councillors voted for Mr. Huq, and the Europeans and nominated councillors, with the exception of nominated Muslims, voted for Mr. Sarkar.

For the first time a nominated councillor, Mr. B. N. Ray Chowdhury, son of the Rajah of Santosh, was elected Deputy Mayor by 41 to 36 votes, 8 members not voting.

Khan Bahadur M. A. Momen presided over the elections.

## MR. P. KODANDA RAO

Mr. P. Kodanda Rao, Secretary of the Servants of India Society, whose article on "Indians in South Africa" appears on another page, has left for America via Italy, Geneva and London, to spend a year at the Yale University, studying race relations. He will join the post-graduate school of the University, which specialises in the study of cultural contacts of different races. Mr. S. G. Vaze will act both as Secretary of the Society and Editor of the *Servant of India* during Mr. Kodanda Rao's absence. Mr. Kodanda Rao will return via Japan and China and may visit some colonies, where Indians have settled.

## DR. DESHMUKH ON THE I. M. C.

Dr. Deshmukh, who attended the recent meeting of the All-India Medical Council, made the following statement to the United Press on the 13th of last month:

The result of this Conference has been disappointing if not disgusting. The decisions arrived at after full deliberation of the Council only three months ago have been rescinded to order. It has been a case of arguments that may be on your side but we have votes and, therefore, we dictate that it is difficult to fight against nominations of influence and a packed House of ex-Mayors and Presidents of important public bodies like the Corporations of Bombay and Calcutta, that do not raise points of Order and Law frivolously and yet points which to ordinary common sense were plainly out of order were declared to be in order.

## INSTITUTE FOR RADIUM TREATMENT

The Madras Radiological Institute, the only private one of its kind in Southern India, have received their supply of Radium in the latest type of platinum and gold containers. About two years ago Surgeon-General C. A. Sprawson, now Director-General, I.M.S., blessed the institute in performing the opening ceremony of the Deep X-Ray Therapy Department and congratulated Dr. P. Rama Rao, the owner and director of the Institute, on his enterprise. The Institute is now completely equipped for all modern radiological services, both diagnosis and therapy, the entire installation costing over a lakh of rupees.

## DR. C. DWARKANATH

Dr. C. Dwarkanath, a Licentiate in Indian Medicine, has been selected for research work in tuberculosis by the University of Hamburg, Germany. This is a due recognition of Indian medical science conducted by the Government School of Indian Medicine at Madras, where Dr. Dwarkanath underwent his professional training.

## MENINGITIS AND KASAULI INSTITUTE

The various departments of the Government of India have been circularised that the Kasauli Institute has prepared a special vaccine for meningitis. All employees have been urged to get themselves inoculated as a precautionary measure. The vaccine has also been supplied to doctors in Simla.

## HAY FEVER CONGRESS

Hellgoland has been chosen as the venue for the hay fever congress held on July 16 and 17 last. Many famous medical authorities lectured at the Congress on hay fever and kindred diseases. The island, because of its dearth of grass, is a veritable paradise for patients suffering from hay fever.

## CURE FOR SLEEPY SICKNESS

Medical authorities hail an operation performed at Leningrad by a Soviet surgeon, as a great step forward in the world-wide efforts to find a cure for sleepy sickness.

It is asserted that the operation stopped for the first time the trembling of the limbs of a victim of the disease. Dr. Mashansky, of the Institute for Nerves Disease, reported that he accomplished this by severing nerves at the base of the spinal cord controlling the movement of the limbs, in accordance with a theory advanced by the American surgeon, Mr. Putnam.

## ANTI-MALARIAL CAMPAIGN IN THE PUNJAB

An anti-malarial campaign will be undertaken this month in the Punjab on the initiative of the Commissioner for rural reconstruction and with the co-operation of the health authorities. It is understood that a scheme has been devised to distribute 8,000,000 quinine tablets costing Rs. 70,000 at prices below the market rates in the rural parts of the Punjab in an effort to fight malaria. This is likely to be accompanied by educative propaganda through films and otherwise dealing with malaria.

## THE HINTON TEST vs. WASSERMANN

Dr. Augustus Hinton, colored physician of Boston, Mass., formulated several years ago a precipitation blood test for the detection of syphilis. We learn that the department of public health of Boston has now voted to substitute the Hinton test for the Wassermann in the serological detection of syphilis whenever the specimen is suitable. The Hinton test is considered more sensitive than the Wassermann or any other precipitation test.

