

The Indian Review

Edited By Mr. G. A. NATESAN

Vol. XXXX]

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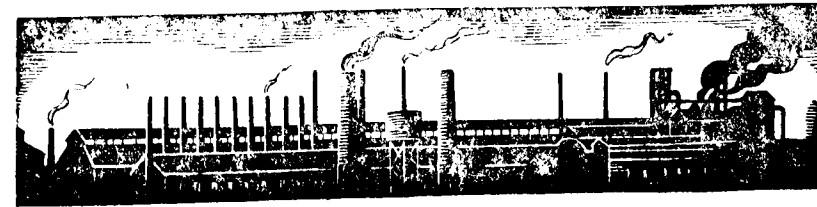
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ANCIENT HINDU CLASSICS

It is rarely that educated men stop to think of the place of publishers in nation-building. Even in these days of propaganda, when such a mighty phenomenon as the German Nazi party is almost wholly the handiwork of published writings, we in India are indifferent to the fortunes of the publishing trade. This thought strikes me, as a bunch of new publications of Messrs. G. A. Natesan & Co. is put in my hands. It is perhaps significant of his age that, after decades of devoted work in the field of political literature, Mr. G. A. Natesan has turned his attention to religious works which are often the best literature. But though the individual turns to religion later in his life, in the life of a nation there is no corresponding order in time or importance between politics and religion, though I would add that the need to catch the true spirit of Hinduism is greater, now that we are on the threshold of political freedom. To revive and spread that spirit, one must needs keep one's ideas of it in the background and assist the people to recapture the old atmosphere that over centuries and even millennia spread its fragrance even to this day. That atmosphere is got as an organic whole, not in classical literature, nor the Vedas or the Upanishads or the Gita, but in the great epics, which, however aristocratic in their excellence, are unquestionably democratic in their appeal.

Mr. Natesan must be congratulated on the idea of presenting the great epics in a form which enables the average Hindu to browse over them and chew the cud later in leisure. *Poems, Praises and Psalms* is a welcome addition to the trio with which the series started. *Valmiki Ramayana** came first, as, indeed, it could not be otherwise. Sri Aurobindo Ghose once wrote that no one who has read the *Ramayana* will acknowledge anything as its equal. And one has only to satisfy the qualifying phrase to acquiesce in the statement. And yet tens of thousands of Hindus grow up with no more knowledge of it than they can help. Mr. P. P. S. Sastri, who is responsible for the abridgement, was well-advised not to aim at a mere synopsis of the story. The student of

Ramayana finds at the end of a year or two of regular reading that certain passages stand out in memory and that certain lines have a haunting melody, though to pick and choose in the *Kishkinda* or *Sundara Kanda* is to be guilty of sheer invidiousness. But in a compilation like this, some omissions—and even the most superficial readers can give instances—would be inexcusable. Mr. Natesan's publication answers every such test. The translation is worded with special care for those who would treat it as just a stepping-stone to an understanding of the original. The *Mahabharata*† and the *Srimad Bhagavata*‡ are brought out to the same plan. I am no enthusiast for the former, but would certainly be the last to deny its value in a scheme of liberal education in the land of the Hindus. The *Bhagavatam* is in every way far different from the *Ramayana* or the *Mahabharata*. Marking as it does the climax of Hindu scholasticism, of religious emotionalism, philosophic systematisation and, not least, of Sanskrit pedantry, it is hard food even for the more accomplished students of Sanskrit. But, within its limits, it is a variegated menu and in these matters, age seems to improve, rather than impair, digestion. These books are of all time and for all ages.

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"JNAN" in *Indian Affairs*.

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Edited By Mr. G. A. NATESAN

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[No. 10.]

THE WAR IN EUROPE

The Background

ONCE again Europe is in the throes of war. It is a sad commentary on "the war to end war" which was fought in 1914 with such tragic consequences. Within the lifetime of a generation we are faced with the same problems to be solved by the same disastrous means. In 1914 it was the neutrality of Belgium that was at stake; now it is an equally small state whose independence is destroyed by a relentless enemy. Britain and France then rushed to save Belgium against German aggression; they are now on a similar mission to rescue the gallant people of Poland from the clutches of Germany. But the stake to-day is not merely Danzig or Poland: it is now, as in 1914, the immediate domination of Europe and the ultimate domination of the world by a power which has betrayed a cynical disregard to the decencies of civilized life. By sheer threat of force, Herr Hitler has acquired Rhineland, Austria, the Sudetenland, Czechoslovakia and Memel land, one after another in quick succession. On top of it all was effected the Danzig coup by unilateral action in defiance of the League and the Polish Government—the parties equally concerned in the maintenance of the Free City. There seems no end of this perpetual peril, though the Fuehrer proclaimed after every forced conquest that he had no further ambitions in Europe. It is a tale of bullying and treachery and it is certainly time to cry halt to this gangsterdom if there is to be rule of law among the nations of Europe.

On the 1st of September soon after the annexation of Danzig by the technique with which we have become familiar

the fall of Austria, German troops marched on Polish territory. The Nazi method is thus described:

The demand for the unconditional and immediate return of Danzig and the Corridor had already been formulated. The press had done its part; the armies had marched into positions, both in East Prussia and Slovakia; Militarists had entered the Free City in the guise of civilians and the population had swelled to required proportions. The drive was only to be quickened and accordingly the key was pitched higher. There were frontier incidents, tales of persecutions of minorities and customs disputes in Danzig, but the Poles refused to be intimidated or unnerved. And Hitler had to decide one way or the other—no Danzig or world war.

The final stage was reached and what might be described as the last move on the part of Germany was, therefore, made. There was a proclamation by Herr Foerster, the Nazi gauleiter of Danzig, willing away the union of Danzig with the Reich; there was the publication of what Hitler has proclaimed as Germany's last offer to Poland; there was an oration before the army and the order to march into Poland.

Signor Mussolini, who offered to mediate between Germany and Poland and her allies, suggested that hostilities should cease and a conference of five Powers—Germany, Poland, Italy, France and Great Britain should be called to devise a satisfactory settlement of the dispute regarding Danzig and the Corridor. But the British Government rightly insisted that German troops should be withdrawn before there could be any talk of a settlement. The British Ambassador in Berlin was instructed to inform the German Government that, if this was not done, Britain would consider that her guarantee to Poland to go to her assistance in case of invasion by Germany must take effect.

Hitler did not care to reply but in his address to the Reichstag soon after, he declared that he would give no such undertaking. On the other hand he went

six years

to build up the army. I now demand from Germany the hardest sacrifices. I am myself ready for every conceivable sacrifice." And so on September 3, the British Prime Minister announced that a state of war existed between Great Britain and Germany. A few hours later the French Prime Minister made a similar announcement in the French Parliament. Mr. Neville Chamberlain, speaking at a special session of the House of Commons the same evening, concluded on a personal note. He said:

It is a sad day for all of us, but for none is it sadder than for me. Everything I have done, worked for, hoped for and believed in during my public life has crashed in ruins. The only thing left to me is to devote what powers I have for victory. I cannot tell what part I may be allowed to play, but I trust I will live to see the day when Hitlerism is destroyed and a restored and liberated Europe has been re-established.

Thus has begun a war the consequences of which it is dreadful to contemplate. There seems no escape from it but to wade through slaughter to victory. One or two striking points which distinguish the present war from the war of 1914 should, however, be noted. It was said that Sir Edward Grey, the then British Foreign Minister, had not given sufficient warning to the Germans that in the event of a violation of Belgian neutrality, Britain would rush to help the victim. That plea cannot hold good in the present instance, for the British Government have repeatedly warned Hitler that England and France are pledged to support Poland and would automatically be found on her side in any contest. Hitler, no doubt, emboldened by previous Franco-British vacillation in regard to a similar pledge to Czechoslovakia, altogether ignored the warning. Another feature of the present struggle is that in spite of the Rome-Berlin Pact, Italy has wisely chosen to remain neutral. And so has Japan, which, outraged by the sudden *volte face* of Hitler in making a patch-up pact with the Soviet, has begun to revise her anti-Comintern relations. Other states in Europe have not been slow to declare their neutrality, so that Germany to-day faces the Allies, shorn of effective assistance even from Fascist friends like Franco in Spain and Mussolini in Italy. To us in India the neutrality of Italy and Japan is a blessing in so far as it removes at

any rate for the moment any chances of aggression from the two most likely quarters.

The declaration of war by Britain and France was the signal for the rallying together of their overseas possessions and the British Commonwealth of nations.

In Canada, Australia and New Zealand the response was immediate and united. In the Union of South Africa, General Hertzog was for a waiting policy, but a strong opposition headed by General Smuts outvoted him and he resigned; the new Government under General Smuts promptly declared war on Germany.

II

The Tragedy of Poland

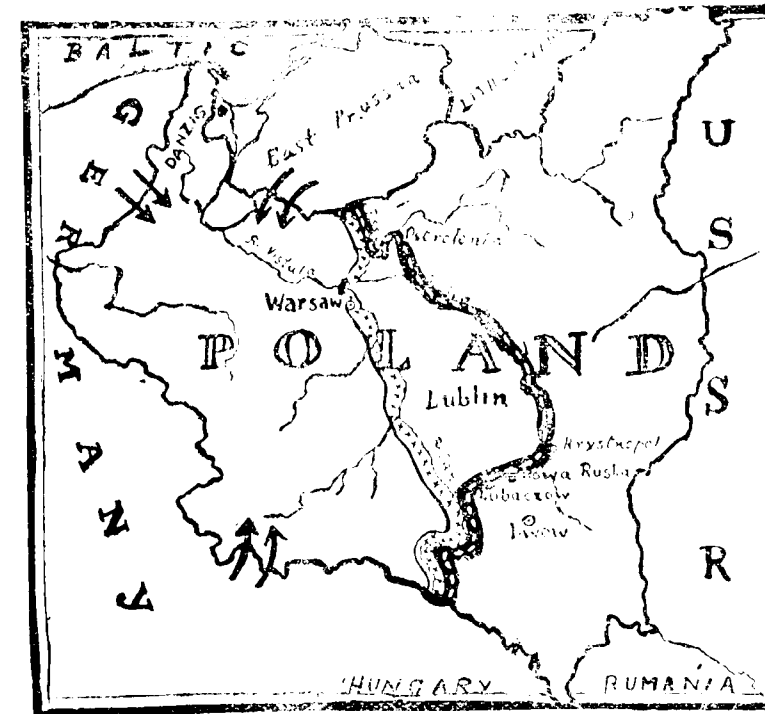
On September 1, German troops suddenly marched into Polish territory without the formality of an ultimatum. Indeed, they had been kept in position, ready to march at a word of command from the Fuehrer. After giving the word, Herr Hitler issued the following cryptic proclamation:—

The Polish State has refused a peaceful settlement of relations which I desired and has appealed to arms. The Germans in Poland are persecuted with blood and terror and are driven from their homes. The series of violations of the Frontier are intolerable to a Great Power and prove that Poland is no longer willing to respect the frontier of the Reich. In order to put an end to this lunacy, I have no other choice than to meet force with force from now on.

The German war machine was functioning relentlessly, and the gallant Poles defended their position with desperate courage. Every inch of Polish soil had to be fought for, and the violent German offensive practically stretched along the whole Polish front. Three distinct thrusts from three directions were, however, noticeable, one eastwards into the Corridor from the main body of the German Reich, another westwards from the isolated German territory of East Prussia, and the third northwards from Silesia and the State of Slovakia which German troops overran a few days ago.

The main purpose of the German strategy was, that the two northern armies could join up with the southern army near Warsaw, Poland's capital. The campaign was carried out according to plan and by the third week of September the enemy was thundering

at the gates of Warsaw. While the fight was going on, hundreds of German planes with incendiary bombs were making havoc of undefended places contrary to Hitler's promise to President Roosevelt's request to spare civilians in belligerent areas. In reply to President Moscicki, who had sent a message declaring that German aeroplanes had bombed open Polish towns and villages methodically with pre-meditation, Mr. Roosevelt said:



The Arrow marks indicate the direction of the three German thrusts.

The dotted line indicates the provisional demarcation between Russia and Germany.

The shaded line marks the partition according to the Russo-German Agreement of September 29.

I am deeply shocked by the statements contained in your telegram, also by the reports from other sources, including officials of this Government in Poland at the scene of hostilities.

Though the Polish Government had to be removed first to a place in Rumania and then to France, the Military continued to keep up a desperate defence against great odds. It was a tragedy that neither Britain nor France could rush to their rescue. Thousands of civilians were slaughtered and the stately palaces and

churches of Warsaw were machine-gunned. The enemy prevailed in the end after 21 days' strenuous fighting, with a loss, we are told, of over a lakh and fifty thousand.

III

Russia's Treachery

While the Poles were fighting with their backs to the wall against powerful odds, Russia which had declared neutrality, suddenly flung her armed forces on the east and began to force her way into Polish cities. On September 18, President Moscicki, in a moving proclamation to the Polish nation, stated:

While our army is withstanding the armed might of Germany, our eastern neighbour has invaded our land in violation of solemn covenants. From this struggle I have invincible faith that Poland must emerge victorious.

I have resolved to transfer the Government to a place offering conditions assuring full sovereignty and enabling it to watch the interests of the Republic.

The Russian invasion of a country already prostrate before a relentless enemy is described as a piece of treachery of the blackest character. It is a type of crime the most revolting to public opinion in any civilised country. But the Soviet Prime Minister, M. Molotov, explained that the break-down of the Polish State had necessitated the intervention of the Soviet Government to protect the White Russians

and Ukrainians who had been deprived of all rights by the Polish Government. On Monday the 18th, the German and Russian leaders met at Brest Litovsk in the territory of Poland and issued a joint manifesto to the effect that their interests did not conflict though they were acting quite independently of each other.

No time was lost in 'carving up' the victim of this double aggression. The German and Soviet Governments

established the following demarcation line between their armies in Poland: along the river Pissa to its confluence with the river Narew, along the Narew to its confluence with the river Bug, along the Bug to its confluence with the Vistula, along the Vistula to the mouth of the river San, along the San to its source.

This means that the Soviet frontier starting from the Polish East-Prussian frontier, 20 miles north of Novogrod, will extend as far west as Modlin and thence through Warsaw to the confluence of the Vistula and San, north of Sandomierz. It follows the San through Przemsyl, reaching the Hungarian frontier near Lupkow. The Soviet will thus occupy the entire Polish-Rumanian and Polish Ruthenian frontiers.

Warsaw itself was to be part German and part Russian according to the provisional demarcation, but the Agreement of September 29 conceded the whole of the Polish capital to Germany and some more territory as well in exchange presumably of a wider influence for the Soviet in the Balkans.

The feverish haste with which the Molotov-Ribbentrop negotiations were concluded in Moscow betray Hitler's anxiety to retain the annexed portion in Poland without further interference. Hitler has shown himself prepared to sacrifice anything for Soviet help to maintain the present partition as a *fait accompli* against Anglo-French contention. The *communiqué* issued from Berlin on September 29 declares that it would be in the real interests of all nations to end the war between Germany, Britain and France. The two Governments will make joint efforts to attain the aim as soon as possible. If war is continued, joint consultations will take place between the German and Soviet Governments on the subject of necessary measures.

So now we must be prepared for another peace offensive of a most intensive kind showing up England and France as the aggressors while Hitler himself will pose as the peace maker. But neither England nor France can in honour recognize the destruction of Poland. They cannot with any sense of security or self-respect acquiesce in the triumph of Hitler.

But the fate of Poland as the fate of Belgium in the last war will not be

decided in Poland itself. This is the fourth time in the history of the last two centuries that Poland has thus been partitioned. And every time the Poles have regained their independence and continued their life with renewed vigour. It may be that the very sacrifices she has undergone will once again kindle the memories of her past greatness and inspire her to emerge triumphant out of the ordeal, even as she tided over the three disastrous partitions she underwent in the 18th century.

Having finished Poland in a lightning campaign, Herr Hitler started what is called the peace offensive with a speech in Danzig on September 19, when he declared that not only Germany but Russia had guaranteed that Poland would never again rise in the form laid down by the treaty of Versailles. Herr Hitler was defiant throughout and charged Britain with having incited Poland to declare war after rejecting the German offer to reconcile the economic demands of Poland with the German character of Danzig. He boasted of his achievements and threatened dire consequences to Europe if Britain and France persisted in their course. The tone of frightfulness is fully revealed in a passage in which Hitler promises an eye for an eye and five bombs against one. Britain and France addressed in such hectoring terms can hardly be expected to succumb to this silly threat which to us appears to reveal the desperate pass to which the Fuehrer has brought himself and his country. The speech seems a plaintive cry of nervous weakness. In contrast with the hysterical tone of Hitler's harangue, was Mr. Chamberlain's calm but firm stand in the House of Commons brushing aside all possibilities of a patched-up peace at any price.

Britain and France, if they have not been able to avert the defeat of the armies of Poland, have not forgotten their obligations to her, nor are weakened in their determination to carry on the struggle despite Hitler's threats and the Russian intervention, said Mr. Chamberlain in his review of the progress of war in the House of Commons.

Mr. Chamberlain denounced the Russian invasion of Poland as a tragedy of the grimmest character, but said that it did not come as a surprise to them. He recalled the Soviet assurance of neutrality

and said that their later attitude had serious consequences on the victims of unprovoked aggression. In reply to Herr Hitler's speech, Mr. Chamberlain said

that Britain's general purpose in the struggle was to learn Europe from the perpetual recurrence of human aggression and to enable the peoples of Europe to preserve their independence and liberties; threats would deter her or her French allies in this purpose.

IV

Western Front

British and French action on land and air has been continuous and resistent in the west since the Allies declared war on September 3. The first offensive was the successful R. A. F. action on the Kiel Canal followed by the air attacks on the Friedrichshafen Zeppelin base.

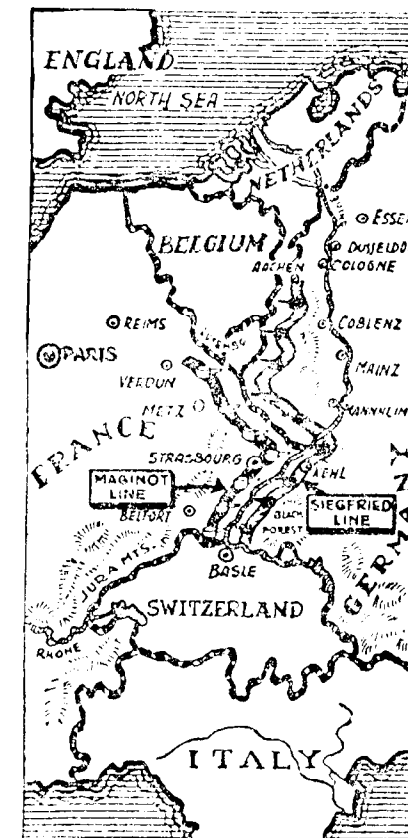
A vivid reassuring picture of Britain's increasing naval efforts to combat German submarine menace was given by Mr. Winston Churchill in the House of Commons on September 26. The German submarine menace is being effectively checked, and although the initial advantage is with the aggressor, the Allies' resources are being steadily marshalled.