## HEALTH FILMS IN TURKEY

Films dealing with health subjects are popular in Turkey. One showing how to care for the teeth ran throughout the provinces for 1,395 days; a malaria film lasted 714 days; another on the treatment of children, 554 days. But a picture entitled "Why Willy Won't Wash" received little encouragement and appeared only 45 days.

## DR. R. ROW

The Barclay Memorial Medal for the year 1934 has been awarded by the Asiatic Society, Bengal, to Dr. R. Row for meritorious contributions to the biological science with special reference to India. Dr. Row was the second scholar sent to England under the J. N. Tata Education Scheme in 1893.

## SIR SORABIJI POCHKHANAWALA

The staff of the Central Bank of India,\* Bombay, presented an address to Sir Sorabji Pochkhanawala, Managing Director of the Bank, Sir Phiroze Sethna



SIR S. POCHKHANAWALA

Chairman of the Board, presiding. The Secretary of the Bank, Mr. H. C. Captain, who read the address, congratulated Sir Sorabji on the honour of Knighthood conferred on him on the King's birthday. It is well known that the steady growth and present stability of the Bank is due in great measure to the efforts of Sir Sorabji.

The address stated that in advancing the welfare of the Bank, Sir Sorabji had never swerved from the principles of safety first, and this has undoubtedly been instrumental in enabling the Bank to withstand the several organised attempts to shake its credit.

## THE LATE MR. ARAVAMUDHA IYENGAR

We deeply regret the death in London of Mr. V. K. Aravamudha Iyengar at the early age of 42.

The late Mr. Iyengar was the budget officer of the Government of India. A few months back he was transferred as the Deputy Controller of Currency, Calcutta, which post he could not take up owing to ill-health.

He left for the Continent to recoup his health and latest reports from him were encouraging.

In Secretariat circles, he was termed as the right-hand man of Sir Basil Blackett and Sir George Schuster. His name had been mentioned in connection with the secretaryship of the future Reserve Bank of India.

In him, the Government of India have lost a brilliant member of the Financial Service.

## AMERICAN TRAIN RECORD

Telegrams from New York, dated May 27, give details of a record-making train journey in connection with the re-opening of the Chicago World Fair when the stream-line train, "The Zephyr," made a non-stop run of 1,015 miles from Denver. Describing the working of the Diesel Engine Locomotive, the London Correspondent of the *Hindu* says:—

"The time taken for the journey was 13 hr. 5 min. 44 sec, or 12 hr. 40 min. less than the scheduled time for steam trains on the same route. The Zephyr's average speed was 77.6 miles an hour and highest speed over three miles was 112.5 miles an hour.

The steel train of three coaches set a new record for the 401 miles previously held by the Royal Scott. The Zephyr's average time over this distance was 79.1 miles an hour, compared with the Royal Scott's 56 miles an hour. The difference in time over this stretch between Denver and Harvard, Nebraska, was 1 hr. 53 min.

The new train is driven by a 600 h.p. Diesel engine, which consumes crude furnace oil at a cost of only 4 cents a gallon, or \$17 for the run between Denver and Chicago. The most elaborate precautions were taken by the Burlington Railway to protect tracks throughout the day. The employees and police were on guard at every station and road crossing. Placards warned the train's drivers of practicable speeds along the route.

The train has room for 72 passengers but yesterday 85 were on board. The Diesel engine worked perfectly. When the train moved slowly to the World's Fair, it was greeted by 100,000 people gathered to celebrate the reopening of the Better Century of Progress Exposition, which represents an investment of \$43,000,000 (about £8,600,000)."

## RAILWAYS IN INDIA

State railways in India are showing signs of recovery from the recent depression.

The gross receipts in 1933-34 were nearly Rs. 87 crores, or over two crores more than in the previous year.

The total deficit for the year was nearly Rs. 8 crores and a temporary loan had again to be taken from the Depreciation Fund to meet the deficit. The balance in the Fund is Rs. 9½ crores.

The stores balances have been reduced to Rs. 10 crores, which constitutes a fresh low record.

The operation ratio compares favourably with that on many foreign railways and was lower than in the past three years.