After stating that the convoy system is now in full operation both ways, Mr. Churchill said that Britain's second reply to the U-Boat attack was to arm merchant vessels and fast liners with offensive armament, both against U-Boat and aeroplane.

While British planes were dropping Chamberlain's message to the German people, the British expeditionary force with great efficiency landed in France and marched in arm with French troops to the line action beyond the magnificent Maginot line—an immense strip of fortifications stretching from Luxemburg to Switzerland and known to be impregnable—a sort of Chinese wall with up-to-date contrivances for offensive and defensive warfare.

As we write, they are progressing on the entire front of the Maginot line and penetrating German territory everywhere, while ensuring absolute integrity of the French territory. The enemy, only entrenched in a series of positions along the Siegfried line (the German parallel to

the Maginot line) is now launching movements of troops from east to west. The Siegfried line extends unbroken from the Rhine to the Moselle, from Strasbourg to Minzi, from Metz to Coblenz. On a nearly two hundred-kilometre front, the French and British troops are in close contact with structures defended by the elite troops.



The Maginot and Siegfried Lines

Artillery duels have been a feature of the operations and French guns are pounding German batteries. The Germans are bringing up large reinforcements of troops and planes from Poland, making strategic withdrawals and blowing up a number of small villages.

There was a lull in the last week of the month following lively attacks and counter-attacks on various sectors of the Front. Evidently preparations are proceeding for a great assault. Meanwhile the

results of the shelling of the Siegfried line shown by aerial photograph before and after bombardment are said to be most satisfactory. They confirm the reports that many of the fortifications were constructed hurriedly from inferior concrete.

The stage is thus set for a large scale war lasting many months or even years. Hitler evidently did not promise himself more than a smash and grab war. He is sorely mistaken. Even Sgr. Mussolini's call for a peace effort has fallen flat on the British and French public. For there could be no settlement with the bandit in possession of his loot. President Roosevelt's new neutrality law, while strictly neutral in the letter, will undoubtedly tell against Germany; for her merchant vessels dare not sail the open seas. What with economic and financial stringency and the undoubted political fermentation in Germany and her yet undigested conquests, the Reich will find it hard to escape a civil revolution. A protracted war will mean an end of Germany. For while Britain and France with their infinite resources in men and money and materials can withstand the strain for an indefinite period, the same cannot be said of Germany with a disaffected people. These internal disorders will assist the Allies in fulfilling their determination to overthrow Hitlerism. Mr. Chamberlain has stated the Allies' general purpose as

redeeming Europe from the perpetual and recurring fear of German aggression and to enable the people of Europe—including Germany—to preserve their independence and their liberty.

No threats will deter the Allies from this purpose.

V

India and the War

And what of India? There can be no doubt of her instinctive sympathy with Poland in the struggle for freedom. Her natural inclination is, therefore, to align herself with Britain and France in vindication of those principles of justice and humanity on which depends the structure of civilized society. (Soon after the Prime Minister's address to the House of Commons, H. E. the Viceroy in his broadcast to the people of India struck the right note when he enlarged on the danger to world peace and progress,

of a system which seeks to solve international differences by force instead of by reason. He added:

Nowhere do these great principles mean more than in India. There is no country that values them more highly than India and none that has at all times been more concerned to safeguard them.

Indian opinion has always been sensitive to such appeals and the response from princes and people was spontaneous. Their attitude was one of instinctive sympathy with the victim of aggression and whole-hearted support for England and France.

Indeed, the statement issued by Mahatma Gandhi on August 29, soon after his visit to the Viceroy, left no room for doubt as to his sympathies in the struggle.

"How I wish," he then said, "Herr Hitler would respond to the appeal of the President of the United States and allow his claim to be investigated by arbitrators in whose choice he will have as effective a voice as his adversaries."

More than a month before he issued this statement, the Mahatma had in a letter addressed to Herr Hitler himself expressed the same sentiment with even greater emphasis. "It is quite clear," he had said in that letter,

that you are to-day the one person in the world who can prevent a war which may reduce humanity to the savage state. Must you pay that price for any object, however worthy it may appear to you to be? Will you listen to the appeal of one who has deliberately shunned the method of war, not without considerable success?

Though the Mahatma disclaimed any "authority to speak for any person except himself," the lead given in the statement was unmistakable. Characteristically he went on to point out that he was not just now "thinking of India's deliverance".

It will come, but what will it be worth if England and France fall or if they come out victorious over Germany ruined and humbled? Yet it almost seems as if Herr Hitler knows no God but brute force and, as Mr. Chamberlain says, he will listen to nothing else. It is in the midst of this catastrophe without a parallel that Congressmen and all other responsible Indians individually and collectively have to decide what part India is to play in this terrible drama.

The Congress Working Committee, which met at Wardha under the immediate guidance of Mahatma Gandhi, took a whole week to thrash out a statement embodying the considered opinion of the

Committee in regard to the part that India should play in this hour of international crisis. While the final decision of the Committee is deferred so as to allow time for further elucidation of the issues at stake, there could be no doubt as to their sympathies in the struggle that is going on in Europe. The statement unequivocally declared India's hostility to Nazi tyranny and aggression, its preparedness to undergo whatever sacrifices that may be required for resisting it and making the world safe for freedom and peace. But the Congress wants to know definitely whether this war is fought for maintaining the present position of India or for improving it, so as to bring it into conformity with the professed ideals of democracy and freedom.

The Congress has repeatedly declared its entire disapproval of the ideology and practice of Fascism and Nazism and their glorification of war and violence and the suppression of the human spirit. It has condemned the aggression in which they have repeatedly indulged and their sweeping away of well-established principles and recognized standards of civilized behaviour. It has seen in Fascism and Nazism the intensification of the principle of Imperialism against which the Indian people have struggled for many years. The Working Committee must, therefore, unhesitatingly condemn the latest aggression of the Nazi Government in Germany, against Poland and sympathize with those who resist it.

The Congress has further laid down that the issue of war and peace for India must be decided by the Indian people. The people of India have, in the recent past, faced great risks and willingly made great sacrifices to secure their own freedom and establish a free democratic State in India and their sympathy is entirely on the side of democracy and freedom.

If Great Britain fights for the maintenance and extension of democracy, then she must necessarily end imperialism in her own possessions and establish full democracy in India, and the Indian people must have the right of self-determination by framing their own constitution through a constituent assembly. A free democratic India will gladly associate herself with other free nations for mutual defence against aggression and for economic co-operation. She will work for the establishment of a real world order based on freedom and democracy utilizing the world's knowledge and resources for the progress and advancement of humanity.

With her vast resources, she must play an important part in any scheme of world reorganization. But she can only do so as a free nation whose energies have been released to work for this great end.

Left to himself, Mahatma Gandhi would have sponsored a resolution supporting Britain unconditionally. It goes against our grain to think of India's opportunity in England's trouble. But it is useless to ignore the fact that there is a strong feeling among a section of the Congressmen that the generous instincts of the Indian people are often exploited for the benefit of imperialism. Evidently a compromise had to be effected between unconditional co-operation on the one hand and the militant policy of giving notice to the British Government on the other. There is something incongruous in a subject people pretending to fight for the freedom of others. And then they ask why should not England concede to India that freedom for which she is so ready to rush to the help of a distant country like Poland. The Congress statement is in effect an attempt to embody the views of all shades of opinion in the Congress; it is on the face of it a formula based on the largest measure of agreement possible between different sections in the party.

The statement is evidently in the nature of an appeal to the British Government to enable India to participate in war effort with dignity and a sense of freedom and not under the compulsion of artificially stimulated excitement. Mahatma Gandhi's interpretation of the statement was simple and unambiguous: "Will Great Britain have an unwilling India dragged into the war or a willing ally co-operating with her in the prosecution of defence of true democracy?"

The demand for a clarification of British aims is to be interpreted not as in the nature of a bargain but as a test of Government's bonafides. There is no doubt a timely declaration from authoritative quarters will find the Congress and the country in complete accord with the Government in their efforts, once again, to make the world safe for democracy and the freedom of nations great and small.

The statement naturally evoked marked attention in England. The *Manchester Guardian* which generally represents the better mind of England, convinced of the

justice of the Congress demand, tendered the wholesome Counsel that "not only because of possible Congress objections, but because of our own welfare India deserves now to be treated as a full equal". The authorities, however, were slow to respond. And Lord Zetland, the Secretary of State for India, intervened in a most unhelpful way. In his speech in the House of Lords, Lord Zetland stigmatised the Congress Statement as ill-timed and unfortunate and counselled the Congress to realise the wisdom of unconditional co-operation. He, however, endorsed Lord Snell's view that

it was natural, though rather ill-timed, that the leaders of the Congress "should take this opportunity of reasserting their aims towards a fuller form of self-Government than they at present possess."

Lord Zetland went on to add that it was a tremendous advantage to India that there are now a large number of ardent Indian nationalists who have had advantage of experience in the actual work of administration.

It would be a calamity if such men at this time were withdrawn from Government in the Provinces.

Expatiating on the temper of the British people, the Secretary of State went to say:

I think they would be very much more willing when the time comes to listen to the claims made to them than if they were animated by a spirit of resentment at the choosing of such an occasion for taking action which may be calculated to be embarrassing to them in a life and death struggle.

The patronising style affected by His Lordship is positively offensive and is justly resented throughout India.

Replying to Lord Zetland's speech, Mahatma Gandhi deprecated any attempt to draw comparisons unflattering to the Congress, reaffirmed the all-India character of the Congress organisation and maintained that the Congress has done nothing strange or less than honourable in asking for such a declaration. Only a free India's help is of value.

The Congress has every right to know that it can go to the people and tell them that at the end of the war, India's status as an independent country is as much assured as that of Great Britain.

As a friend of the British, I, therefore, appeal to English statesmen that they will forget the old language of imperialists and open a new chapter for all those who have been held under imperial bondage.

In a spirited rejoinder to Lord Zetland Pandit Nehru contends that "we were not out to bargain or to take advantage of England's difficulties".

But it was essential in our opinion, both from the point of view of India and the world, that these war aims should be clarified and people made to believe in their reality and their bonafide. It is astonishing that a request of this kind should be called inopportune and ill-timed. Are we to wait till the end of this devastating war in which we are asked to take part before we know what the war wins are? Must vast numbers of human beings suffer unto death without ever knowing definitely what they die for?

Meanwhile, it is gratifying to find H. H. the Viceroy busy exploring all possibilities of rapprochement. Lord Linlithgow has already invited Mahatma Gandhi again to talk matters over and, as we write, is in consultation with other Congress and League leaders. The Congress' claims, as Lord Snell admitted in the Lords, are not new. "They are part of a very old programme and are now being merely re-stated. British statesmanship with a little tact and imagination can seize the occasion and make the most of it by a generous gesture of sympathy and understanding. There are few in India who wish to harass Britain in the present crisis.

A time of peril, as Sir Radhakrishnan aptly says, is not time for bargaining or negotiation by India, but it is certainly the time for Britain to impress on the Indian people her sincerity and earnestness about freedom and independence of small and backward nations. Since a long war is anticipated, a united and contented India will be a moral and material asset to Britain. India's sympathy for Britain can be transformed into active and enthusiastic support by liberal statesmanship.

Is it too much to hope that as on previous occasions the Viceroy will take more statesmanlike view of the situation than Whitehall and do something to minimise the grave disappointment caused by the Secretary of State's speech?

30th September, 1939.

A Common Language and Script for India

BY DR. JWALA PRASAD, Ph.D. (Cantab.)

FOR the sake of unity and solidarity of a nation, it is essential that it should have a common language and a common script. There is no gainsaying the fact that the introduction of English as an official language in the various parts of India and the consequent adoption of it as a medium of instruction for the secondary and higher education throughout this country has gone a great way towards bringing together the various nationalities speaking different languages and living in distant parts of this land. It has helped them a good deal to understand one another and made it possible for them to stand together for a common cause and a concerted action. In other words, it has been instrumental, to a certain extent, in creating a sense of nationalism among our people. Similarly, the introduction of European culture, which has followed the advent of British rule and the spread of English language and literature, has also served as a uniting factor among the divergent sections of the population of India. In spite of whatever may have been said against the English language on the ground that it is foreign, it is an undeniable fact, although rather a paradox, that it has helped us most to evoke a nationalistic attitude in the life of our people. And herein lies a useful hint for us which we should take up readily and utilise for the advancement of our national life. We must have a common language and a common script, for otherwise we cannot be one nation. What that language and script are going to be, we have to decide this for ourselves, and the sooner we do it the better. We know that there are divergent

views and conflicting claims on the subject and that the controversies pertaining thereto have given rise to rival camps. Each community is proud of its own language and culture and is awfully jealous with regard to position and prestige. The English language, although it still holds the field among the educated, has been denounced as foreign and, therefore, unacceptable. The claims of Hindi or Hindustani have been advocated fervently by one section, but repudiated vehemently by another. Each province wishes to adhere to its own language, its own script and its own culture to the exclusion of the others and such signs as agitation against Hindi in Madras and Bengal are indicative of the general attitude and mentality of our people in this respect. A careful study of the present situation would show that the disagreement or discord among the various communities on the subject is due more to certain mutual prejudices, mostly religious and in some cases provincial and racial, than to anything else. To put it frankly, a Hindu cannot tolerate Urdu, because it is supposed to be the language of the Mahomedans; and a Muslim will have nothing to do with Hindi or even Hindustani, because it belongs to the Hindus. Similarly, a Madrasite or a Bengali is suspicious of Hindustani, because according to him it may kill his own language and culture. Such is the situation and the big question is: How are we going to meet it? The Indian National Congress, which represents the biggest and most powerful political party of our country at present, has decided in favour of Hindustani as the most suitable common

language for India, while English yet remains the most used common medium of communication for all kinds of business. Along with the problem of language, the question of a common script is also to be considered. We have the Devanagari and the allied scripts of the various provincial languages like the Bengali, Gujarati and Marathi, while different from these are the Arabic characters used for writing Urdu. Then we have the Roman characters for writing English and most of the other European languages. And it must be said that the existence of a variety of scripts is as much a hindrance, if not more, to the achievement of unity as the difference of languages. Hence the uniformity of script is as essential for nationalism as the existence of a common language.

If one would face realities, one would have to admit that so long as the British rule continues in this country, the English language is bound to remain the common medium of communication for inter-provincial and inter-national purposes and for the same reason it will be hardly possible for any of the Indian languages to take its place. But from the point of view of the majority and the masses, it cannot be a practical proposition at all to make English the national language of India. In the first place, it is entirely foreign to any of the spoken languages of this country; and in the second place, it is known to a very small proportion of the entire population of India. It can have its value only as an official language under the British rule and as a medium of communication with foreign countries. Among the Indian languages themselves, statistics would show that Hindustani is undoubtedly the one which is spoken by a great majority and

understood by a still greater majority of the people of India and that, except in certain parts in the South, it is already the common medium of communication among the masses. This is so, naturally, because Hindustani is most allied to the provincial languages and dialects of a very large part of this country. For the same reason it is this language, more than any of the others, which can be learnt readily by those in India who do not know it already. It would appear, therefore, that if one would consider the question impartially, Hindustani has certainly the strongest claim to be adopted as the common language of India, and it is only right that the Indian National Congress has declared in its favour. With regard to the controversy in respect of the rival claims of Hindi and Urdu, it is often forgotten that so far as the spoken language is concerned, Hindi or Hindustani is very much the same as Urdu and that Hindustani is really a combination of the two. It is the Devanagari and Arabic scripts in which Hindi and Urdu are written respectively which make the difference and rather emphasise it. If, therefore, a common script could be adopted for the two or, as for the matter of that, for all the Indian languages, the linguistic differences and prejudices will be very much minimised. I dare say some grounds against any of the Indian languages or scripts can be found and given with regard to its claims in this respect, but if we wish to adopt a common language and script in the interests of our national unity, we have to strike a compromise in this matter and adopt a language and script which would be the most convenient and, therefore, most acceptable to our people

at large. I have already shown above that Hindustani has the foremost claim to be the *lingua franca* of India and it is the sacred duty of all of us to brush aside our religious and provincial prejudices and adopt that as our national language. With regard to the language and literature of the various provinces, it may be said that there need not be any fears of their being killed by making Hindustani the national language of India. They can be studied as provincial languages side by side with Hindustani just as they are at present with English. All that we seek to do is to fill up a gap in our national life and find a practical solution to our linguistic difficulties. Hindustani is not to replace the provincial languages but to supplement them in our scheme of national education.

With regard to the question of scripts, I have already pointed out that the varieties of these accentuate the differences of language and the absence of a common script is a very great hindrance to the achievement of our national integrity. Just as in the matter of language so with regard to script, we have to adopt a compromising and rationalistic attitude. We should be able to find a great solution to our linguistic difficulties if we could fix upon a common script not only for Hindustani but also for the rest of the Indian languages. For this purpose the adoption of Roman characters has been suggested by some in the past but rejected by others mainly on the ground that they are foreign and liable to undermine the study of Indian literature. It has also been said that they are not suitable for giving expression to certain subtle differences of pronunciation in the Indian languages.

The claims of the Devanagari and Arabic characters have been discussed and advocated or rejected by rival parties. And it will appear again that the attitude of our people in this connection is influenced more by sentiment than by reason. There are almost as many scripts in India, some allied and others different, as the languages, and each of them is as dear to one section of our countrymen as another is to the other. What we have to remember is that our object is to find a common script and not to kill the other scripts and for this purpose I must frankly say that, in spite of what may have been said against them, I consider the Roman characters as the most suitable of all. There is absolutely no reason why the adoption of these should be a hindrance to the study of Indian literature, both ancient and modern. Some of the most distinguished European scholars of the Eastern languages and literature, who have been pioneers in the field of Oriental research, have read them in Roman characters and their study of the subject has been none the worse for that reason. A satisfactory system of transliteration has been evolved and adopted for writing the Oriental languages in Roman characters and what one needs is only a knowledge of this and a practice in reading and writing through that medium. And it should be possible to acquire these with the same amount of effort as reading and writing through any other characters. Correct pronunciation is a matter of training, which depends upon the right association of letters and their combination with the sounds which they are meant to produce and there is no reason why it should be otherwise.

chieve it through the medium of Roman characters just as it is done through any of the other scripts. Pronunciation of English words, which is not a simple matter at all, through Roman characters should itself be a good instance in point. Moreover, the Roman characters are easier to read, write or print, because they are simpler and more distinct than those of the other scripts used in India. And, finally, from the point of view of finding a compromise between the divergent views, sentiments and prejudices which exist at present on this question, the adoption of Roman characters should be the most practical proposition. For the use of Roman script should be free from such communal and provincial associations as are to be found in the case of the existing Indian scripts.

I would, therefore, maintain that the adoption of Hindustani as the common language and of the Roman characters as the common script for the whole of India should be one of the basic principles of our national education. Every Indian is to be taught Hindustani and all the Indian languages have to be read and written in the Roman characters. This will minimise the linguistic differences and make it easier for the people in one part of the country to study the language or languages of the other parts. And it would appear, therefore, that the introduction of a common script for the whole of India will tend to encourage and widen the extent of the study of the various provincial languages and literature rather than be a source of discouragement to them.

SENSE IN CENSUS OPERATIONS

BY MR. P. P. SARADHY, B.A., B.L.

(*Sub-Judge: Retired*)

THE fact that administrators, economists and social reformers and political leaders unfailingly rivet their arguments by quoting from statistics, draws pointed attention to the nature of the contents of bulky census reports. Not less than a million persons are to be engaged in the country as enumerators, tabulators, etc. The services of village officers of all kinds are to be impressed. Even now the view has been expressed, that the task of recording and enumerating need not be done on one particular day, but that the process can be with more advantage go on day after day for a number of days. In the latter case the disadvantages arising from commotion from place to place of the

residents are indeed more difficult to grapple with than in the case of recording on one particular day. Lady enumerators would, we suggest, be included in the army of workers for facilitating gathering of information from the womenfolk, who would be freer with women than with men.

The more important question, however, yet remains to be solved and that is how best the people themselves be prompted voluntarily to proffer the information required to be collected and recorded. It is not merely the number of the inhabitants that we require but many more tangible aspects of individual lives are also to be noted.

OBJECTS

The object of census operations has been time to time varied and become more comprehensive. In ancient Rome it was mainly fiscal and the ascertainment of the number of men capable of bearing arms. Livy reveals that census was intended to show a man's debts and the names of creditors. The codes of Justinian and Theodosius directed the registry of the population and wealth of all the centuries included within the limits of the Caesar's dominions.

Now the conception of census operations is that it should cover the social progress of the people at large. The census reports of England and Wales in 1901 elicited a mass of information in the way of official and vital statistics, and investigations were made into the evils of overcrowding by inquiries as to the number of persons occupying any particular room or part of a house. Even in 1911 it was noted by the Registrar-General in England that numeration had become more and more complex than the previous ones owing to the demand for extension of the subjects of inquiry.

The following additions were made to the subjects:—

1. The duration of existing marriages.
2. The number of children born to such marriages.
3. The industries or services with which workers were connected as distinct from the occupations in which they were personally engaged.
4. Whether they were merely visitors to the locality.
5. The number of rooms in all dwellings.

These constitute essential topics in India also.

PERIODS

For all practical purposes census is more desirable when taken once in five years. In Russia, Germany, France and United States it is taken once in five years. It is more rational, for on it depends many an economic plan and development. As India is still in a transitional state of economic evolution, and administrators and reformers do still grope in the mists of doubt for want of exact figures and conditions, affecting the living and level of living of the masses, census once in five years is more in accord with the requirements of the Government, and the demands of the public.

NOTEWORTHY RECORD

The shifting of families from villages *inter se* by way of permanent change of residence, from villages to relatively bigger stations, towns and cities, the natural dwindling of the population in some villages, the increase of it in cities are the primary questions which throw into limelight the fundamental economic conditions of not merely the average individual, but of talented and gifted families. The rational solution of the increase of the population unduly in some localities would have to be found either in the deterioration of the stamina of the people or swelling by emigrants the population of the towns. The causes of emigration whether by the families at about the period of census or the lifetime of the previous generation or generations would be the best criterion of the economic sense of the country's progress. We find it stated by Mr. C. W. Ranson in his paper on "The Population of Madras": "This development (the growth of population in the city of Madras) has been the

result not of a natural increase in the population (*i.e.*, an excess of births over deaths), but of migration from other areas . . . In Madras city between 1891 and 1930 there was a total natural defect in the population (*i.e.*, an excess of deaths over births) of 55,159, while during the same period the city increased by approximately 200,000 persons. It thus appears that something like 250,000 persons migrated to the city, from other areas during the 40 years prior to 1931 census. The problem and the solution are thus very clear. The conditions of the rural country parts would receive greater attention, and public health in cities would have to be intensely safeguarded. Therefore census officers must note, whether the families restricted are permanent residents of the villages, and for what period of time since. If they were migrants, what was the cause of the migration.

ECONOMIC CONDITIONS

Next in importance is the record of their economic condition—a few prominent features alone being enough: (a) What is the principal source or means of living. (b) How much does the family on the whole earn. (c) How much do they require per month in average for their sustenance. A classification of the people under rich, middle, poor, labourer or artisan classes would be enough.

A true economic standpoint and standard requires the gathering of information about the village potentiality for supply of man power and labourer.

CASTE

Is there any economic advantage in classifying and recording the caste to which the people belong? There is already a determination in the North not to particularise the caste to which any

member may belong, among the Hindu or the sect to which any Muslim may belong, it being the case even for Christians. It is enough to indicate main communities like Hindus, Muslims, Jains, Buddhists and Christians. The reason obviously is no practical purpose or object is served by the record of castes and sects. The Aborigines are to be shown separately, for they have yet to be reclaimed and elevated to the level of the general public. Castes do not retain now their caste avocations and professions. Talents only do count as securing the means of living, and it has been found that talents are not the monopoly of any community or caste. The profession in life of the individual or the family to which he belongs would, however, be a very useful knowledge for any economic national planning. A census of the professionals would pave the way for starting industries suited to the respective localities. The abolition of the caste references would also facilitate the formulation of higher principles in the appointments for public services, and a better morale in them.

RESIDENTS' WILLINGNESS

The question of ensuring the attendance of every one before the enumerator and inducing the folk to supply all information requisite leaves room for two methods: compulsory and voluntary. The story of how the Rajah took the census and that of the superstition played upon the people by the Rajah of Lombok of Malaya are well known to us. Every individual was compelled to put a needle or a stick in a receptacle. In the other case the Rajah announced after severe ordeal of pretence that the great spirit had commanded him that twelve sacred Krisses should be made and that to make them every village and

every district must send a bundle of needles a needle for every head. When any grievous disease appeared in any village, one of the sacred Krisses should be sent there. If every house had sent the right number of needles, the disease would immediately cease; but if the number has not been exact, the Kriss would be of no value and virtue.

INDUCEMENTS

Interesting as it is, no civilised Government would be justified in adopting these processes. The necessity of every resident to keep to his or her house for the questionnaire stimulates intensive planning for a workable method. Experience tells us that at least 10 to 15 minutes would be required at each house or residence to complete enumeration. The time fixed for the "keep at home" must avoid conflict with the prime duty of the residents. In villages, perhaps, midday and in towns before 7 a.m. would be the best period.

THE MEANING OF ACTION

BY MR. ANILBARAN ROY

THE modern Western ideal of activism has missed the true meaning of life and works; so it appears from a study of the teaching of the Gita. The Gita prescribes all actions, *sarva karmani*: even an action of the fiercest type like the battle of Kurukshetra can be made a means as well as an expression of a spiritual divine life: but then the impulsion comes from above and not from personal desire or egoism; it is the spirit behind the action which makes all the difference. Modern activism is impelled by desire and passion, by the natural mode or guns, *rajas*, and its inevitable result is strife and sorrow

The census operations must not be felt by the population as a dry-as-dust insipid affair. To enthuse them in the work something more has to be devised—a holiday for all workers, the erection of a small monument in each village in celebration of the event suited to the tastes and requirements of the locality, on which the number of population there is inscribed, the organisation of a pageant of the villagers signifying some historic or heroic event of the village, in which the village officers and the rich could take interest. The value of such an inscription always before their eyes is bound to excite their imagination to take retrospective estimate of their strength, to supply food for thought about their future outlook and perspective and care more for their general welfare. They would then value life better and devise better methods for conservation of resources and energy.

(Gita 14-16); it is this restless rajasic activity which characterises modern civilisation, and the tree is known by its fruits.

"What is action and what is inaction," says the Lord in the Gita, "as to this even the sages are perplexed" (Gita 4-16); because judging by practical, social, ethical, intellectual standards, they discriminate by accidentals and do not go to the root of the matter. People do not understand the true source and the high utility of action; they take it as a means of satisfying their egoistic desire; that desire may be individual or family comfort and happiness,

or the good of the country or of humanity or some such mental or moral ideal. All this, however, is a movement of ignorance; acting in this manner with desire and egoism—one may enlarge his ego and identify it with the country or even with the whole of humanity, still it is the ego and it is the knot of ignorance and bondage—they are caught in the meshes of the dualities of success and failure, joy and sorrow, good and evil, and have to undergo all the suffering which seems to be inherent in life and birth. We think that by our action we shall achieve this or that object, but this is an illusion, a *maya*. What will or will not happen in the world we cannot ascertain by our limited stumbling intelligence, and we cannot determine the course of events according to our personal will or desire. We may not admit this, but our individual lives as well as the events of human history are constantly teaching us this lesson. Could the Mogul emperor who permitted the English to trade in India or the men who conspired to dethrone that unfortunate young Nawab of Bengal, Sirajadullah, ever imagine what would be the consequences of their action? There is some unseen Power which is regulating all the efforts and actions of men and using them for some inscrutable purpose; that power does not care for our ignorant personal hopes or fears. Could Sirajadullah save himself from a cruel death by running away from the battlefield of Plassey for the sake of his life? If on that day he had engaged in fight with the noble resolve of laying down his life for the sake of his country, the little army of Clive would have been wiped out of existence, and the history of Bengal, the

history of India and with that the history of the world would have been written differently. But that was not to be. So coming to the field of Plassey, eager for battle, the brave heart of Siraj was suddenly seized with fear and he took to his heels. In the last European war, Germany had planned to reach Paris within a few days and lay down the peace terms sitting on the heart of Paris. The leaders of Germany made no mistake in calculating the military forces; but the unseen Power had made a different calculation. There was nothing to resist the victorious march of the mighty army led by the Crown Prince of Germany; but coming to a certain place, the Prince suddenly got some idea in his head and himself cried halt. The French and the English got some breathing time, and the fate of the war was decided. Only those who are blind to these facts think that they can achieve their objects by their individual effort and action.

In reality the object of a man's action is not the achievement of some external result or purpose, the true object is the purification and transformation of one's nature. That is the secret of the *nishkama karma* of the Gita. "Thou hast a right to action, but only to action, never to its fruits: let not the fruits of thy works be thy motive." The course of events in the world does not depend on what a man does or does not individually. There is an unseen power—which we call Fate, but which is not really Fate, but a conscious divine power—which utilises all action and inaction of men to serve the divine purpose which is infallibly fulfilling itself in the world. If Arjuna, following the creed of non-violence had abstained from battle, Bhishma, Drona and others would not have been saved. The

Divine had already killed them in the subtle world: if Arjuna refused to fight, the Divine would have made some other person the instrument of his world purpose. "Even without thee all these warriors shall be not, who are ranked in the opposing armies," so said the Lord at a most critical moment in the history of the world.

Those who understand this secret of action are not eager to serve the world by their blind activism, but try to mould themselves so that they may become faultless instruments in the hands of the Divine Power which is fulfilling the Divine Will in the world. About the modern ideal of humanism and philanthropy, Sri Ramakrishna used to say: "Who are you to do good to the world? First attain the Divine. If He gives the power to you, then only you can serve the world, otherwise not." So the truly wise man is free from all egoistic ideas of work; he sees what work he has to do, what is his *kartarya*, and does it not for the sake of the result, but as an offering, a sacrifice to the Divine. "Whatever thou doest, whatever thou enjoyest, whatever thou sacrificest, whatever thou givest, whatever energy of tapasya of the Soul's will or effort thou puttest forth, O Kaunteya, make it an offering unto Me." In this way, doing all work as a sacrifice to the Divine, our heart and will and consciousness will be changed and transformed, we shall live in the light and joy and peace of a higher divine consciousness,

and all our action will spontaneously rise out of it fulfilling the divine will in the world. No outward distinctions need be made; no work the world needs, no work shunned; no limit or hedge set round our human activities; on the contrary all actions should be done, but from a soul in Yoga with the Divine.

It does not follow that the work is not to be done perfectly, with success, with a right adaptation of means to ends: on the contrary a perfect working is easier to action done tranquilly in Yoga than to action done in the blindness of hopes and fears, lamed by the judgments of the stumbling reason, running about amidst the eager trepidations of the hasty human will; Yoga, says the Gita, is the true skill in works, *yogah karmasu kausalam*. But all this is done impersonally by the action of a great universal light and power operating through the individual nature. The Karmayogin knows that the power given to him will be adapted to the fruit decreed, the divine thought behind the work equated with the work he has to do, the will in him—which will not be wish or desire, but an impersonal drive of conscious power directed towards an aim not his own,—subtly regulated in its energy and direction by the divine wisdom. The result may be success, as the ordinary mind understands it, or it may seem to that mind to be defeat and failure, but to him it is always the success intended not by him, but by the all-wise manipulator of action and result, because he does not seek for victory, but only for the fulfilment of the divine will and wisdom which works out its ends often with greater force than through apparent failure as well as and often with greater force than through apparent triumph. Arjuna, bidden to fight, is assured of victory; but even if certain defeat were before him, he must still fight because that is the present work assigned to him as his immediate share in the great sum of energies by which the divine will is surely accomplished.—(*Essays on the Gita* by Sri Aurobindo.)

THE FOUNDATIONS OF FAITHS

BY DR. T. M. P. MAHADEVAN, M.A., Ph.D.

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THE No-Godism and irreligion of the present can be combatted, not by the fanatic's attitude to religion which taboos the entry of reason into the sacred precincts of faith, but by the philosophical approach which seeks to unearth the fundamentals of living religions and to show that, while the non-essentials vary with the changing times and difference in climes,

the core of religion remains constant. Neither the anti-religionist nor the ultra-rationalist knows the real nature of man, his purpose and fulfilment. Unless one reaches religion through the portals of philosophy, the enigmas of the world, the contradictions of deep-reaching thought will remain unsolved. That was the reason why, perhaps, thinkers in India have always

insisted on an inseparable alliance between philosophy and faith. The first step in the path is to get to know the perennial springs that feed the living faiths. The volume under review* which forms the first part of Prof. Haridas Bhattacharya's *Stephanos Nirmalendu Ghosh Lectures* for the year 1933 accomplishes this task in an eminent way.

The method that the learned author adopts is neither that of the blind follower of a particular faith nor that of the carping critic. It is the one which has been familiarised to us by sane and unprejudiced writers on Comparative Religion—namely, seeking to discover the greatest common measure of agreement among the great world-religions. The first fruits of such a study is that one will not feel ashamed of his faith, even of the most (to us) meaningless rites and rituals, for he will know that they are to be found in every religion at some stage or other and that they have a social, if not spiritual, significance. Secondly, a study of comparative religion bestows on the student a wider vision, a catholic outlook which the world needs so badly to-day. If Prof. Bhattacharya's attempt is to be judged by these tests, he has succeeded excellently well. Throughout the pages of this book, he has never swerved from the philosophic attitude of impartiality, sympathetic interest and fair criticism. In this he has made, as he claims, no distinction between Brahmanism which he personally professes and other religions followed by others (p. ix). And whenever there is difficulty in understanding a particular tenet or doctrine of a faith, he follows the salutary procedure of turning to a follower of that faith for light. As he says: "It is always good to refer to the followers of a faith for

a more correct estimate of the vital significance of dogmas and rituals" (p. 301).

The book contains ten chapters. The first three give us principles and facts that are common to all faiths. The elusiveness and universality of religion, the excellence of mysticism which is the crown of religious experience, the fascination which Prophets have exercised over the faithful, the source of their greatness and strength, the nature of revelations in the different religions—all these are dwelt upon. In the other chapters of the volume we pass in review the Gods of Hinduism, Vedic and Pauranic, God in the three Semitic religions: Judaism, Christianity and Islam, and God in Zoroastrianism, Gathic and post-Gathic. Every page reveals the author's wide learning and his capacity to express his thoughts in forceful and easy-flowing sentences. Some of the pithy statements are unforgettable. 'A religious genius is like a biological freak—he is born, not made' (p. 8). "Religion is a life and not creed, and as it does not owe its origin to conscious fabrication, it is always regarded as an uprush from within or an invasion from without . . . You cannot draw up a Memorandum of Association to inaugurate a religious community just as you can float a joint-stock company" (p. 23).

To only one point we must take exception, i.e., characterisation of the philosophy of the Upanishads as pantheism throughout (except in one or two places where it is casually referred to as monism). While the *saprapancha* texts may admit of a pantheistic interpretation, the *nishprapancha* passages are clearly incompatible with pantheism either of the all-is-God type or of the God-is-all type.

Students of comparative religion will feel grateful to Prof. Bhattacharya for this manual expounding clearly the fundamentals of World-Faiths in a racy style which will be found appealing not only to the informed but also to the lay reader.

* THE FOUNDATIONS OF LIVING FAITHS: An Introduction to Comparative Religion. By Haridas Bhattacharya, Head of the Department of Philosophy, University of Dacca. First Volume. Published by the University of Calcutta; pp. xii, + 526.

A FEDERAL UNION OF DEMOCRACIES

By DR. D. W. DODWELL, I.C.S.

[The failure of the League of Nations to protect the weaker countries from the aggression of the Fascist and Nazi Powers had led many thinkers to consider alternative agencies for preserving world peace. The idea of a League of Democratic Powers has been in the air for some time past. Dr. Dodwell, in the course of his address, delivered at the Kellett Institute, Madras, discusses the prospects of a Novel Federal Plan put forward by an American writer, Clarence K. Streit. The Plan is to create a Federal Union of 15 Democracies who have never been at war with one another for over a hundred years. The Plan of Union advocated is novel, in that it is to be not a confederation of governments but a union of citizens in a Federal State. There are obvious difficulties in the working of such Union of this kind. In these days of aggressive nationalism, the practicability of a plan of Super Government may well be questioned. But the world is groping in the dark in search of a way of peace. Dr. Dodwell's discussion of the scope and constitution of this novel plan of Federation is not, therefore, without interest.—Ed. I.R.]