## INDIAN PICTURES IN LONDON

At the Royal Photographic Society's galleries in Runell Square, London, were exhibited recently pictures representing aspects of India little known abroad, except to those who have lived in this country. They were exhibited and explained by Col. F. D. S. Fayer.

One series shows the delicate carvings, illustrating incidents in the lives of saints on the pillars and circular ceilings of the tenth and eleventh-century marble temples at Mount Abu. These are typical examples of Jain architecture and among the wonders of the world.

The Indian convention of carving in three bands, the lowest depicting elephants, the next horses, and the uppermost scenes of every-day life is exemplified in a photograph of the "Gate of Victory" at Fatehpur Sikri, the beautiful city of marble and red sandstone.

The picture of a woman and a little child at the Sacred Well in Udaipur tells something of what, in addition to disease, doctors are fighting in India. From time immemorial the image of a god inside the great temple at Udaipur has been washed in water that has been trickled through the wall into an outside well. In this water, which is both holy and unwholesome, devout mothers bathe the eyes of high caste babies and ensure an ever-increasing supply of patients to the hospitals.

A series of pictures taken at the Parel Laboratory shows the method of catching a cobra, feeding it through a glass funnel, and 'milking' it, or extracting its venom. A piece of rubber is stretched over a wine glass. The snake is allowed to bite this when its glands are compressed and the poison forced into the grooved fangs runs into the glass, just as it would have done into the body of its victim had the rubber been human flesh.

## DANCE AS A SPIRITUAL EXPRESSION

"We are day by day degenerating the youthful upspringing impulse of truth and beauty and we shall not be happy as a great nation until we regard all arts as manifestation of divinity", says Ruth St. Denis in the *Messenger of the East*. While paying a tribute to the religious fervour of Oriental dancing, this itinerant minister of the Gospel of Beauty pleads:

Dancing is the divine impulse of spirit to move rhythmically, proportionately and perpetually, but in order that the dance may attain its rightful place among the arts and may serve humanity as it should, dancers must change their emphasis from the material to the spiritual. Havelock Ellis says: "If we are indifferent to the art of dancing, we have failed to understand not merely the supreme manifestation of physical life but also the supreme symbol of spiritual life."

## GOLF AND TENNIS

A writer in *Field-Madras* gives the following points regarding these two games:

1. Tennis is a game in which you have always the wits of your opponent to deal with from second to second. In Golf, you have no such thing in any way to be used in such a sudden manner. Many golfers, on the other hand, baffle their opponents on the time they take over strokes.

2. Tennis is a game in which you get the maximum physical exertion in a reasonable amount of time. Golf takes more time.

3. Tennis that is not of the Pat ball variety can only be played upto a certain age, whereas Golf can be played upto any age, which proves the amount of energy and exertion needed in the former is so much greater.

## SIR K. V. REDDI ON SPORT

If only there were more sportsmen in the country, perhaps all that is going on generally in the political field might be avoided, declared Sir K. V. Reddi, Law Member, presiding at the recent anniversary celebration and prize distribution of the Ootacamund Combined Cricket Club.

He added that in Western countries the greatest value was attached to sport, which helped in the formation of character.

## CYCLING

The State Express Auto Sports Club of Secunderabad recently organised a cycling race for one mile speed test. Manohar, Secretary of the Brotherhood Club of Hyderabad, came first covering the distance in 2 minutes and 30 seconds, while S. D. Engineer took 9 seconds more. On May 5, a ten-mile cycle race was organised, Engineer setting up a record for the Deccan by covering the distance in 29 minutes 15 seconds.

## THE CRICKET CLUB OF INDIA

The scheme for the constructing of a club-house and ground at Bombay was approved in principle by the Cricket Club of India at a meeting held at Simla on 9th July, presided over by H. H. the Maharaja of Patiala. It was also decided that His Highness, the president, should put himself in communication with the Governor of Bombay for the acquisition of a site for the building and ground.

## INDIAN ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

Sir M. Visveswarayya, presiding over the second meeting of the Indian Academy of Sciences held at Bangalore in the premises of the Indian Institute of



SIR M. VISWESVARAYA

Science, pleaded for an increased interest in practical and applied science in preference to theoretical science.

"It is a great pity that so much precious energy is being spent on theoretical science and little is being spent on industries and constructive engineering which would help to give bread to the people.