NOW that the democratic countries have been forced to take up arms again to protect civilisation and the rights of small nations against the shameless brutality and destructiveness of a ruling clique in Germany, we have to exert ourselves to the utmost to bring the struggle to a swift and as far as may be possible, satisfactory conclusion. That does not mean that we should give up thinking about the causes that have produced this catastrophe and, planning the outlines of a better world. On the contrary such work has now become even more important, if that is possible than it was before. We must keep the right ideals constantly before us and concentrate our minds and emotions on them. Otherwise we shall be carried away by the hatred, fear and hysterical excitement that are usually aroused by war and may clamour for a "fight to a finish" and make the same mistakes after this war as we did after the last one. If we are to save the world from being doomed to a succession of world wars and the consequent loss of all that is best in our existing civilisation, we have to make up our minds firmly that his time a peace shall be made that will not contain the seeds of future wars. Such peace should include the establishment of a nucleus of world government that will offer a real hope of maintaining security and growing in the course of time into a new world commonwealth. As the League of Nations has unfortunately failed completely in its major tasks, we must learn from its failures and from our mistakes and find a more hopeful line of advance.

Fundamentally the reason for the world's present terrible plight is that our extraordinarily rapid progress in the scientific and material realm has not been accompanied by similar progress in the spiritual and political fields. The whole earth has become a closely-knit unit materially on account of the modern means of rapid transport of persons and goods and of immediate communication of news all over the world. The earth has ceased to be a vast universe with many large tracts almost unexplored and has become a small and somewhat congested dwelling place for man. In that small home mankind lives as a single family, but a family divided by bitter quarrels and frequent bloodshed because it lacks the spirit of family loyalty, brotherhood and unity. For want of this spirit the family of mankind has not been able to agree on a peaceable method of settling disputes or to establish an effective rule of law and a common government.

It is the existence of settled government and the rule of law within national States that has enabled us to reach our existing stage of civilisation. These national States are the culmination of a long process of historical growth, of which the logical completion would be the integration of the national States in a World State. At each stage in history, loyalty to the existing groups has made it difficult to build up a larger group and develop a wider loyalty. Today it is fanatical nationalism and the absolute sovereignty claimed for the national State that are holding us back.

One method of integrating national States in a wider organisation is that of conquest and absorption, in fact Hitlerism. We are determined to put an end to the use of that method. But have we fully realised that we cannot end it permanently unless we succeed in finding a satisfactory method of uniting national States by the common consent of free, self-governing citizens? What we must hope for and work for is a union of a group of democratic self-governing States in a Federation with a common Federal Government to deal with those matters in regard to which conflicting national policies have become intolerable since they produce only chaos, mutual frustration and war. The group of States forming the Federal Union should be wide enough to avoid any appearance of exclusiveness. They should be democratic, self-governing and sufficiently alike in institutions and outlook to make it possible for them to work harmoniously together, and their united strength should be so great as to make them impregnable safe against attack by any outside State or combination of States. A Federation of some or all of the self-governing members of the British Commonwealth, such as has been advocated by Lionel Curtis in his profound and brilliant work "The Commonwealth of God", would not satisfy the requirement of having no appearance of exclusiveness. We have to look for a wider group. The most practical and promising plan has been put forward by an American, Clarence K. Streit, in a very remarkable book called "Union Now" which every responsible citizen in every country who can get access to a copy ought to study. The Union which he advocates is a Federal Union of 15 democracies grouped mainly around the North Atlantic, namely, the United States of America, the United Kingdom, France, Switzerland, Belgium, Holland, the four Scandinavian countries and five British Dominions. He points out that none of these countries have been at war with one another for over 100 years and that no one of them fears aggression from any other.

The Union advocated is not a mere Confederation or League of Governments like the League of Nations but a Union

of citizens in a Federal State. The Federal Legislature would be directly elected by the citizens and would tax them and legislate for them directly. The citizens' loyalty to the Union would grow constantly stronger on account of this direct contact. The Governments of the member States would have no power to interfere with federal subjects and the Federal Government would have its own agents to administer them. The federal subjects would include at least five essentials, namely (1) citizenship, (2) foreign relations and defence, (3) the regulation of trade other than trade carried on solely within the limits of a particular member-State, (4) currency, and (5) communications. Streit advocates for the Union "one citizenship, one defence force, one free trade area, one money and one stamp".

The constitution proposed by Streit for the Union is based on that of the American Union. He suggests, however, that instead of electing a President, the citizens of the Union should elect a Board of five members to perform jointly the functions of the Head of the State, and that the main executive powers should be delegated to a Prime Minister and Cabinet responsible to the Legislature.

Streit proposes that all non-self-governing territory controlled by the member States should be handed over to the Union on its formation to be administered as a trust on behalf of the inhabitants with the object of making it possible for such territories to become self-governing member States of the Union as soon as possible.

Those who regard this scheme as a mere impracticable dream are making a very great mistake. There is nothing inherently impracticable in it. The peoples of the free democracies are in a position to determine the policies of their Governments on major issues: if they are sufficiently united, enthusiastic and determined, they can insist on their Governments' taking steps to form a Union. The United Kingdom and France have already established unity of command over their defence forces in the present emergency, and there is no reason why the principle should not be extended and made permanent. Lionel Curtis, the advocate of beginning federation within the British

Commonwealth, when lecturing in North America this year, found the people of the United States of America and Canada quite unexpectedly ready to consider the idea of an international commonwealth as a possibility for the near future. He now thinks that the people of North America, instead of waiting till a late stage to join in an international commonwealth because of their isolationist traditions, may take the lead in forming such a commonwealth on account of their long experience and success in the working of federal institutions.

I do not suggest that Streit's plan is by any means perfect, but it provides a basis of discussion and something for which and on which we can all work whole-heartedly. No doubt his proposed Constitution follows too closely the American model. But those who see imperfections in his plan should study and criticise it and suggest improvements. The difficulties in achieving such a Union should only spur us on to the utmost effort to overcome them, if we are really serious in our desire for world peace and a world commonwealth.

Streit confines himself too much to the political aspect of Union and is rather weak on the economic side. I would suggest that, besides world political institutions, we also need world economic and cultural institutions. Some very valuable ideas on those lines will be found in Senor S. de Madariaga's book "The World's Design". In the economic sphere he suggests a World Trade Commission to study the world's economic problems from the point of view of the world as a whole and, perhaps, to undertake in due course executive duties for the regulation of the world's economy as a whole in the general interest. He also desires that the Bank for International Settlements at Basle should be made a genuine World Bank and should study the problems involved in setting up a world currency and in due course undertake the task of establishing such a currency. In the cultural sphere he proposes the establishment of a World Citizenship Association or World Cultural Association, independent of all Governments and dependent on private enthusiasm and subscriptions, to serve as a focus for all the non-political

aspirations towards world unity brotherhood. One task of this would be to collect and collate the culture of the world as a whole and to promote good will and understanding by making the best in the culture of each nation or section of mankind better known to all the others.

Many of you may be wondering how India would be affected by Streit's proposals. The list of members proposed by Streit for the Federal Union of democracies does not include India. Streit thinks that India could not be an original member. This seems to me to be a mistake. There are many weighty reasons why India should be an original member and the difficulties are insuperable. Those of you who wish to follow up this point should try to read an excellent article on "Union Now" in the June number of the *Round Table* quarterly, which represents the views of Lionel Curtis and his friends. I hope that Indians will be so enthusiastic about the scheme of Union as to make it clear that India should be an original member and that the Union will be greatly strengthened by the inclusion of India.

The society that is working for Union in the United Kingdom is called "Federal Union". In its pamphlet with the same name the society says that if we break out before Union has been achieved it will work for the establishment of a Union to be formed on the restoration of peace including both victors and vanquished. You may have noticed in the daily press a few days ago account of the appeal made by "Federal Union" recently to the British Government. They called on all free peoples to implement their resolve to renounce war by pooling their armaments, armed forces, aerial resources and communications under a single authority". They proposed that the British Government should invite the Governments of those people to announce an early decision to "set up a common Government to legislate in the common interests of nations resolved to renounce war and remove the cause of war. They also urged that it should be made clear that Germany will be welcomed as a member of the proposed

Federal Union when it has restored free, democratic Government. "Federal Union," they say, "offers the German masses the choice between the hardships of a dictator regime and the privileges of world citizenship. If Britain responds to the appeal of Federal Union, the Nazi propaganda machine will be paralysed by the spectacle of a great commonwealth of free peoples with both hand extended in welcome to the German people."

The great gifts of the German people, I suggest, will only reach their full fruition in the service of mankind when the Germans have been incorporated in a Federal Union capable of saving them from their fatal tendency to allow the

worst elements in their country to gain control. I am profoundly thankful that the British Government has begun this war by dropping leaflets and not bombs on the German people. The best thing that could possibly happen is that the German people should themselves revolt and cast off the horrors of Hitlerism. We ought to do our utmost to encourage them to do this, and should make it as easy as possible for them by making it clear beyond any shadow of doubt that a free, self-governing Germany would be welcomed as a member of that Federal Union which the people of the democracies, I believe, desire and will achieve much sooner than most people think.

Aspects of the Indian Population Situation

BY MR. L. JAMES

THE peoples of the world are slowly, but increasingly, becoming 'population conscious'. In some countries the perils of under-population are ceaselessly emphasised: In others the emphasis is laid upon the dangers and difficulties arising from over-population. The development, in an acute form, of the refugee problem in Europe, the aggressions of Japan on the mainland of Asia since 1931, the seizure of Abyssinia by Italy, the claim of Germany to the restoration of her former colonies, are but some of the outstanding events of recent years which have contributed towards a realisation of the seriousness and the complications of problems connected with population.

A previous contributor, Dr. E. Asirvatham,* has rightly pointed out the difficulties which lie in the way of determining optimum population densities on a statistical basis. For relatively simple societies like hunting and collecting communities the task is comparatively simple: Nor is it much more difficult to determine the optimum density for pastoral societies. Given an examination of the physical environment, its possibilities and its limitations in the way of aridity and poor soil conditions, followed by a study of the mode of life of these people with simple economies, it is possible

to indicate roughly the optimum population density, that is, the situation which obtains when the resources of an environment are being utilised in such a way as to preclude that environment carrying a higher density without causing a decrease in the standard of living: but on the other hand, the population density being not too small to realise the maximum resources possible under that particular form of material culture.

It will be seen that it is by no means an easy task to express such a situation in terms of exact statistics, even for primitive societies. Thus the statement that optimum densities for peoples with hunting economies is about two per square mile, and for pastoral people about three per square mile, is only very broadly true. Environments and modes of life vary so greatly from region to region and from continent to continent that each case has to be examined individually, before a pronouncement of substantial value can be made in regard to this problem of population densities.

For peoples with more advanced types of economies, it is correspondingly more difficult to decide whether a situation of under or over population exists. Broadly speaking, self-subsisting agricultural communities vary as between temperate

and tropical areas: Thus rice growing tracts can carry a much bigger density per square mile than regions of temperate self-subsisting agriculture, just as both can carry a higher density than any system of migratory agriculture.

There exists a broad relationship between the type of economy practised and the optimum population density. Here is a scale which varies from very few people per square mile for peoples with simple economies, to the areas of complex industrialism capable of carrying very high density.

Propagandists frequently attempt to justify their views in regard to population pressure by simply stating the present-day figures of population density per square mile in various countries throughout the world; but such a naive method is as futile and as mischievous as the attempt to explain historical developments merely in terms of one single factor like economies. To say that the population densities of Belgium, Norway, Canada, and Japan are 707, 23, 3, and 469, respectively, is not to infer that in order of population pressure Belgium comes first and Canada last. Population density must be considered in relation not to total land area but to her more complex factors, like the cultural level and the standard of living of the population concerned. For this reason no local and absolute scale of population densities can be worked out statistically, because population densities represent adjustment of peoples to environment, and these can never be static but are like economic patterns, continually changing. The optimum population of India with some commercial agriculture is different from that of an India wholly dependent upon self-subsistent agriculture, as in the pre-European period. Again, modern industrialism necessarily alters population adjustment.

India is frequently classed among the over-populated countries, although in the light of the above discussion it will be apparent that it is easier to make this statement than to prove it by a thorough investigation using statistical methods. Evidence is available, however, to the growth of Indian population under the later stages of the Pax Britannica.

In 1872, India had a population of 206 millions: by 1931, this had increased to 352 millions, although the increase has not been a uniform one. The latest figure shows that India has a population density of 219.6 per square mile of land area.

Although sensational prophecies of an increase in the population of India can be safely discounted, it is clear that the Indian population will continue to grow in the future, although rather more slowly. Evidence for this is found in the vital statistics which show that India has a crude birth-rate of 31.4 per thousand. This gives a natural increase of 10.9 per thousand (1937-38). By way of contrast, the crude birth-rate of the United Kingdom is 15.5, and the natural increase is 3.3 per thousand. With the gradual lessening of infant mortality, the combating of deficiency diseases, and with an increase in the expectation of life, there exist substantial grounds for believing that the Indian population will increase to at least 400 millions. It is pertinent to enquire into the possibilities of absorption for the future additions to India's labour force.

The possibility of a progressive lowering of the general income level, so as to spread the national dividend among still greater numbers than at present, can be dismissed: It is more likely that India will witness a general rise in the standard of living, concomitantly with the increase of her population. It must be pointed out here that a rise in the general standard of living is in fact one of the ways of checking a very rapid increase of population. But a study of Indian social conditions suggests that before such an increase in the standard of living has taken place, the population will have increased substantially, since family limitation is only practised on a very small scale.

The fields of absorption for this increase in population may be discussed under three headings: (a) an increase in the agricultural production; (b) further industrialisation; and (c) emigration.

Agriculture not only forms the economic basis of livelihood for the Indian population at the present time, but it is safe to say that this will always be the case.

* "Indian Review", June 1939.

agricultural production can be increased, the statistics of present production need to be examined. An increase in the amount of agricultural produce can be obtained in two ways: by increasing the area of land utilised for agriculture, or by the development of a more intensive agricultural system. In India, one of the substantial contributions of British rule has been made on the side of increasing the area capable of being utilised for agriculture. With irrigation schemes, land previously arid has been brought under cultivation. The possibilities in this direction are largely a matter of engineering technique and available financial resources. Irrigation, too, comes under the law of diminishing returns and increasing costs. Nevertheless, some possibilities still exist in this direction. For the vast majority of the ryots in India the more important problem is in connexion with increased agricultural production. The schemes of rural reconstruction are, of course, directly concerned with this particular problem. With improved facilities for marketing, better transport, the reduction of rural indebtedness, and the general improvement in educational and social amenities, there can be little doubt that there will be direct repercussions on the side of increased agricultural production. The tendency of Western scientists has always been to emphasise the primitive character of Eastern agricultural methods, the unsatisfactory way in which peasant peoples restore soil fertility, the primitive nature of their implements, and the low grade character of their stock; but a more detailed examination of peasant agriculture shows that custom has bred an ability of a different order from that of the West in matters connected with agriculture. Nevertheless, crop yields have become standardised at a very low level. With the aid of modern science, the provision of fertilisers, the selection of seeds, and schemes of co-operative marketing, a good deal can be done in the way of increasing the yield of food crops to meet the increased population. These improvements, too, would allow more land to be set aside for commercial crops to provide more money for increased rural incomes. It is usually agreed by those who know India best that it is in

the regions where commercial crops are most widely grown that the greatest improvements in the standard of living have taken place. If something could be done to improve the standard and quality of Indian cattle, which are at present reared for social, rather than economic, wealth, another material aid towards improving living conditions in India would result.

On the side of industrialism, India possesses the necessary foundations for successful industrial enterprise. Power is available, both in the form of coal and hydro-electric power. Mineral resources, although by no means over-generous, are substantial. Other resources like cotton are available, and at least in the field of quality, can be substantially improved. Above all, India has a large cheap labour force, and the internal market for cheap manufactured goods is very wide. The impulse towards industrialism, stimulated by the war, is destined to play an increasing part in Indian life. About 10 per cent. of the population of India is employed in industries of all types, but the great majority is engaged in small scale enterprise. In 1933, only six organized industries employed over 100,000 employees. A detailed discussion of India's industrial future must take account of political factors and of the relations between India and the rest of the Empire: such a discussion is impossible in a short space, but it is clear that from the point of view of absorbing increasing numbers, the factories will play a considerable part.

The last aspect, emigration, again raises very wide issues. Because of the deficiencies of census organization and the means of classification, it is impossible to state the exact number of Indians now living outside India, but it amounts to well over two millions. It should be noted that emigrants not only relieve home pressure of population, but often contribute, through their remittances, considerable sums to the home country.

The future of Indian emigration does not lie wholly within India's control, and in a world where political frontiers are becoming more rigid, and where states are becoming more anxious to restrict movements of population, by reason of an

excess of national fervour, the possibilities on this side cannot be considered very satisfactory. In territories like Burma and Ceylon the possibilities for future emigrants and for those Indians already living there are not hopeful. Every country seems to wish to exclude foreign nationals from settling permanently within their territory. A survey of the fields of possible emigration must yield the conclusion that India cannot look for a satisfactory solution of her population difficulties in this field. Australia is absolutely closed, as are North America and Europe. At the end of the 19th century it was suggested that the newly acquired colonies on the eastern side of Africa should be regarded as areas which would serve as a field for emigration from India, and so become to her what America became to Europe. Suggestions were again put forward during the war that as a reward for her services, India should be awarded the control of what later became Tanganyika Territory. But whatever the

hopes of the past, the realist will recognise that Africa holds out no prospect at all for the large scale settlement of Indian peasants. Nor can South America be regarded as a territory for Indian immigration on a large scale as a practical proposition. In territories like British Guiana there do exist possibilities for settlement, but in the near future it is unlikely that such emigration will take place. Asia alone is left, and as we noted above, even Asiatic countries outside India are becoming more resentful of the Indian emigrant.

On balance, it would seem that India's population difficulties are more likely to be solved by internal redistribution and a change in the occupational groupings of the Indian peoples. That such should be the case, many will regard as a further manifestation of the inability of European countries to deal satisfactorily with the problem of rectifying the present supposed maldistribution of population throughout the world.

THE DEFENCE OF INDIA

THE Government of India have done well to publish at last a brief summary of the main recommendations of the Chatfield Committee. What with wars in Europe and Asia, and the international situation growing worse day by day, it is some comfort to be assured by the authorities that efforts for the proper safeguarding of India's defence have not been neglected. It may no doubt be true that to a certain extent army movements and the nature of the defence operations should be kept secret in the interest of effective defence, but the value of discriminate publicity in allaying public anxiety can hardly be overemphasised. Modern wars are not confined to the battlefields, but affect the citizens as profoundly as the troops employed. It is, therefore, of utmost importance that public confidence in the strength and competence of defence measures should be kept up by adequate publicity.

The summary of the Chatfield Report published on the day after the declaration of war, is naturally brief; but it gives

sufficient indication of the nature and scope of the reorganisation, technical and financial, that has been going on in the army department for sometime past. It is conceded that the old methods of organisation and equipment are no longer in conformity with modern requirements; and the Imperial Government defined the task before the Committee in these terms:

Having regard to the increased cost of modern armaments, to the desirability of organizing, equipping and maintaining the Forces in India in accordance with modern requirements and to the limited resources available in India for defence expenditure to examine and report in the light of the experience gained in executing the British rearmament programme, how these resources can be used to the best advantage and to make recommendations.