What is needed in India is a more constructive effort, particularly in industries. People in India earned about Rs. 15 per head from industries, while the corresponding figure in United Kingdom was Rs. 412, U. S. A. Rs. 721, Canada Rs. 470 and Japan Rs. 159. That gives in a nutshell how unbalanced are our theoretical and practical endeavours in India to-day."

## SIR NILRATAN SIRCAR

At the annual general meeting of the Indian Association for Cultivation of Science, held on June 19th at Calcutta, Sir C. V. Raman announced that his intention was not to stand for the presidentship, whereupon Sir Nilratan Sarkar was unanimously elected President and Dr. S. N. Mitter, Secretary, for the current year.

## SIR C. V. RAMAN

Sir C. V. Raman, Director of the Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore, has been invited to deliver the inaugural address at the first International Congress of Radio-Biology, which will be held in the historic palace of the Doges of Venice, on September 10.

## GOVERNMENT THROUGH FILMS

The Prime Minister, Mr. Ramsay MacDonald, Mr. Baldwin and Sir John Simon gave an official send-off at Old Palace Yard, Westminster, to nine daylight cinema vans, which are to tour the country exhibiting a programme of films intended to make better known the achievements of the National Government.

The films to be shown in towns and villages all over Britain are entitled "The Great Recovery", "Tariffs", "The Empire", and "Agriculture". Other films will eventually be added, including one on Empire sport and another on Market Gardening.

Mr. MacDonald, addressing the operators as they stood beside their vans, said: "You are going to show what the National Government has done. We have been through bad times and you are going to tell the people how we are getting through them and that this country is once again on a firm foundation, loved by its own people and respected abroad. 'Haul together and pull the country through' is the motto you must take with you."

## "THE CLIVE OF INDIA"

India will figure in an important film to be produced in Hollywood, says a *Reuter's* message. It is the screen version of the successful London play, "Clive of India" by Mr. R. J. Mianey, former Calcutta journalist, and Mr. W. P. Lipscomb.

Ronald Colman will play the title part and, to ensure an authentic atmosphere, he and the rest of the cast may go to India for filming some scenes. These will "shoot" Madras, Calcutta, Plassey and other places.

The Black Hole of Calcutta will also be shown.

## A NEW FILM COMPANY

A powerful syndicate to put India on the international map as a producer of 'talkie' films has been formed in Bombay. The new group, which will have a capital of 25 lakhs of rupees, includes Sir Chitmanlal Setalvad, Sir Phiroze Sethna, Sir Cowasjee Jehangir, Junior, Mr. F. E. Dinshaw, Mr. Chunilal B. Mehta and Mr. Jagmohandas Morarjee.

We understand that Mr. Himansural and Miss Devakiran of "Karma" fame are to be engaged by the new group under long-term contracts.

## FRITZ LANG'S PAY

Fritz Lang, the famous German film director, is to be paid the record sum of £40,000 for one film. He will make it in Hollywood. Fritz Lang built his fame in Germany on such films as "Metropolis", "The Spy", and "M." Lang is a Jew.

## THE AIRWHEEL TYRE

Several years ago one of the greatest deterrents to aviation progress was the difficulty and danger encountered by aeroplanes in landing or taking-off on rough or soft ground. Recognising the necessity for the elimination of this obstacle, the Goodyear Tyre and Rubber Co., Ltd., experimented with a super-soft low pressure tyre, finally pioneering and perfecting in 1929 the airwheel tyre for aeroplanes.

Almost immediately this big, buoyant tyre set new standards of safety and gave new impetus to air travel and aviation development. Appreciating its advantages, tyre experts initiated this development for motor cars and tractors. Airwheel tyres were tested on the motor cars of a test fleet for more than 2 years over all types of roads and terrain.

The introduction of airwheel tyres into the India, Burma and Ceylon markets has been very successful, and the advantages they give are briefly explained as follows: The pressure of airwheel tyres is lower and the air volume is far greater than that of the standard balloon tyre. This enables them to roll easily and smoothly over the bumpiest roads. Steering is just as effortless as ever. The greater cushioning of airwheel tyres prolongs the usual life of any motor car; for there is less shock therefore less wear and tear on mechanical parts and lower maintenance costs. The likelihood of punctures, bruises and cuts is remote because of the tyres' extreme softness.