The Report shows that on the technical side an elaborate scheme of modernization has been adopted by the Army and Air Force, while proposals for strengthening the Navy have also been sanctioned. But to bring the equipment and organization into line with modern conditions, both technically and internationally, India requires a capital sum of no less than

45 crores—an amount beyond the means of the country in her present financial condition. The outstanding recommendation of the Committee is that the Imperial Government should meet this substantial charge from its own exchequer. The Despatch accompanying the Report records the free gift of 33.12 crores by the Government of the United Kingdom and the loan of the remaining 11.34 crores free of interest for the next five years. Another point of interest is the reduction in the establishment of the British troops in India by about 25 per cent. of that obtaining on the 1st July 1938 which comprises two regiments of cavalry, the equivalent of three regiments of artillery, and six battalions of infantry.

The sole condition attached to this magnificent gift is that India should bring her defence forces up to the standard of equipment necessitated by modern warfare and adjust her strategical plans to the conditions obtaining in the world to-day.

Britain has realised that in view of the greater responsibilities devolving on India under modern conditions, she should bear a portion of the burden herself. For while hitherto the governing principle was that India's defence responsibility should be confined to the coast line and the North-West Frontier, under present conditions it is extended as far as Egypt on the west and Singapore on the east. The following paragraph in the Despatch makes this plain:

Hitherto the principle has been accepted that India should be responsible for the minor danger of the maintenance of internal security and for the defence of her land frontiers, while Great Britain should be responsible for the major danger of an attack by a Great Power upon India, or upon the Empire through India. Modern developments have, however, clearly shown how vulnerable India is to attack in other forms than those that were envisaged when the principle was first laid down. Such attacks, if they should ever mature, would so vitally affect India's own well-being that they would demand her immediate co-operation in effective measures for her defence. In such cases, India's defence would clearly be most effectively and economically assured by co-operation in the defence of points outside India strategically essential to her security. Thus the Committee have recommended as a general principle that the forces maintained by India should be adequate, not merely for the narrower purposes of purely local defence but also to assist in maintaining what they describe

as "India's external security", and further that India should acknowledge that her responsibility cannot in her own interests be safely limited to the local defence of her land frontiers and coasts.

The significance and extent of the Chatfield recommendation as endorsed by His Majesty's Government and the Government of India were explained in detail by H. E. the Commander-in-Chief in India in a lucid broadcast talk from Simla. It contained a wealth of information of the kind in which the public of India is intensely interested. His Excellency dwelt at length on the importance of modernisation and proceeded to point out that the safety of India, of her land and sea frontiers depended on the safety of her outposts in Egypt and Malaya—"strategically essential to her own security".

Look eastwards and think what would happen to India if Malaya and its great fortress of Singapore were to fall into the hands of an enemy. The British Fleet would thereby lose its great base in the East and the whole eastern coastline of India from Calcutta to Madras would become liable to raid and bombardment by sea and air. The loss of Malaya might well also mean a serious threat to Burma. Napoleon once said when he occupied the Low Countries that he had in Antwerp, it would be a pistol pointed at the heart of England. Burma, in hostile hands, would be a pistol pointed at the heart of Bengal.

Look westwards, to the Red Sea and Egypt. So long as Egypt, our ally, is free and independent and able with our help to check the movements of a hostile power, the Indian Ocean and the shores of India are likely to remain immune from attack from that direction. In other words, it may be said that it is vital to the interests of India that Egypt and Aden should never fall into hostile hands. In the conditions of the world situation as it has developed in recent years, the places which I have named have become of the first importance to the defence of India and must be considered to be her outposts. Eastwards we have Singapore, Malaya and Burma. Westwards Egypt, Aden and the lands of the Persian Gulf. If these were to be lost to India's friends, India would be directly threatened.

While the financial help and schemes of reorganisation are welcome features in any programme of effective security for India, it is strange that even at this hour of international crisis an adequate scheme of Indianisation less costly but more efficient than any foreign agency is yet to be thought of. Think of the relief to England at a time of crisis like the one confronting the world to-day if only India had been put in arms and trained to defend herself and the far-flung Empire in the East,

THE NEW LEVIATHAN

By MR. T. K. VENKATARAMAN, M.A., L.T.

(Assistant Professor of History, Pachaiappa's College, Madras.)

THE facile readiness with which people allow themselves to be ordered about is one of the most alarming features of these times. The ruthlessness with which individual rights are violated is evidenced in its extreme form in the Totalitarian States: but even in other States there is

waning regard for individual liberty when confronted with the supposed claims of State necessity which, it may be noted, is almost always a matter determined by the Executive. Mr. H. G. Wells forecasted in his daring novel "The Brave World"

political society where regimentation was carried to the extent of predetermining the vocation of the individual and the place he was going to occupy when he grew up even in the ante-natal stage. The novel realistically portrays how an individual who asserted his right to live as he liked, found himself a misfit in this ordered society and inevitably perished by his own hand.

An ingenious attempt has been made by a German writer to trace the idea of domination of human activities by the State to the days of the Greeks and justify the present regime in Germany on abstract grounds of political morality.

There cannot be a greater travesty of facts. While granting that the Greek conception of "Good Life" implied a willing sacrifice of the individual for the State, there was an equally important aspect of this "Good life" in the positive duty of the State to develop that the individual developed to the full his physical and mental capacities. There was no antithesis between the State and the individual; for the fullest development of the personality of the individual implied the highest development of the State. It is difficult to expect that the flowering of

Greek genius in art and letters found in the glorious days of Athenian democracy would have been possible except in a society where the individual enjoyed to the fullest possible extent his liberty to do things as he liked. When Aristophanes poked fun in his comedies at all kings not excepting even men occupying positions of authority, he was not rushed off to a concentration camp to meditate on the sin of "bringing authority into contempt".

Imitation of Western political forces has already led to certain ominous developments in our own country. We find in unexpected places a certain amount of impatience with criticism and a certain tendency to smear by a formula supposed by those in authority to be sacrosanct. It is necessary, therefore, to recall that our own political theory and practice set certain definite limits to State action. The ancient Hindu State had to respect the rights of the individual (*Sivadharma*), and of the group (*Kuladharma*). Even when an empire was formed, it respected the internal autonomy of subordinate political and social organisations. We find from the existence of republican communities within the Mauryan and Gupta empires that even ideological differences were not interfered with. The conspicuous example of religious toleration shows the same liberal outlook in social matters.

None in this modern world would defend that kind of crude individualism which was fashionable in the Western World in the 18th and 19th centuries. No individual or group should be allowed to obstruct the communal activities by his or its selfishness or ambition and the needs of modern society necessarily mean a relatively large extension of State authority. But it is well also to protest against the deification of the State and to remember that we, in this country, have been bequeathed a tradition of 'sweet reasonableness' and tolerance of differences. It would be a great tragedy if this precious inheritance is forsaken and a cult of State-worship, entirely foreign to our traditions, is adopted.

INDIAN AFFAIRS

By "AN INDIAN JOURNALIST"

The Viceroy's Speech

THE Viceregal address to the Central Legislature was naturally dominated by the present emergency, and His Excellency, after reading a gracious message from His Majesty expressing confidence in India's sympathy and support, appealed for unity over the issue. It is some consolation that the un-wanted Federation has receded to the background. According to the Viceroy, "there is no choice but to hold in suspense the work in connection with preparations for Federation while retaining Federation as our object".

So far so good. A scheme rejected by the Princes and opposed by all sections of the people has after all had the fate it deserved. But what next? If it is a gesture in response to Mahatma Gandhi's suggestion for a "Voluntary Federation", is not the time ripe to go a step further and make India feel that "the Centre is nearer to the people than it has ever been"? For, as a contemporary rightly points out,

in a war crisis efficiency is not enough, to it must be added that indefinable something which makes the custodians and devisers of policy acceptable to the large masses of men.

Self-Government in the Centre

In the course of a statement on the international situation, Sir S. Radhakrishnan, while declaring his sympathy with Poland's struggle for freedom and the British attitude to that struggle, makes an excellent suggestion: "Britain," he says, "will make a tremendous appeal to political India if the substance of self-government is immediately granted in the Centre." Apart from the zest that such a step would give India to throw her whole weight into the struggle in co-operation with England, it will deprive the enemy of an excuse to point a finger of scorn at England's nursing an autocracy in her own dependency. For German propaganda has not been slow to take advantage of the present situation in India to discredit British professions of democratic sympathy.

A Public Worker in South Africa

Swami Bhawani Dayal Sannyasi, who has been called back to South Africa owing to the gravity of the situation there created by the passing of the Asiatics Bill, is a colonial born Indian who has spent the major part of his life in the service of our countrymen abroad. Indians settled in South and East Africa, in Dutch and British Guiana, Trinidad, Fiji and Mauritius have borne testimony to his unwearying service on their behalf. The Sannyasi came to India a few months ago to awaken the Indian public as well as the Government of India to a realisation of the great crisis that is impending in South Africa following the interim legislation discriminating against Indians. In this task he has succeeded to a great extent, as is evident from the stir created in this country against that obnoxious measure. Mr. Prem Narain Agrawal has thus an interesting subject for his study and his book on the Swami is an eloquent and discriminating account of the life and achievements of a great public worker. It is a record of a remarkable career of usefulness and public service and throws light on the varied activities of the Swami, who is also rightly esteemed as an example of high-minded patriotism and devoted service to India.

Boycott of Legislature

It is plain the Working Committee resolution calling upon members of the Central Legislature to abstain from attending the present Session is the result of a pique caused by Government's provoking disregard of the Legislature. Government has flouted public opinion in moving Indian troops abroad and extending the term of the Central Legislature without the least consideration for Indian finance or Indian feelings. The resolution evidently embodies Congress reaction to Government's gesture of defiance. It is certainly strange that matters affecting the life of the Legislature itself should have been decided without even the courtesy of consultation with the Legislature concerned.

Bhawani Dayal Sannyasi: A Public Worker in South Africa. By Prem Narain Agrawal, M.A., Indian Colonial Association, Etawah, U.P. Re. 1-12.

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Pandit Malaviya's Retirement

Pandit Malaviya, who is 78, retires from the Vice-Chancellorship of the Benares Hindu University, leaving to his successor a legacy as meritorious as it is inspiring. For twenty years the Pandit and the University have almost been synonymous, and it is difficult to think of the one without being reminded of the other. His wise and sagacious guidance coupled with his indefatigable service has made the institution one of the best of its kind in India. After such unparalleled service, few will grudge him the retirement and peace that he so richly deserves, at his age. But the Pandit in choosing his successor has made sure that the great traditions of the University will be worthily maintained. For Sir Radhakrishnan on whom the mantle has fallen, is an ideal choice. A scholar and educationist of his standing will no doubt add fresh lustre to an institution already rich in its inheritance.

In this connection we heartily commend the proposal to present a purse of Rs. 15 lakhs to the Pandit on his 79th birthday in December next—a purse that will wipe off the debt that the University has incurred during the last few years.

Jamshedpur Labour Award

The arbitration award of Dr. Rajendra Prasad and Pandit Nehru in the Jamshedpur labour dispute is a document of more than local interest. It is throughout characterised by a judicious spirit of impartiality: not only the Tata Company and its army of workers but employers and labourers all over the country will do well to profit by their observations based on sound principles. Trade Unions in particular must take note of their warning. They have emphasised that a 'labour movement must be carried on with dignity and courtesy and with strict regard to proved facts'. They have expressed their strong disapproval of lightning strikes and slowing down of work or 'anything that promotes indiscipline'. They have described such strikes as 'breaches not only of the works but also of the discipline of the Union'. The award is given in the most helpful spirit alike to the employers and to labour.

Salaries and Allowances of Ministers

Public Information, the organ of the U. P. Government, draws attention to the actual expenditure incurred by the various Provincial Governments in respect of salaries and allowances to their Ministers. Congress Provinces have, as every one knows, enforced the rule of Rs. 500 per month for Ministers. The figures for other Provinces drawn from the 1939-40 Budgets afford instructive basis of comparison between the Congress and non-Congress Provinces. The scale of salaries for Ministers in the Punjab has been retained at Rs. 3,000-3,500; in Bengal at Rs. 2,500-3,000.

The cynical view is expressed in interested quarters that Congress Ministers make up in allowances for the deficiency of their salaries. This, however, is not borne out by facts. The figures speak for themselves and show no noticeable difference. Punjab Rs. 8,775 per year per Minister; Bengal Rs. 7,812; the United Provinces Rs. 7,550; Madras Rs. 7,150; Bombay Rs. 6,186; Sind Rs. 7,450; Bihar Rs. 8,050; the other Provinces being less than Rs. 5,000. These figures deserve wide publicity.

H. H. The Sankaracharya

A correspondent writes that His Holiness Sri Sankaracharya of Kama Koti Peetam, Kumbakonam, has decided

to give up the paraphernalia of horses, elephants, palanquins, etc., and to go about on foot with the minimum of personal retinue. In pursuance of this decision, he has sent away his palanquin-bearers, the horses, etc. Only the minimum personal establishment will be retained to the local Mutt.

This will be no surprise to those who have had the privilege of personal acquaintance with the Swamiji and his truly ascetic view of life. In discarding the pomp and circumstance of office and withdrawing himself to the simple and austere way of the holy order, the Swamiji reveals the real bent of his mind. Apart from his piety and learning, His Holiness is at heart a simple and unostentatious devotee and it is in the fitness of things that he should be yearning to lead the life of the traditional Hindu Sannyasin untrammelled by the distractions of secular life.

American Neutrality Law

THE U. S. A. Government's proposed new Neutrality legislation was made public on September 25 by Senator Key Pitman, Chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. The provisions include:

- (1) that American vessels would not be allowed to carry passengers or goods to belligerent countries;
- (2) violations of this provision will be punishable by a fine not exceeding fifty thousand dollars;
- (3) belligerent Powers purchasing goods from the United States would have to take title to them before the goods are shipped;
- (4) losses sustained by American insurance underwriters on war cargoes could not be made a basis for claims against the Government;
- (5) the President could designate "combat areas" and prohibit American citizens or vessels entering them;
- (6) Americans could not travel in ships of belligerent Powers except in accordance with the rules prescribed by the President;
- (7) Red Cross personnel and vessels chartered by the Red Cross would be exempt from the restrictions on American travel and shipping;
- (8) American merchant vessels would be prohibited from carrying any but small arms necessary to preserve discipline aboard;
- (9) belligerent Governments could not sell securities in the United States;
- (10) belligerents could obtain ordinary commercial credits for a period not exceeding ninety days.

Other provisions state that solicitation of funds in the United States for belligerents will be prohibited, and the President would have power to impose special restrictions on the use of American ports by submarine or armed merchantmen belonging to belligerents.

The Senate Foreign Relations Committee has since approved of the neutrality Bill permitting the sale of arms to belligerents after a three-hour session on September 28.

Oxford Pamphlets on World Affairs

The delegates of the Oxford University Press have done a real public service in enlisting the co-operation of disinterested scholars, experts in the fields of history, economics and international law, in providing for the general public short statements on problems of recent and contemporary history. Such questions as the causes and the course of the Great War of 1914-1918, the circumstances surrounding the Armistice, the rights and wrongs of the Treaty of Versailles, its subsequent revision and the payment of reparations are matters on which it is clearly important that the general public should be truthfully informed. There are other contemporary problems on which propaganda is continually exercised and which are equally important—the merits of economic self-sufficiency; the population problems of Europe and the demand for *lebensraum*; the present position of the British Empire and its relations with the outside world; the general question of relations between different nationalities and the morality which governs these relations. These are some of the subjects which the Oxford pamphlets attempt to cover.

We have read with interest the first four of these and they give within a short compass a fair and unbiased view of the subjects treated. At this moment when there is a great deal of propaganda in connection with the War, the busy reader will very much appreciate these short accounts of current international topics.

* OXFORD PAMPHLETS:—(1) "The Prospects of Civilisation" by Sir Alfred Zimmern; (2) "The British Empire" by H. V. Hodson; (3) "Herr Hitler's Self-disclosure in 'Mein Kampf'" by R. C. K. Ensor; (4) "Economic Self-sufficiency" by A. G. B. Fisher; (5) "Race in Europe" by Julian Huxley; (6) "The Fourteen Points and the Treaty of Versailles" by G. M. Gathorne-Hardy; (7) "Colonies and Raw Materials" by H. D. Henderson; (8) "Living Space" and Population Problems" by R. R. Kuczynski; (9) "Turkey, Greece and the Eastern Mediterranean" by G. F. Hudson; (10) "The Danubian Basin" by C. A. Macartney; (11) "The Dual Policy" by Sir Arthur Salter, M.P.; (12) "Encirclement" by J. L. Brierly; (13) "The Refugee Question" by Sir John Hope-Simpson. Three Annas each. G. A. Natesan & Co., Publishers, Esplanado, Madras.

The Rumanian Tragedy

The murder of M. Armand Calinescu, the Rumanian Prime Minister, is officially stated to have no foreign or international significance. That may be so. If Rumania did not occupy a position of special international significance at the present time, observes a contemporary, "the assassination and the retribution which followed it so quickly might be regarded as a typical episode in Balkan and especially Rumanian politics. M. Calinescu was not the first Rumanian Premier to be assassinated by the Iron Guards. M. Duca was killed after the election of 1933, and three men who had been convicted of his murder were among the fourteen, including the Iron Guard leader, M. Codreanu, who were shot early one November morning last year when attempting to escape according to the official report. M. Calinescu, as Minister of the Interior, had been specially associated with the break-up of the illegal Iron Guard association; he had been threatened with death and his murder may be regarded as an act of revenge for Codreanu and other Iron Guards who met a similar fate before and after their leader."

Britain's War Budget

Introducing the War Emergency Budget in the House of Commons, Sir John Simon said that he could not guarantee that the five hundred millions credit would be sufficient to cover all requirements upto March 31 next.

Substantial all round increases in direct and indirect taxation including the raising of Income-tax level to 7 shillings 6 pence in the pound and large increase in so-called luxury articles were announced by Sir John Simon.

It was obviously impossible that the whole of Britain's war expenditure could be provided from taxation.

Sir John Simon foreshadowed national defence loans on a larger scale. The time had not yet come to issue a national loan.

"When the time comes, new loans of various types would be offered."

"Statesman's" Guide

The following diverting thoughts of Karel Capek are evidently gleaned from contemporary life. They seem so ironically true of international dealings to-day:—

Treaties are made to be kept by the weaker nations.

The efforts of statesmen have succeeded in completely maintaining collective insecurity.

In the interests of peace, energetic measures against the victims of aggression must be taken.