## MOTORING IN CEYLON

Ceylon motor vehicle statistics for June reveal that the United Kingdom led all classes of vehicles, except omnibuses, by a substantial margin. Out of a total of 196 motor vehicles imported into Ceylon in June, 120 were from the United Kingdom. The nearest competitor was Canada with 35, and America third with 29.

## COMPENSATION FOR LOSS OF LEG

A new record is believed to be established in a recent case tried in the Supreme Court of Brooklyn, when a workman was awarded \$60,000 (£12,000) damages for the loss of a leg due to the alleged negligent driving of a motor lorry.

## MOTOR SHOW IN COLOMBO

With the revival of motor trade in Ceylon, a scheme is afoot for holding a Motor Show to take place at the end of the year. The last exhibition was held in 1927 and was extremely successful.

## AVIATION AND SANCTIONS

The *Times* in a leading article, dated June 5, says that the danger of aggression is much more generally expressed to-day in terms of the air than when the Treaty of Locarno was negotiated. The importance given to the demilitarized zone of the Rhineland shows how much the question of aggression by land was in the minds of the negotiators; and the reference to the Council of the League bears out that assumption. Of all forms of unprovoked aggression, a bombing attack from the air would in all probability be the most flagrant, and it would therefore place upon England the most blinding obligation to intervene. There was assuredly no intention to omit air attack from the acts of aggression contemplated in the Locarno Treaties, and therefore it is a point for consideration whether it would not be worth while to re-state the obligations of Locarno in terms of the air. There cannot be the slightest doubt that the fear of air invasion is at the present moment the most disturbing single factor in the relations of France and Germany. It is also rightly regarded as the most real danger to England.

## FUTURE OF AVIATION IN INDIA

Important developments in the air mail services in India are expected in the near future. The expansion of the main trunk lines and the speeding up of the service are rapidly coming into prominence. The Government of India have completed arrangements for a new aerodrome at Gaya in Bihar. This will provide a new landing place for trans-continental aeroplanes between Allahabad and Calcutta and will help the machines to carry much more freight than is possible at present.

The proposed air mail services from China, Japan and Australia are expected to swell the volume of traffic passing through India, necessitating the expansion and the speeding up of the present services in India.

## MR. CHAWLA'S PLANS

We learn that Mr. R. N. Chawla, who with Mr. A. Engineer was the first Indian aviator to fly from India to England, proposes to attempt a solo flight round the world in the near future. He, it is understood, is being financed by several Princes and other people interested in Indian aviation. Mr. Chawla proposes to learn blind and night flying in England, and to buy a powerful machine in London. Mr. Chawla has applied for the necessary permits for the different countries *en route*.

## AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

Mr. S. V. Ramamurti, Director of Agriculture, Madras, on the eve of his return to India after six months' tour in Europe has suggested conscription of educated young men and women to work on the land and conduct a campaign against rural illiteracy as one method of improving Indian agriculture.

He told *Reuter* that he believed he had gleaned many valuable ideas for Indian agriculture, but held that the primary problem there was the removal of illiteracy among the peasant cultivators to enable Provincial Governments to inculcate up-to-date methods of cultivation. He noted that Germany had decreed that every young man, who wanted to go to the University, must work for 6 months in an agricultural camp in order to create sympathy among the towns people for country life.

Mr. Ramamurti, who is the first Indian to visit the Plant Industry Institute, Leningrad, the Soviet's premier agricultural research institute, was particularly struck by the success of experiments in growing Indian wheat in the Arctic Circle and clover on near the Black Sea and also the methods employed for producing five crops or more of various plants annually instead of the usual one or two. He opined that such methods could be adopted successfully in India with wheat, cotton, rice and other crops.

## INDIA'S ECONOMIC NEED

India's most important practical economic need at present is the development of a proper system of marketing her agricultural produce, both crops and animal products.

This point was stressed by Sir George Schuster in a farewell speech in Bombay recently. It involved, he said, steps to improve the demand, both internal and external for each commodity, and steps to ensure that the ryot got as large a share as possible of the value of what he produced.

With this in view, the Government of India had decided to make a big drive on the question of marketing and had brought out Mr. Livingstons, who was formerly Marketing Expert to the British Board of Agriculture.

India's foreign trade was being very directly affected by world developments, because of the growing economic isolationism in other countries and they had to take account increasing restriction and the increasing uncertainty of external markets.