Localizing a conflict, leaving the victim to his fate.

Liquidating a conflict, amputating his legs in addition.

No sacrifice made by others is too much for the cause of peace.

There are many who like to warm their soup over a conflagration.

The Czechs have not been sold out — just given away for nothing.

Marshal Chiang's Declaration

Despite the Japanese claims that they have entrapped forty thousand Chinese troops at Kiangsi mountains, Marshal Chiang Kaishek who presided over the National Peoples' Political Congress declared that Government would not make peace with Japan.

He said: "China's military strength has been more than doubled since the outbreak of the war."

The newspaper *Takungpao* declares that Soviet's China policy is unchanged and Russia is increasing her assistance to China.

Italo-Bolivia Agreement

A barter agreement has been concluded whereby Bolivia will supply Italy with 20,000 tons of tin in return for Italian rayon. It is also announced that the Italian zinc industry has bought the patents of an American process for extraction of zinc from ore found in Sardinia.

DIARY OF THE MONTH

- Aug. 28. The Baltic and the Mediterranean are closed to merchant shipping.
- Aug. 29. Hitler demands unconditional return of Danzig and the corridor.
—Mr. Chamberlain reiterates Britain's policy.
- Aug. 30. Britain sends another note to Hitler.
- Aug. 31. The Soviet Parliament ratifies the Soviet-German non-aggression pact.
- Sept. 1. Germany invades Poland.
—British ultimatum to Germany.
- Sept. 2. Britain repudiates Danzig coup.
- Sept. 3. Britain and France declare war against Germany.
- Sept. 4. Viceroy interviews Gandhiji, Mr. Jinnah and Mr. Aney.
—The *Athenia* with 1,400 passengers is torpedoed 200 miles west of Hebrides.
- Sept. 5. Gen. Hertzog resigns and Gen. Smuts forms new ministry in S. A. American neutrality is proclaimed.
—Gandhiji issues a statement expressing sympathy with the British cause.
- Sept. 6. Franco-German artillery duel between Maginot and Siegfried lines.
—German occupation of Cracow.
—Viceroy gives assent to Madras Temple Entry Bill.
- Sept. 7. Mr. Chamberlain's statement in the Commons.—R. A. F. action in Keil Canal.
- Sept. 8. Germans are in full possession of the Corridor.
—The British Liner *Washington* is torpedoed off the Spanish coast.
- Sept. 9. India Government sets up a War Transport Board.
—Central Assembly refers the Defence of India Bill to a Select Committee.
—The British steamer *Munnar* bound for Calcutta is torpedoed off Portugal.
- Sept. 10. Canada declares War against Germany.
—Congress Working Committee meets at Wardha.
- Sept. 11. H. E. the Viceroy announces postponement of Federation.
- Sept. 12. The Orissa Assembly passes the Prohibition Bill.
—The Supreme War Council decides to prosecute the war to its end.
- Sept. 13. Russian troops break through the Japanese centre on the Mongolian Front.
- Sept. 14. Dr. Schuschnigg, former Chancellor of Austria, is shot dead by the Nazis.
—Assembly refuses to refer the Divorce Bill to a Select Committee.
- Sept. 15. The Working Committee of the Congress issues a statement enunciating the attitude of the Congress to the War.
- Sept. 16. Germans bomb Warsaw.
—Russia invades Poland.
- Sept. 17. Rumania declares neutrality.
- Sept. 18. Poland protests against Russian invasion.
—H. M. S. *Courageous* is sunk.
—Russian troops occupy Vilna.
- Sept. 19. Muslim League adopts a resolution offering conditional co-operation with Britain.
—A German-Soviet *communique* asserts that the Russian move is to restore order in disrupted Poland.
—Herr Hitler, speaking at Danzig, denounces England.
- Sept. 20. Mr. Chamberlain, in his third statement in the Commons, replies to Herr Hitler's Danzig speech.
- Sept. 21. M. Calinescu, Prime Minister of Rumania, is assassinated by Iron Guards.
- Sept. 22. German and Soviet Governments establish a demarcation line between their armies in Poland.
—The Rumanian Premier's assassins and 76 Iron Guards are shot dead.
- Sept. 23. Sgr. Mussolini reaffirms Italy's neutrality.
- Sept. 24. Big naval battle off Norwegian coast is reported.
—Severe bombardment of Siegfried lines.
- Sept. 25. Zeppelin Works at Friedrichshafen, near the Swiss border are bombed.
- Sept. 26. Mahatma Gandhi has a prolonged interview with the Viceroy at Simla.
—Mr. Churchill makes a statement on British Naval achievements.
—Mr. Chamberlain presents his fourth survey of the War in the Commons.
- Sept. 27. House of Lords discusses Congress statement.
—Sir John Simon presents Emergency War Budget in the House of Commons.
- Sept. 28. The Foreign Relations Committee approves of the U. S. A. Neutrality Bill.
—Ribbentrop's talk with Stalin at Kremlin.
Warsaw surrenders after 21 days' fighting.



The WORLD of BOOKS



DADABHAI NAOROJI: Grand Old Man of India. By R. P. Masani. George Allen & Unwin Ltd., London. Can be had of G. A. Natesan & Co., Madras. Rs. 12.

There has of late been a dearth of biographies of our famous Indian political leaders. The first successful attempt at a good political biography was made years ago by Mr. (now Sir) H. P. Mody when he presented to the public a well written life of Sir Pherozeshah Mehta in two volumes. A biography of Dadabhai Naoroji has been long overdue and we are glad Mr. R. P. Masani, the present Vice-Chancellor of the Bombay University, has presented to the Indian public an excellent life of the Grand Old Man of India. Dadabhai was, indeed, the pioneer in the struggle for India's freedom and for 70 years and more he toiled on unceasingly in India and in England for the attainment of *Swaraj* for India. To read his life is to read the story of India's struggle for political freedom. Probably very few of the present generation have seen Mr. Naoroji and yet his name is one to conjure with throughout the length and breadth of India. In the words of Mr. Gokhale:

Mr. Dadabhai has in course of time attained in the hearts of millions of his countrymen, without distinction of race or creed, a place which rulers of men might envy and which in its character is more like the influence which great teachers of humanity have exercised on those whose thoughts and hopes and lives they have lifted to a higher plane.

The life of such a man, "one of the most perfect examples of the highest type of patriotism that any country has

ever produced," is, therefore, full of lesson to all Indians who take a real interest in the progress and development of their Motherland.

Dadabhai was a severe critic of British rule in India. He spoke and wrote many hard things about Britain's un-British acts in India. Yet he was to the last a firm believer in British justice and one of the good old generation of Indian politicians who believed sincerely that India's destiny was linked with that of Great Britain. No wonder that the outbreak of the Great War of 1914 elicited the following stirring message from him:—

The War in Europe. What is our—India's—place in it? . . . We are, above all, British citizens of the Great British Empire. . . Fighting as the British people are at present in a righteous cause for the good and glory of human dignity and civilization and, moreover, being the beneficent instrument of our own progress and civilization, our duty is clear to do our—everyone's—best to support the British fight with our life and property.

The memoir is, as Mr. Masani rightly points out, "full of pathetic illustrations of his faith in British justice despite his disappointments and of his abounding love for his country and abiding loyalty to the British Throne".

THE FEDERAL COURT MANUAL. By Dhyani Chandra and Gurudayal Sahay, J. M. Jaina Bros., New Delhi. (Available of G. A. Natesan & Co., Madras.) Rs. 2-8.

The Federal Court has just come into being and members of the bar are yet unfamiliar with its rules and procedure. The authors of this Manual have taken care to bring together all the relevant provisions of the Government of India Act, the Federal Court Act and the "affected" provisions of the Civil Procedure Code. The rules of the Federal Court, together with specimen forms of memorandum of appeals and application to the Federal Court embodied in the book, will be of practical use to the practitioner.

THE HOUSEKEEPER'S DAUGHTER. By Donald Henderson Clarke. T. Werner Laurie, Ltd., London. 7s. 6d. net.

This book deals with a gang of newspaper reporters in America who are out to discover the perpetrator of a peculiarly horrible murder. The murderer is under their noses all the time and only too willing to confess, but as he is a kind of half-wit, these bright lads laugh at him and tease him but look elsewhere for their man. The underworld of crooks and drunkards, which is revealed in this book, is not just a place in which many folk would care to linger. There is hardly a sympathetic character in the story except a forty-year-old nurse who rapidly succumbs to the atmosphere and falls in love with the unspeakable Deacon.

THE SILAPPADIKARAM or The Lay of the Anklet. By Mr. V. R. Ramachandra Dikshitar. Oxford University Press. (G. A. Natesan & Co., Madras.) Rs. 15.

The research department of the Madras University has for some years past been very active in producing several useful publications exploring many unexplored regions in the field of Indian Languages, Sanskrit culture and Indian History and Archæology. Not long ago we had three scholarly volumes on the Cholas by Prof. K. A. Nilakanta Sastri.

We have now pleasure in welcoming another very useful publication and that by Mr. V. R. Ramachandra Dikshitar. In undertaking the translation of the *Silappadikaram*, a famous Tamil work unearthed by the untiring labours of Pandit Mahamahopadhyaya Swaminatha Ayyar, the author has done real service as this great Epic has justly been

regarded as one of the priceless gems of ancient Tamil literature.

Apart from the value of the story, which in itself is very touching and attractive, there is in this publication a wealth of historical material—pictures of social and religious observances and what is more interesting still a real revealing picture of ancient Tamil life including the life and genius of the classical poets. The introduction, which is fairly lengthy, will amply repay perusal.

We hope the author will ere long bring out a translation of *Manimekalai*.

A CITY IN TRANSITION: STUDIES IN THE SOCIAL LIFE OF MADRAS. By C. W. Ranson. Foreword by Dr. A. D. Lindsay. The Christian Literature Society for India, Madras.

Mr. Ranson's study of the social life of Madras will occupy a distinctive place in the literature of the tercentenary of the city that is now growing apace. The raw material of this book of researches was collected during the author's five years' stay in the city and this is, perhaps, the first systematic attempt to examine in detail "some of the processes and problems of urbanization" in South India. The wealth and variety of the statistical material presented in the volume bear testimony to Mr. Ranson's method and judgment in the handling of the great mass of facts and figures he has gathered. The chapters dealing with debt and the minimum of subsistence and family income and expenditure are particularly instructive. "It seems to me," says the Master of Balliol truly, "to have all the virtues that a book of this kind should have: on the one hand scientific, careful, statistical, using all the sources of knowledge that a scholar has access to, on the other hand obviously based on personal knowledge and investigation and care." This is well deserved.

THE PRAKATARTHAVIVARANA. Edited by Dr. T. R. Chintamani, M.A., Ph.D. Senior Lecturer in Sanskrit, University of Madras. Vol. I. Madras University Sanskrit Series. Price Rs. 6.

During the comparatively short term of office as Senior Lecturer in the Madras University, Sanskrit Department, Dr. T. R. Chintamani has brought out a number of original Sanskrit Texts in the shape of critical editions from manuscripts. Besides the publication of a number of minor works in poetry and philosophy in bulletin form, he has projected and has already partly brought out a library of the *Unadi*, an important part of Sanskrit grammar in all its recensions, and such an important classic of the school of monistic philosophy as the book under review.

The *Prakatarthavivarana* of unknown authorship is an old commentary on the great *Bhashya* of Sankara on the Vedānta Sūtras and its importance lies in the fact that it is the first complete commentary on Sankara written according to what is called the Vivarana school, as distinguished from the better known Bhamati school.

That in the difficult task of reconstructing the text from the few manuscript available, the Editor has had the full help of his eminent teachers: Professor S. Kuppuswami Sastri, S. K. Padmanabha Sastri and T. V. Ramachandra Dikshitar is sufficient guarantee for the reliability of the text.

The Editor reserves a critical Introduction to the second Volume of the work to which we look forward with interest.

BOOKS RECEIVED

—: O:—

LANGUAGE AND REALITY. By Wilbur Marshall Utter. George Allen and Unwin, London.

OXFORD PAMPHLETS ON WORLD AFFAIRS. (1) "The Prospects of Civilisation" by Alfred Zimmermann. (2) "The British Empire" by H. V. Hodson. (3) "Mein Kampf" by R. C. K. Ensor, and (4) "Economic Self-sufficiency" by A. G. B. Fisher. Clarendon Press, Oxford, England.

THE SOCIOLOGY OF RACES, CULTURES AND HUMAN PROGRESS. By Dr. Benoy Kumar Sarkar, M.A. Chatterjee & Co., Calcutta.

OPAL KRISHNA DEVADHAR. Edited by Hon. Dr. A. N. Kuntze. Servants of India Society, Poona.

THE ELUSIVE LORD BACTR. By Basil Tozer. T. Werner Laurie Ltd., London.

STRANGE LANGUAGE. By Pandit Acharya. Yoga Research School, Post Office Box 28, Station F, New York City.

ARLY BUDDHIST JURISPRUDENCE. By Miss Durga N. Bhagwat. Oriental Book Agency, Poona.

DIA'S TEEMING MILLIONS. By Gyan Chand. George Allen and Unwin Ltd. 40, Museum Street, London, W.C. 1.

DIA GOING DRY. By Rev. Herbert Anderson. The United Kingdom Alliance, London.

ANDHU TRIUMPHANT: The Inside Story of the Historic Fast. By Haridas T. Muzumdar. Universal Publishing Co., New York.

MAHATMA GANDHI: ESSAYS AND REFLECTIONS ON HIS LIFE AND WORK. Edited by Sir S. Radhakrishnan. George Allen & Unwin, London.

SONGS FROM THE SOUL. By Anilbaran Roy. John M. Watkins, 21, Cecil Court, Charing Cross Rd., London. Available of Gita Prachar Karyalaya 108/11, Manohar Pukur Road, P. O. Calcutta Re. 1-4.

THREE MEN OF DESTINY. By A. S. Panchapakesa Ayyar, M.A., I.C.S. Coomaraswamy Naidu and Sons, Madras.

SOVIET RUSSIA: Its Socialism. By M. K. Spencer. New Book Company, Bombay.

THE HUMAN EYE. By K. S. Malkani, Ophthalmic Surgeon, Hyderabad (Sind).

THE HISTORY AND HISTORIANS OF BRITISH INDIA. By Sir Shafaat Ahmad Khan, Kt. Kitabistan, Allahabad.

EUROPE ASKS: WHO IS SHREE KRISHNA? Letters written to a Christian Friend by Bipin Chandra Pal. New India Printing & Publishing Co., Ltd., Calcutta.

COMMUNISM. By Ralph Fox. Kitabistan, Allahabad.

WHO AM I? By Swamy Sivananda. Sri Balarama Reddi, Jolarpet.

POONA RESIDENCY CORRESPONDENCE. Vol. VI

The Princes and the War

The declaration of war by Britain was the occasion for a spontaneous expression of loyalty on the part of the Indian princes and ruling chiefs, who have offered to place all the resources of their States in the service of the King. Most of the rulers had made their offers as long ago as September last year when a crisis threatened to overtake Europe. They had assured their whole-hearted support with men and money if Britain should be involved in war. Princely India's loyalty to the throne is traditional and the Princes renewed their offer through His Excellency the Viceroy when it was made known that Britain had actually declared war on September 3. H. E. H. the Nizam sent the following message:—

In view of the political situation in Europe which has unfortunately become critical again, let me renew my previous offer of help to the British Government in the shape of loyal services for the protection of the British Empire.

Similar offers were made by the Governments of Mysore, Travancore, Baroda, Kashmir, Bikaner, Rampur, Kapurthala, Bhopal and hundreds of other States big and small. H. E. Lord Linlithgow has expressed thanks to Their Highnesses on behalf of H. M. the King-Emperor.

The total amount of cash contributions made by the Princes for war expenses during the first two weeks of the war comes to over Rs. 21 lakhs plus a separate contribution of thousand pounds. The Nawab of Rampur has also given one lakh for ambulance work. These figures do not include the recurring contribution of Rs. 50,000 annually from Udaipur and Rs. 1,500 monthly from Palanpur.

The Rulers of Kashmir, Hyderabad, Travancore and Baroda have given their palaces in New Delhi free of rent for the use of Government offices.

Hyderabad

LABOUR INSURANCE IN HYDERABAD

The Hyderabad Municipal Corporation breaks new ground with its decision to insure the lives of all labourers in its employ. To this end each such employee has been sanctioned an increase of one rupee in wages, and this amount will be utilized for paying the necessary premium.

Baroda

CITY IMPROVEMENT OF HYDERABAD

The Hyderabad Municipal Corporation's four-year plan to improve and extend the civic amenities of the city, for which a loan of Rs. 40 lakhs has been sanctioned by the Government, will be put into operation shortly.

COTTAGE INDUSTRIES

To stimulate cottage industries, the Government of Baroda have sanctioned a grant of Rs. 500 to the Pipodra Village Industries Society for a period of one year. The aim of the Pipodra Society is to establish subsidiary occupations in Pipodra and the adjoining villages and raise the economic standard of life of the people. Charka and spinning have been introduced in many homes. Forty-two charkas at Pipodra and 17 charkas at Kanyasi are working at present.

FRUIT GROWING IN BARODA

With a view to stimulating and popularising fruit-growing within the State limits, the Horticultural Section of the Agricultural Department of Baroda is extending its activities. A short course was held in the methods of fruit preservation and the State horticulturists visited Mainpuri, Cawnpore and Patna and saw the details of the electro-cultural experiments being carried on in those stations.

Mysore

THE YUVARAJA AND THE POPE

The Yuvaraja of Mysore accompanied by his family and suit visited the Papal Villa on July 31 and had audience with the Pope. The party was accompanied by Monsignor Pisani, an ex-apostolic delegate to India. The Pope speaking in English greeted the Yuvaraja in a short address ending with an apostolic benediction. The Yuvaraja then gave his Holiness an ivory crucifix mounted on a silver base encrusted with precious stones. The Pope in return gave the Yuvaraja a gold medal of the Pontifical year.

DIPLOMA COURSE IN SERICULTURE

The decision of the University of Mysore to institute post-secondary diploma course in Sericulture from the year 1940 breaks new ground in the matter of textile education in India. At present no diploma course in sericulture is given by any university in India.

In co-operation with the Government of India who have given special grants, important research work has been undertaken by the Sericultural Department for the past four years.

A Draft Bill penalising the use of un-examined seed has been prepared and sericulturists are being educated to realise the advantage of such control.

SILK INDUSTRY

The opening of Mysore Silk Filature's first factory by Sir Mirza Ismail, Dewan of Mysore, has provided this essentially Mysore industry with much needed encouragement.

Hitherto, importations of Japanese raw silk have been a disquieting feature of the industry in this State. Now there will be less need for imports and more Mysore raw silk will be absorbed.

Travancore

UNIVERSITY RESEARCH COUNCIL

The future of Travancore is bound up with scientific research and its possibilities, said the Vice-Chancellor, Travancore University. Sir C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar, inaugurating the first meeting of the University Council of Research on September 9.

He added that occasions like the present world crisis impressed on them the need for greater economic self-sufficiency, so that under such situations they might produce their food supply and other necessities. The idea underlying the institute was that the best results could be arrived at in an atmosphere of conjoint scientific work in which there was juxtaposition of scientific minds stimulating and co-operating in strenuous endeavour.

The Vice-Chancellor referred to the Maharaja's great interest in the work of the institute and said His Highness's abiding solicitude for the advancement of his people was an inspiration behind this and all similar work in the State.

GOVERNMENT AND REFORMS

The Chief Secretary to the Travancore Government, replying to the State Congress President's letter seeking a resumption of the talks on constitutional reforms with the Dewan, said:

"For reasons which must be obvious and which have influenced the Government of India in their decision regarding the Federal negotiations, no conversations can possibly take place regarding any constitutional reforms until normal conditions are restored and the position is stabilised."

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NEW CONSTITUTION ACT

Jammu and Kashmir Constitution has been promulgated as from 1st October 7th by order of the Maharaja.

Constitution Act consists of six and 78 sections.

Act to His Highness's inherent legislative, executive and judicial powers vested in the State Government, a Council of Ministers consisting of a Minister and such other Ministers as His Highness may appoint is vested with powers of superintending, directing and controlling the civil administration of the State. Provision is made for the appointment of an Advocate-General.

III of the Act deals with the structure of the State, which is to consist of His Highness and the Praja (People's Assembly). The Praja will comprise 75 members excluding the Maharaja. Members of the Council of Ministers will be ex-officio members of the Praja. Of the remaining members, 50 will be elected and the rest appointed by His Highness.

Princely States

PEOPLES' CONFERENCE

Administrative amalgamation of the Princely States into a Sub-Federation was the first step to their entry into the All-India Federation was advocated by

Satyamurthi, M.L.A. (Central) in his introductory address to the Conference of the Princely States' People on August 20.

During the test laid down in the resolution of the All-India States' Peoples' Conference, held at Ludhiana in February, 1938, a population of 20 lakhs or revenue of Rs. 50 lakhs, Mr. Satyamurthi declared that no Punjab Hill State could satisfy these conditions.

Cochin

COCHIN'S OFFER

His Excellency the Viceroy has sent a message to His Highness the Maharaja of Cochin, accepting with thanks his offer to place all the resources of the State at the disposal of His Majesty the King-Emperor in the present crisis that faces the Empire.

COCHIN CINCHONA

The Government of Cochin have asked the Director of Agriculture and the Conservators of Forests to submit a scheme for starting a trial plantation of cinchona.

Trial plantations of eucalyptus, wattle and clove has been recommended by the Government.

INDIAN STATESMEN

DEWANS AND PRIME MINISTERS OF INDIAN STATES

In view of the interest created by the question of the adjustment of relations between the British Government and the Feudatory States of India in the future Constitution of India, every one interested in constitutional questions should read this book of absorbing interest to politicians and laymen.

CONTENTS:—Sir Salar Jung, Maharajah Jung Bahadur, Rajah Sir Dinkar Rao, Dewan Rangacharlu, Sir K. Seshadri Iyer, Mr. V. P. Madhava Rao, Raja Sir T. Madhava Rao, Kazi Shahabuddin, Lakshman Jagannath, Romesh Chunder Dutt, Sir Seshiah Sastri, Sir M. Visvesvaraya, Mr. Samaldas Parmanandas, Dewan Bahadur R. Raghoonath Rao, Gourishankar Oodshanker, Maharajah Sir Pratap Singh, and Maharajah Sir Kishen Pershad.

With 17 Portraits.

The Hindu:—"The book is most timely and opportune." *The Leader*:—"We heartily recommend it to the general public."

Price Rs. 3. To Subs. of the "I. R.", Rs. 2-8.

G. A. NATESAN & Co., ESPLANADE, MADRAS.

INDIANS OVERSEAS

England

INDIAN STUDENTS IN ENGLAND

The Government of India has communicated to the Government of Bombay that the High Commissioner for India, London, is taking all possible steps to advise and assist Indian students both men and women at present in the United Kingdom. Many Universities and Colleges in evacuation areas are making arrangements to continue their courses in safer districts and students are advised to continue their studies as far as possible and in accordance with any instructions issued by their University or College authorities. Exactly the same facilities are being afforded to Indian as to home students. The High Commissioner is doing his best to secure as many passages as possible for those students who wish to return home and a register of their names is being recorded.

Students still in India who intended to proceed to the United Kingdom should now not sail.

Ceylon

INDIA AND CEYLON

In continuation of their drive against Indian and other non-Ceylonese employees, the Government of Ceylon has instructed all heads of departments not to employ non-Ceylonese even as casual or substitute workers in any Government undertaking.

The recent action against certain classes of Indian employees in Government service has caused considerable uneasiness among the thousands of Indian labourers on tea and rubber plantations on the Island, writes a *Statesman* correspondent. But the Planters' Association, supported by the Ceylon States Proprietary Association, has issued an assurance that estate labour is a matter in which it is vitally interested and that it will oppose, with all the strength at its command, any measures likely to affect the well-being of plantation workers.

South Africa

A TRUCE IN SOUTH AFRICA

In a statement to the Press, Mr. Andrews says that the reported appointment of Mr. Morris Alexander as Minister of the Interior in the Union of South Africa is likely to prove of benefit to the Indian cause, for Mr. Alexander has in the past firmly opposed any legislation involving racial discrimination. Further, Mr. Hoffmeyer is now Finance Minister. This in itself is a guarantee that no anti-Asiatic Bill would be brought forward. It is likely that the Prime Minister, General Smuts, would call a truce on this subject for the duration of the war.

REPATRIATION FIGURES

Replying to Mr. Strydom (Nat., Waterberg), the Minister of the Interior said in the House of Assembly that 12,451 Indians were repatriated to India under the provision of Act 37 of 1927 up to February 28, 1933. Altogether 252 Indians returned to the Union, and 3,758 were repatriated to India during the period March 1, 1933, to February 28, 1939. Of these, 528 had returned to the Union.

Germany

INDIANS IN GERMANY

Mr. C. L. Patel, Honorary Secretary of the Indian Overseas Central Association, New Delhi, has sent the following telegram to the Government of India:—

Strongly protest against the brutal action of the German Customs Police confiscating all money of Indians, mostly students, who were leaving Germany for London for safety. Urge secure compensation by representation or retaliation. Arrange relief for these stranded Indians who are now in London,

Rhodesia

INDIANS IN RHODESIA

When Indians in Northern Rhodesia were invited to join the Voluntary Defence Force, some of them had doubts whether they could agree to enlist consistently with their creed as members of the All-India National Congress, and the Secretary of the British Indian Association of N'dola wrote to Mr. A. K. Kajee, Secretary, South African Indian Congress, for guidance. Mr. Kajee replied:

I am emphatically of the opinion that every Indian in Northern Rhodesia must offer his services for the defence of the land which gives him shelter and provides subsistence for him and his family.

His letter proceeded:

I am sorry to say that I am unable to agree with the argument for non-co-operation in this matter based upon the attitude of the Congress in India. The conditions and circumstances that prevail in India cannot apply to Indians settled in the Dominions and Colonies.

We live in these territories and, as we claim that all the rights and privileges of citizenship should be extended to us, we should on our side not shirk nor attempt to evade the responsibility that goes with citizenship by hair-splitting and academic arguments; in the Union of South Africa we have cried for this right to serve the land in which, despite the bane of colour prejudice and oppression, we earn our livelihood and live in peace, but it has been denied to us.

It would be most improper and would amount to betrayal if you took any other action than that of asking every Indian in Northern Rhodesia to register himself under the Defence of Northern Rhodesia Voluntary Registration scheme.

Out of a total of 50 British Indians in N'dola, 46 have signed the form for the Northern Rhodesia Voluntary Defence Force.

Trinidad

INDIANS IN TRINIDAD

Indians in Trinidad number about 158,000 and own amongst themselves nearly 121,000 acres of land according to the latest annual report of the local Protector of Immigrants.

The total number of Indian children attending schools was nearly 25,000 of whom about 3,500 were in Government schools and the rest in assisted schools. Of the children attending schools, nearly 9,500 were girls and the rest boys. There are also many besides these who attended secondary schools and colleges.

There is no sharp cleavage between the Indians and other sections of the population and all enjoy the same political rights and privileges. There are at present three Indian elected members on the Legislative Council. Indians follow the same occupations as the rest of the population, many are landlords, merchants, shopkeepers, dairy-men and peasant proprietors, while others are professional men and civil servants.

East Africa

ASIATICS IN AFRICA

Kenya is alert about the clouds of war writes "P. J." in one of his delightful causeries, and need we say that the Asiatic will be now treated as a long-lost brother, all racial prejudice completely forgotten? The cables say:

Asiatic manpower would be mainly employed in maintaining the colony's essential services, including railways, and on construction of military camps. Legislation, however, is being introduced to provide for men of Asiatic origin and Arabs to participate in the defence of Mombasa. All these preparations, said the Governor, had been carried out in the closest co-operation with the neighbouring territories.



TOPICS From PERIODICALS



HITLER ON THE LAST LAP

In the course of an interesting article extracted in the *Magazine Digest*, a writer gives many incidents in Herr Hitler's life. That Hitler himself is fully aware of the limitations of aerial warfare, appears from his recent remarks to the American journalist, Karl Von Wiegand:

What would I stand to gain if I had London razed to the ground from the air? I could still not land a single soldier on British soil as long as their fleet remained in control of the North Sea. The air force can destroy and demoralize. But it cannot occupy and hold a single objective.

Proceeding, the writer gives an illustration to show how self-conscious Hitler is about his own power. The Munich Conference aroused a Napoleonic complex in him. When he drove into the Sudetenland, he turned around in his car and shouted to one of his attendants: "Yes, gentleman, the world waits on me and not I on the world."

For all that, he has no real friends. With dozens of intrigues and struggles for power in progress around him, it would be dangerous to permit people to enter into intimate relationship with him. Since Roehm's death, he addresses all his colleagues with the formal "Sie" instead of the familiar "du". He is constantly surrounded by several members of his body-guard, the so-called "suicide corps" who have pledged to take their own lives in the event of his assassination.

His house, Wachenfeld, in the Obersalzberg, says the writer, is run by his two sisters, Ida Bauball and Paula Hitler. For twenty years these two women had not heard from their brother. During this period they lived in two modest rooms in No. 52 Schoenburgstrasse in Vienna. Their only income was the meagre pension that the Austrian Government paid Mme. Bauball who is a war widow.

One fine day a letter arrived from their brother in which he invited them to take over the

direction of his household. Ida accepted at once. But Paula stood on her pride. "For two whole decades while we lived in misery, you did not trouble about us. Now it is I who do not wish to have anything to do with you." When Adolf Hitler, however, drove into Vienna on March 1, 1938, Paula presented herself at the Imperial Hotel. She was received by her brother at once and invited to Berchtesgaden again. This time she did not refuse.

Hitler, we are told, is quite as incapable of systematic work as of organised existence. He has no fixed office hours and no desks crammed with dossiers. The only documents that captivate the Fuehrer are architect's blue prints and General Staff maps. The recently finished Reich Chancellery is his own work. But his most original creation is undoubtedly the eagle's eyrie at Berchtesgaden of which the world learned for the first time from the French ambassador, Francois-Poncet. When he paid his farewell visit to Hitler, he was driven into an indirectly lighted marble grotto, and shot up through a shaft 650 feet high by an elevator into a glass house where a beaming Hitler awaited him. The mansion is built on a precipice at a height of 6,500 feet. It can be seen only from the air.

It is here that Hitler withdraws when he wants to meditate in solitude on some weighty problem that must be solved. At times he gives proof of undeniable powers of clairvoyance and the sensitivity of a medium. He is not, however, a spiritualist. From the beginning of his career he has felt convinced of his prophetic powers and draws all his inspiration from within himself. Most astounding of all are the presentiments that he has about his own fate. He decided in favour of the precipitate occupation of Czechoslovakia, because he felt that he had only a year or so to live. Whenever an important question has come up for decision in recent months, his close collaborators hear the following melancholy word from him: "We must make haste. My time draws nigh."

WHAT TO DO WITH THE AIR?

"Osires", writing in the *Indian Radio Review* for August, observes that the B. B. C. has been working fairly satisfactory although political bias plays a considerable part. Its policy has been to hold the balance fairly evenly between contending parties.

Thus, I think, the B. B. C. model, improved and modified, would be the ideal one for us in this country. As matters stand, the AIR suffers from all the ills of a Government department and a monopoly without the redeeming features of the Russian system. Its staff approximates to that of a semi-civil service, its experiments are conducted under difficult circumstances, and its programmes exhibit a lack of understanding and variety. Talks are not arranged by many of the stations with any constructive idea. Outside broadcasts have not been undertaken with intelligence and spirit.

And yet, adds the writer, it would be absurd to maintain that broadcasting is so poor in India because of lack of good material. There is a tremendous upsurge of national and therefore of literary and artistic consciousness. And it is the task of the broadcasting mechanism to explore the new possibilities. To give expression to new modes of thought; to discover new patterns of artistic and literary adventure; to stimulate the currents and cross-currents of opinion;—that is a responsible function of broadcasting in this country, and one not altogether easy to discharge. But in this difficult work, avers the writer, the AIR is inhibited by red tape, lack of revenue and lack of imagination.

What, then, should be done to the AIR?

1. The AIR should be reconstituted as a public corporation controlled by a Controller and Board of Governors appointed by the Legislatures acting as a National Assembly and answerable through the Government and the Legislature to the nation.
2. The AIR should be governed by commercial principles and the staff engaged on a hire and fire basis. Security has far too long been the bane of our social life.
3. A large part of the customs revenue should be made available to the AIR.
4. Re-diffusion should be adopted on an extensive scale.
5. Sponsored programmes should be allowed for an hour or two.
6. More enterprise should be shown in the arrangement of programmes.

THE PHILOSOPHY OF ZOROASTER

"The moral and ethical philosophy of Zarathushtra had made the Iranian nation quite brave, and at one time this nation held sway over a large section of the civilized world," says Mr. Framroz Rustomjee writing in the September Number of the *Humata*. Mr. Rustomjee says:

Zarathushtra set right the disturbed minds of the people of his times by preaching to them the purest message of God, in which he outlined the doctrine of the origin of evil in the world. In the philosophy of Zarathushtra, God is not responsible for evil of any sort in the world, but evil is the outcome of man's ignorance of the Divine Law. If man could only endeavour to dispel the darkness of ignorance and seek illumination for his mind, his life in the poorest and meanest of circumstances will be like a bed of roses. In giving expression to this philosophy, Zarathushtra prominently brings out the dual aspect of a thinking and reasoning human mind. The one aspect of the mind is described as *better* in relation to thought, word and deed, but the other aspect, which proceeds from the same root and the same mind, is decidedly evil as to thought, word and deed. This dual or twin aspect of the human mind, one of which gives rise to all the evil in the world, is denoted by Zarathushtra as the *Twin-Mainyu* or the *Twin-Mentality*. The term 'Mainyu' means something which cannot be perceived except by the mind's eye, hence it refers to the mentality of the human being. Zarathushtra inspired all his listeners to develop their mental faculties to such a pitch that they could attain unto Eternal Life which, he explains, is one of the gifts of God. Hence every individual was expected to shun the evil mentality, to do away with all greed and wrath which cause the moral decay and death of man and removed him further and further adrift from God's illumination. Those that follow the better aspect of the *Twin-Mentality* are pious men, who are able to see the bright side of life, and those that follow the evil aspect of the *Twin-Mentality* allow themselves to drift into chaos.

Man is thus expected to purify his heart in order to attain unto perfection. Inner purity is emphasised. Zarathushtra did not expect man to be merely learned, but side by side with all his learning man was expected to be good and pure in heart.

Zoroastrianism, says the writer, is a system of philosophy that will appeal to the reason of any thinking human mind and it can be practised by men of any creed or profession with considerable advantage and without the slightest difficulty.

*LIFE AND TEACHINGS OF ZOROASTER. By Prof A. R. Wadia. As. 12. To subscribers of the "Indian Review", As. 10. G. A. Natesan & Co. Madras.

STANDARD OF LIVING IN INDIA

Mr. J. C. Kumarappa's article on "a survey of standard of living in India" in the *Gramodyog Patrika* is reproduced in the September Number of the *Rural India*. To ascertain how far during the last 20 years the standard of living in India has progressed or otherwise, Mr. Kumarappa says that one has to evaluate the standards of nutrition, standards of sanitation, standards of education, standards of economic activity, standards of social environment, and the standards of political life, and read the consequences of any change in such standards. "Without closely inter-relating the standards prevalent in these various departments of life, it is not possible to investigate the standard of life of a people. A person rolling in wealth but living in filth and remaining uncultured has scarcely a standard worth aspiring to. One who is highly cultured but is starving and has not where to lay his head is in an equally deplorable state. The opportunist, who lives by his wits in luxury but has neither culture nor morality has nothing to set before us. A person can be said to have a good standard of living if he possesses moral character, an adequate income, has a sanitary habitation in healthy surroundings, maintains a good table and is a free citizen. Commenting on the proposed enquiry by the Government of India into the standard of living from an economic point of view, Mr. Kumarappa writes:

The method suggested in the proposed survey does not indicate anything original which is likely to lead us nearer the truth. Computations are to be made taking the output of agriculture, consumption of commodities, volume of services and other data. Those of us who have had

anything to do with Government statistics know their shortcomings only too well. Many an economist, who does not check up his calculation by a living touch with the people, has grievously gone wrong by using hypothetical estimates. The per capita income is calculated on the basis of estimated figures and an unreal figure is given to the world. Most of our people live on the margin of subsistence. Even in towns, gardeners, labourers etc. hardly get 10 to 12 rupees a month which works out to about rupees 25 per capita per annum if there are no periods of unemployment and sickness. If these are allowed for, our figure will be in the neighbourhood of about Rs. 15 per head per annum. For this paltry income they leave their homes in the villages and come to towns. The condition of people in the villages is worse. What does the Government propose to do to increase their income?

By this investigation an attempt is to be made to find out whether there is evidence of deterioration in the standard of living in India. It is difficult to know what this means. When people use cheap articles, mostly imported, can their standard be said to have improved? If they manufactured everything they need, perhaps we can understand the situation. India is, generally speaking, a country that imports manufactured articles and exports raw materials. At a time when manufactured articles were being pushed into the Indian market by outsiders owing to abnormal and unnatural conditions prevalent in their own countries at low prices occasioned by considerations other than cost, as in Germany, Japan and Czecho-Slovakia, could an increase in the use of such goods be taken as an indication of a rise in the standard of living? On the other hand, a greater use of foreign manufactured goods may be a cause for alarm as it will develop unemployment and result in an even greater pressure on land. A more hopeful situation will be indicated by a tendency to use locally produced goods.