In conclusion, Sir George Schuster appealed for co-operation between the Central and Provincial Governments and the fullest support from, and action by public if they desired success for their scheme.

## LABOUR IN BOMBAY MILLS

"The period which we have been considering, from 1926 to 1933, has been noteworthy for the decline of Bombay as a principal cotton textile centre and the rise of Ahmedabad, and the establishment of new mills in the mofussil," says the report of the inquiry into wages and unemployment in the Bombay cotton textile industry, which was published last month.

The report does not make any recommendations but barely states the following facts:

Wage cuts have been more numerous and greater in extent in Bombay city than in any other centre.

As compared with 1926, there has been an average increase of about 5 per cent. in wages in Ahmedabad.

The real wages in Bombay in April last were 11 per cent. higher as compared with July 1926. This was due to the decrease in the cost of living.

The general effect of rationalisation has been beneficial to the workers.

About 28,000 persons have lost their employment in Bombay city since 1926.

The volume of employment in the industry at Ahmedabad has considerably increased and in 1933 there were 26,561 more operatives than in 1926.

The Bombay Mill Owners' Association, in an emergent general meeting, adopted important decisions regarding the standardisation of wages. The effect of the decisions will be: (1) safeguarding against any decrease in wages on the introduction of 54-hour week from January; (2) that the wages of a large number of time workers of various occupations will be immediately raised in a number of mills; (3) that the wages of the piece-workers will be raised by 5 per cent.; and (4) that food allowance, which is 35 per cent. at present, will be raised to 40 per cent. . . .

The strike in the Bombay mills has been called off on the publication of the report of the inquiry into the wages and unemployment in the textile mills in the city. The report found that the wages in December 1933 were 15 per cent. higher than they were in July 1926.

## MR. GANDHI ON CAPITAL AND LABOUR

Addressing a meeting of millworkers in Ahmedabad last month, Mr. Gandhi said that there was absolutely no difference between capital and labour. The capitalist used his wealth intelligently whereas the labourer frittered away his. He wished for a combination of the two which alone would solve the problem of Indian labour.

## A MATHEMATICAL PRODIGY

Perhaps the most famous calculating prodigy is George Bidder, a stone mason's son. Once, Sir William Herschel, the famous astronomer, asked him this question: "Supposing a ray of light takes 8 minutes to come to the earth from the sun. Assuming that the sun is 98,000,000 miles off, what is the distance of a certain star whose light takes 8 years and 4 months to reach the earth, taking 365 days and 6 hours for each and 28 days for each month?" This hard nut was cracked in a single minute. After a moment's thought George Bidder answered that the star was 40,633,740,000,000 miles away, which after an extremely tedious calculation of half-an-hour proved to be correct.

At another time Bidder was given 43 different numbers. They were read to him backwards. After an hour, Bidder was able to repeat them in the correct fashion without any mistake.

## PRINTING AS A PROFESSION

Mr. A. Gilbert, Printing Specialist, writes in *Careers*: Printing offers a large scope to the young men with small capital to start for himself; he is required to see the needs of various phases of business and to be able to produce printing that is compelling, attractive and useful and yet peculiar to the subjects it is applied to.

This is a study in itself and calls for an appreciation of types faces, paper, inks and colour of cover papers, etc., and these qualities can only be obtained by experience plus a natural ability to get that experience quickly.

The best office to learn in is one that covers most branches of printing and thereby offers more scope to obtain a general knowledge of the business.

It should always be borne in mind that print is a necessity, and callings that fall in that category are the first to benefit by increased trade and the last to be influenced by depression.

## WIRELESS SETS AS NECESSITIES

It is forbidden to pawn a wireless set in Germany to-day.

Wireless sets are in future to be regarded as household necessities. A precedent for this ruling has been set in German courts, where it has been stated that a wireless set is indispensable and that each household must have one for the reception of important national news.

Johnnie had been attending classes in etiquette, and he was proud of his ability to show his knowledge of the subject. His small sister started to go from the kitchen to the dining-room one morning when the boy grabbed her by the shoulder so that she tumbled into the coal scuttle.

"Don't you know that a gentleman always opens a door for a lady?" he shouted.

Friend, began the man with the big black beard and a bag of tracts: "Have you ever reflected on the extreme shortness of life and the fact that death is inevitable?"

The other roared with laughter and held his sides.

"You bet your life I have," he answered between his sobs of mirth.

"I'm an insurance agent."

PLUTOCRAT (to young man asking for his daughter's hand): "And have you said anything about this to my daughter?"

WOULD-BE SUITOR: "Not yet, Sir. You see it was only last night that I heard you had a daughter."

"If you had eight pennies and lost three, how many would you have left?"

Little Cohen thought for a minute.

"But for vy," was his puzzled reply, "should I lose three pennies?"

Counsel: You say you came on business. I put it to you that there was a stronger motive.

Traveller: Perhaps there was.

Counsel (triumphantly): Then what was it?

Traveller: A locomotive.

FRIEND: "What do you consider the greatest poem ever written?"

POET: "Well, it isn't quite completed yet. I'm just putting the finishing touches to it."

TEACHER (to small boy): "What would happen if you were to break one of the Ten Commandments?"

SMALL BOY: "Well, then there would be only nine!"

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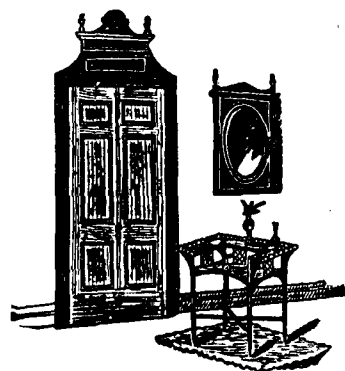
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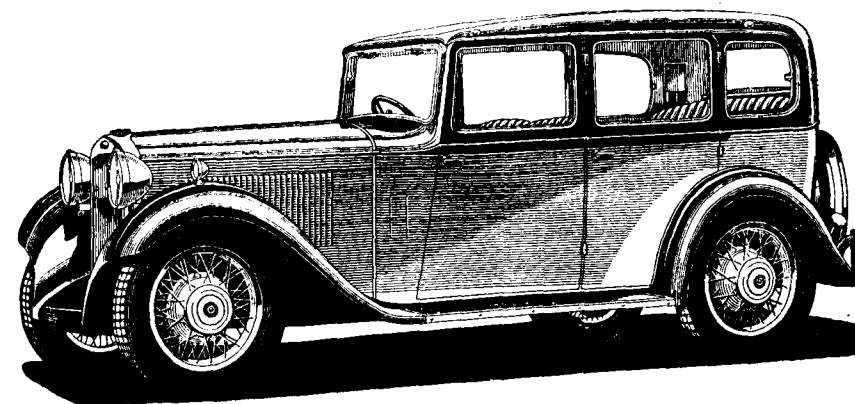
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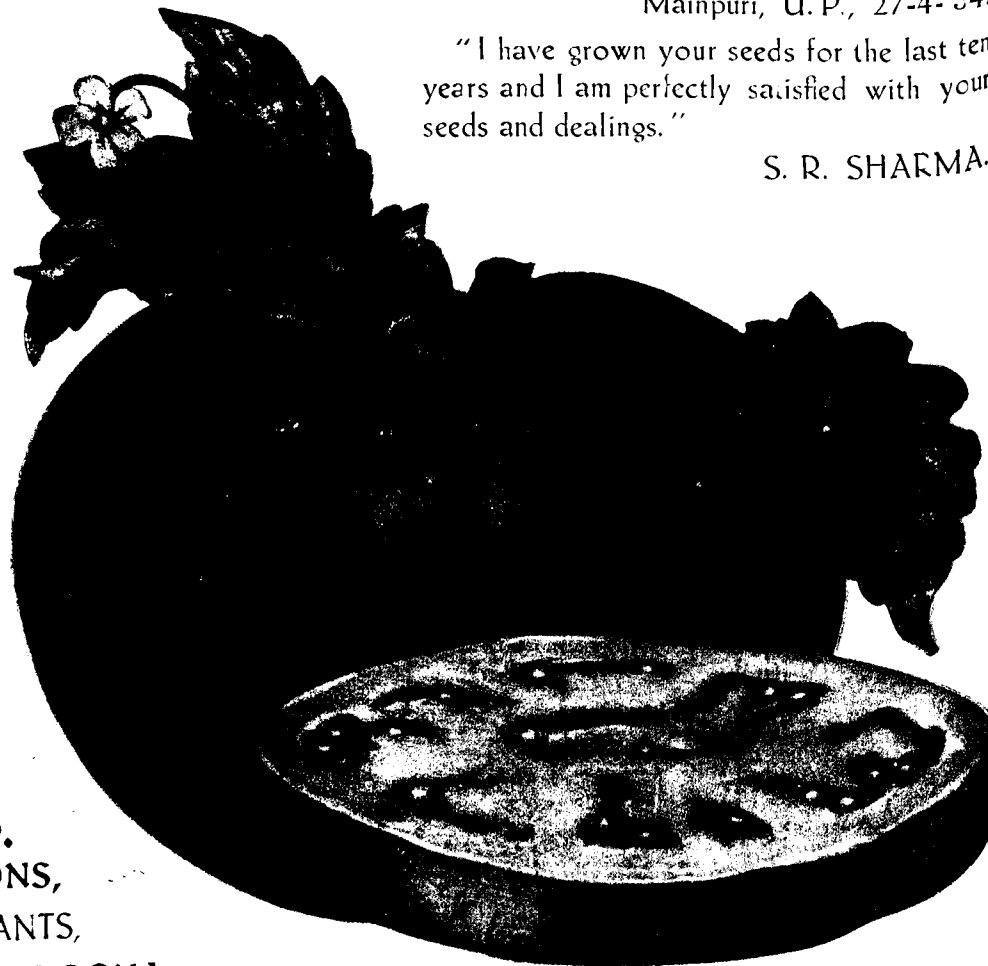
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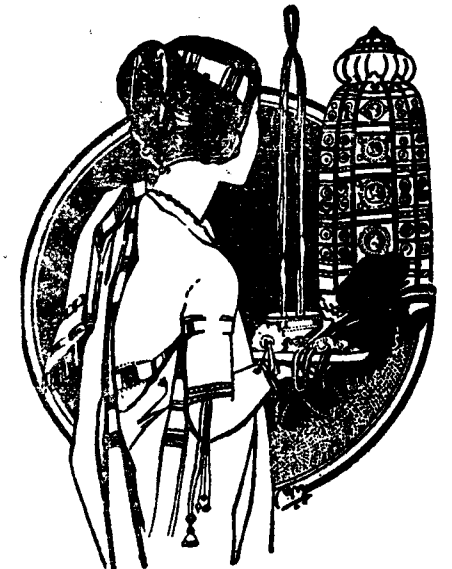
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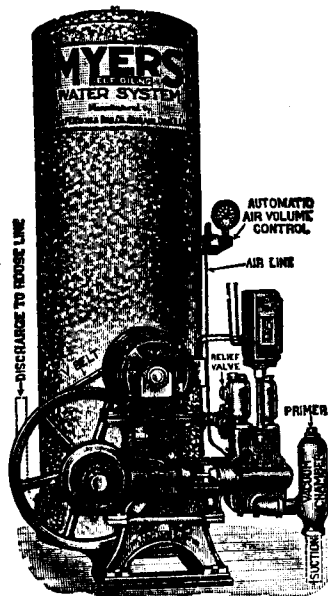
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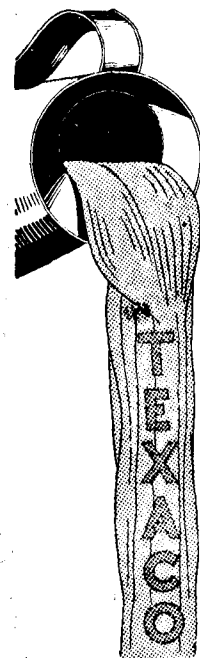
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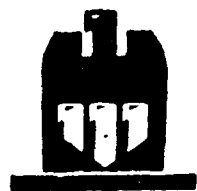
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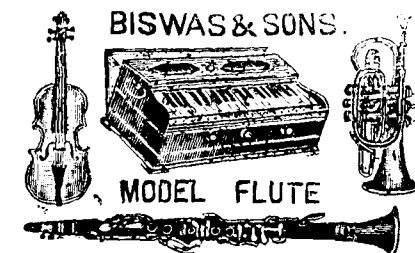
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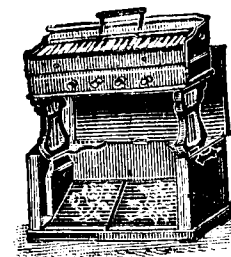
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