Before launching on such an investigation, concludes Mr. Kumarappa, the Government must be prepared to take steps to give increased facilities to enhance per capita income and encourage local production by all means at its command.

THE JAPANESE IN CHINA

The first months of the third year war find China as optimistic as ever and prophesying that Japan will beg for peace by 1941. Japan, says the *New Review*, has one million men in China distributed in 33 divisions: three divisions in South China, 14 in Central China, 16 in the North; the Japanese army is engaged in guarding communications and garrisoning towns. "Without sending more men, Japan cannot marshal at any point sufficient reserves to carry out any important offensive. In the meantime China is improving her defence; a batch of planes and motor trucks is on its way from the U. S. A.; an airplane factory has been brought over the hills into the interior and is being assembled; the regular army is recovering town after town and the guerilla bands are doing wonderful work.

There are ten guerilla regiments spread over the ten war areas, and General Chou En-lai estimates that each regiment snipes off ten Japanese soldiers a day; with this rate of 1,000 Japanese deaths daily, or 365,000 yearly from guerilla warfare, the General foretells an early retreat of the invaders. General Chiang Kai-shek puts the Japanese casualties in China at one million, some 940,000 more than is officially admitted by Tokyo.

A bad omen for China is the fall in the value of her dollar; but Japan is in a bad way too; she cannot get any victory to speak of and starts blaming everybody else, the British especially. She may now turn her wrath against Germany: the Nazi-Soviet Pact is a very bad blow to her."

MINISTERS IN ANCIENT INDIA

The July Number of the *New Indian Antiquary* publishes an article under the above caption by Mr. B. Bhattacharya, who quotes Kautilya's Arthashastra for the qualifications of a good minister. Other writers on "Ancient Indian Polity" believed in a limited monarchy where the power of the Monarch was limited or circumscribed by a Council of Ministers.

The qualifications of a minister required by Kautilya are exacting and our present-day ideas do not differ much from his views. A minister should belong to a high family and be influential, well trained in arts, possessed of foresight, wise, of strong memory, bold, eloquent, skilful, intelligent, possessed of enthusiasm, dignity and endurance, pure in character, affable, firm in loyal devotion, endowed with excellent conduct, strength, health and bravery, free from procrastination and fickle-mindedness, affectionate and free from such qualities as excite, hatred and enmity.

Kautilya asks the king to ascertain carefully these qualities through different sources instead of believing in them without proper scrutiny. Family and position are to be ascertained through reliable persons; educational qualifications from those who are equally qualified; knowledge, foresight, memory, etc. should be tested from successful application in works; eloquence, skilfulness, flashing intelligence through conversation; endurance and bravery in troubles; purity of life, etc. by frequent association; conduct, strength, wealth, dignity, etc. through intimate friends; affection and philanthropy by personal experience.

Ministers in those days were selected with scrupulous care. The process involved repeated examination of prospective candidates or persons already in service for a pretty long time by offering them various temptations to test their integrity, loyalty, character and ability. Through the ages, the minister who was originally one of the limbs of the State and a genuine helper and well wisher passed on to the position of a dignified officer even before the Mahomedans invaded this country.

THE PROBLEM BEFORE JAPAN

The latest number of the *Landholders' Journal* contains an article on the "Problem before Japan" by 'Politicus' who says that the present Sino-Jap warfare is due to the economic causes. Japan became industrialised but was denied markets abroad. Japan, therefore, tried the policy of economic markets throughout the world by selling her wares far cheaper than the products of other countries, particularly England and Germany. She succeeded so well in this attempt and sold her wares so cheap that other competitors faced the immediate risk of being ousted from the markets previously controlled by them. England was the country that was most affected by the Japanese competition and failing to maintain her market by open competition resorted to political devices to thwart Japan. England succeeded to do this throughout her empire, and America, Germany and other countries also urged by a strong desire of national self-sufficiency resorted to wholesale protection of their home industries and handicapped Japan effectively by means of a high tariff wall and prohibitory quotas. Japan was thus greatly excluded from foreign market and were compelled to cultivate only those markets that were nearer her and were not prohibited there. The Chinese market was one of the principle fields for selling her industrial products. Here again Great Britain stood up as her enemy. China is a vast country containing population of about 500 millions, who, though poor, thus offered extensive market, but lack of an efficient and independent Government in China made her a disorganized country and as such a risky market. In addition, the fact that England controlled the Customs union of China and wanted to have the Chinese market all to herself, stood out as an insurmountable difficulty to Japan to capture the whole of the Chinese market. On top of it all, there was the anti-Japanese mentality generated by Japan's conquest of Manchuria. All these combine to give England the opportunity to steal a march over Japan in the matter of capturing the China's market. Sir Frederic Leith-Ross was sent to organize the Chinese currency and linked it to the sterling and a large loan from Great Britain to China was negotiated. The result of it all was to reserve the Chinese market for England to the exclusion of Japan. It was no more possible for the latter country to stand by and allow these to happen below her very nose. Thus on the slightest pretext the Sino-Jap war broke out and was punctuated at frequent intervals by events revealing bitter resentment on the part of Japan against England.

China is Japan's immediate adversary, concludes the writer, but it is also England that is being indirectly fought against by Japan.

INDIAN SHIPPING

"While in other countries national shipping is considered as an instrument of national policy, in India, Indian shipping in its own waters has to depend for meagre favour and mercy from its powerful competitors, while the Government of the country watch the situation with indifference," writes Mr. Gaganvihari Mehta in the August number of *Science and Culture*. Empire maritime policy under which preferential treatment is given to British shipping in the matter of carriage of stores and booking of passages by the Government, says Mr. Mehta, has no meaning and significance for India, because India has practically no share in its overseas trade and because this so-called "Empire" shipping, which is really British shipping, has hitherto thwarted and hampered the development of Indian shipping even in its home waters and has prevented its entry into the overseas trade of the country. Mr. Mehta stresses the need for a national mercantile marine in a scheme of national defence especially at the present international situation. For,

the mercantile marine is a training ground and a second line of defence for an Indian navy. As stated by the Commander-in-Chief in the Council of State last year it is not possible to have a navy without a mercantile marine which is still in its infancy. One *Enuden* rendered unsafe the whole of the Bay of Bengal and created panic on the coast and at the ports. Despite the development of air-craft, the influence of sea power has not yet passed away. The decline in the importance of large battleships does not claim a decline in the art of naval strategy. The need is for redistribution of defence expenditure as between land, sea and air. The national mercantile marine is indispensable for the development of an Indian naval force and fleet.

The writer is also of opinion that the commercial safeguards in the New Constitution render impossible the adoption of any effective measures for the promotion or protection of Indian national shipping, which has to gain its position inch by inch from vested British interests.

THE UKRAIN'S FUTURE

"It seems to me," says a writer in *Nature*, "that the self-determination process will crystallize inside Poland and Soviet Russia and produce a form of healthy nationalism amongst the so-called national minorities."

A co-operation of free and independent States around the Black Sea is a question of great importance for the peace of Europe. It must be remembered that revolutions have always been stemmed by the coming to the fore of the middle classes, the *tiers etat*. It gave France a healthy nationalism and a strong instinct for private property protected by legislation. In North Russia there has never been a *tiers etat*; there was instead a heterogeneous body called the intelligentsia, a sort of opposition to His Majesty, which when the Crown was swept away lost their bearings and their *raison d'être*; they had their chance in the provisional Government but failed to do anything constructive. All efforts to build up such a *tiers etat* (Nep) in Russia to-day are nipped in the bud by the revolutionaries of the Kremlin.

In the non-Russian territories of the Russian Empire, the place of the *tiers etat* was always held by the farming yeoman stock, especially among the Ukrainians and Cossacks and partly among the Caucasian people.

Similar strata of society saved Poland and the border States from the onslaught of Bolshevism, which first tried to conquer them *manu militari* in 1918-1919, and then not having succeeded tried to achieve its ends by peaceful penetration through subversive propaganda—a propaganda which is still going on and which is now concentrated chiefly not so much on them as on Britain and France. Bolshevism now works in the West by the Trojan-horse method and in the disguise of an ally is brought into European affairs.

THE DRINK PROBLEM

"There was practically speaking no drink problem in India before the advent of European nations into India," writes Sri M. P. Vyas in the *Modern Review* and adds:

"The British rule in India by its continued and consistent excise policy of obtaining maximum of revenue from the intoxicants in an organised manner by the Government itself against the public opinion

spread the drink and drug evil throughout India without caring for its detrimental effects on the people.

Of course, intoxicants prevailed in India but it was never so menacing as it is now. It was never so organised as at present. It was never supported by any Government as by the British in India. It was never exploited as a source of revenue on such a wide scale and organised efforts as adopted by the British Government in India."

Regarding Bombay which has gone dry from 1st August, he says: "The excise revenue amounts to more than Rs. 32 millions out of the total of Rs. 120 millions. It works up to 26 per cent. of the total revenue of the Province. From 1st August 13 areas have gone dry. All the areas taken together will mean a loss of more than Rs. 18 millions of the excise revenue. Thus only Rs. 14 millions of excise revenue will remain to be given up next year and thus complete the total prohibition programme in the whole of the Province within the prescribed time-limit."

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N. GOPALA IYER.

Secretary.

Oct. '39.

THE NEW ORDER IN THE FAR EAST

Japan wants that Britain should co-operate with her in establishing a New Order in the Far East. It is obvious that Britain would not agree to this. But can Britain refuse in view of the vigorous line of action that the Japanese are now taking in Tientsin and Swatow? Mr. Gopal Das says in the *Modern Review*:

The answer depends on certain factors in the Naval Base of Singapore. An economic sanction or embargo on Japanese imports may dislocate Japanese economic life which is already passing through a crisis. But that measure is difficult to apply in the Pacific without resulting in actual hostilities from Japan. The European situation and the European question must calm down or open a way of escape of a kind to allow Britain to assert herself in the Far East. That possibility can come off if Britain can score off an early agreement with Soviet Russia—which under circumstances becomes increasingly costly—and, then too, if Berlin and Rome cool off from their third participant of the Axis, Tokyo.

German attitude towards Britain at the moment, in fact, would decide British attitude in the Far East. A British defeat there would make no difference to Germany; but the Japanese must keep the British engaged there, that is the German object. Of still greater interest for Germany is that Japan must not be taken up with Britain now (when China is already engaging her) and lose her effective strength as a check on the Soviet East. For, Britain too, the risk of an Anglo-Japanese conflict is too great to take. She would never run it without a Soviet agreement or without anyway detaching Germany from the Axis.

The only other hope for her is support from the U. S. A. in this direction. As it is, Britain can count on American sympathy, but how far that would

materialise into military or financial aid in a fight against Japan is unknown. At Tientsin, Swatow and Hong Kong, Britain, therefore, would try only to hold on until the times change and meet the Japanese challenge meanwhile with diplomatic protest, and, if necessary, by piecemeal settlements, submission of the rights and concession, *viz.*, surrender of the Chinese suspects to North China, *i.e.*, Japanese justice, and restrictions on war supplies to Chiang-Kai-Shek.

For the present that would satisfy Japan. Japan too, it is patent, is not strong enough to add another war—a war with Britain in particular. A first-class war would probably bring down the Soviet wolf on the Amur and Mongolian borders.

But at the same time she knows that Britain cannot sail over to the Pacific at the moment and Japan knows too if the China incident is to be ended and ended as Japan desires, this is the way and this is the hour. Dare and drive on.

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Oct. '39.

INDIA AND OLD CEYLON

The latest number of the *Quarterly Journal of the Mythic Society* contains an article on the above subject by Mr. V. Srinivasan. Indo-Ceylon trade in ancient days dates from the time of Karikala Chola. The writer says:

Commercial products of the island were the chief attraction of all outsiders, and from the days of Karikala. A busy trade appears to have been playing between the peninsula and the island. Great facilities were afforded for free communication between India and Ceylon. Poets have sung of the great quantities and articles of food from Elam found at the emporium of Kaveripak or Puhar. The Indian navy naturally played a considerable part. The legend of Ravana's magic car on which Sita was transported is in the opinion of a well-known writer the poetical version of some piratical raid up the Godavari in which the fair Aryan princess was seized as a rich prize and carried off to Lanka as the pirate king's stronghold. The jewels and spices of the island are to be reckoned among the other attractions which invited invasions. Kautilya's *Arthashastra* makes mention of a variety of *ratna* called *Tamma panimba* produced in the *Tambapanni* region. Reference has also been made in the work to the *Asokagranika* then available in the Sinhalese country. Devanampiyaya Tissa sent by his ambassadors to Asoka eight varieties of pearls and elephants, and the great Mauryan Emperor sent him in turn chowris, diadems, parasols, slippers, asbestos, towels, costly howdahs and other things, such as birds, medicinal drugs and water from the Ganges, sandalwood and among other things a virgin of royal birth and of great personal beauty.

Fa-Hien, who spent two years in Ceylon, speaks of large vessels in which trade was carried on between Tamlink on the Hooghly and Ceylon, which go back to a period before the advent of Buddhism in the Island of Ceylon,

Ceylon is an old country and her history bears the impress of the profound influence of Buddhism. Her records and inscriptions are of hoary antiquity and go to the second century B.C., and the inscriptions, the most ancient in Ceylon, on the rock of the Vessagiri vihara at Anuradhapura cut in Brahma lipi characters bears out the reality of the power wielded by the Buddhist hierarchy. Besides this stupendous force derived from Gautama with all its implications, Ceylon derived much from other cultures she came into contact with and absorbed not a few of their features, e.g., the *Pattini* worship and the deities Siva and Ganesa from the Hindu pantheon. And, finally, Ceylon represents a southernmost edge in Asia of the influence of the dynasties of Hindusthan. The wide range of Asokan inscriptions, for instance, shows the extent of the dominion or supremacy of that emperor. The interest of Ceylonese affairs to a student of Indian history is thus profound and peculiarly prolific. To mention only two points: the title *Asoka* could be read only in an imperfect fragment brought from Ceylon and in S. Levi's discovery of the Guptan synchronism with Meghavarna has been furnished a sheet-anchor indispensable to all students of Indian chronology.

INDIA IN PERIODICALS

INDUSTRIAL LABOUR IN INDIA. By Benoyendra Nath Banerjee. [The New Review, September 1939.]

THE UPANISHADS AND MODERN THOUGHT. By Miss K. W. Wild, M.A. [The Aryan Path, September 1939.]

THE RESERVE BANK OF INDIA AND CO-OPERATIVE FINANCE. By The Hon'ble V. Ramdas Pantulu. [The Indian Co-operative Review, April-June 1939.]

QUESTION OF PROMISCUITY IN ANCIENT INDIA. By Krishnagopal Goswami Sastri, M.A. [The Calcutta Review, August 1939.]

COMMUNALISM IN INDIA AND ITS EVIL EFFECTS. By "Economicus". [Landholders' Journal, July 1939.]

SOME POLITICAL APHORISMS AND VIEWS OF THE MARATHAS. By Y. G. Kanetkar, M.A. [The Indian Historical Quarterly, June 1939.]

MULTUM IN PARVO

NEWS * DEPARTMENTAL * NOTES

Questions of Importance

THE KING'S MESSAGE TO INDIA

The Viceroy addressed a joint session of the Council of State and the Indian Legislative Assembly on Monday the 11th September. His Excellency read the following message from His Majesty the King:—

In these days when the whole of civilisation is threatened, the wide-spread attachment of India to the cause in which we have taken up arms has been a source of deep satisfaction to me. I also value most highly the many and generous offers of assistance made to me by the Princes and people of India. I am confident that, in the struggle upon which I and my peoples have now entered, we can count on sympathy and support from every quarter of the Indian continent in the face of a common danger. Britain is fighting for no selfish ends but for the maintenance of a principle vital to the future of mankind—the principle that relations between civilised states must be regulated, not by force but by reason and law, so that men may live free from the terror of war, to pursue the happiness and well-being which should be the destiny of mankind.

GANDHIJI'S LETTER TO HITLER

In his statement soon after the interview with the Viceroy, Gandhiji revealed that he had addressed a letter to Herr Hitler on July 23, from Abbottabad. The following is the text of the letter:—

Friends have been urging me to write to you for the sake of humanity. But I have resisted their request because of the feeling that any letter from me would be an impertinence. Something tells me that I must not calculate and that I must make an appeal for whatever it may be worth.

It is quite clear that you are today the one person in the world who can prevent a war which may reduce humanity to the savage state. Must you pay that price for an object however worthy it may appear to you to be? Will you listen to the appeal of one who has deliberately shunned the method of war not without considerable success?

Anyway I anticipate your forgiveness if I have erred in writing to you?

THE CHATFIELD REPORT

The Government of India have published the substance of the main recommendations of the report of the Chatfield committee. Apart from the financial recommendations, the main features of the proposed army, air and naval forces are as follows:—

(1) The basis of distribution of the army in India will be:

(a) Frontier defence, (b) internal security, (c) coast defence, (d) general reserve and (e) external defence troops.

(2) The types of modernised units will be as follows:—

British and Indian cavalry light tank regiments equipped with light tanks and armoured carriers for reconnaissance.

Indian cavalry armour regiments equipped with light tanks and armoured cars.

Indian cavalry motor regiments provided with motor transport for conveyance of personnel who will normally go on foot.

British and Indian field artillery regiments—all regiments are to be mechanised and in due course equipped with 25 pounder guns.

Sappers and Miners' units with mechanised 1st line transport and mechanical power tools.

British and Indian infantry battalions armed with rifles Brens and 2 inches mortars and fully mechanised 1st line transport.

Units on North-Western Frontier will retain a certain proportion of pack mules.

AIR FORCES

(3) The Air Forces in India will be equipped with modern aircraft as follows:

Bomber squadrons Blenheims.

Army Co-operation Squadrons Lysanders.

Bomber transport squadrons Valentias.

The Indian Air Force Squadron, at present being formed, is expected to be complete by the end of 1940.

Volunteer flights for coast defence duties will be raised at certain ports.

ROYAL INDIAN NAVY

(4) The following new vessels will be ordered:—

(a) Four 'Brittann' class escort vessels;

(b) four 'Mastiff' class trawlers.

The 'Indus' and 'Hindustan' will be re-equipped with new armament.

ORDNANCE FACTORIES

(5) In order to make India as far as possible self-sufficient in the supply of munitions in war, the existing ordnance factories will be expanded or reconstructed. Where necessary, entirely new factories will be built.

LORD HAILEY'S BROADCAST ON INDIA

Broadcasting on 'India and War', Lord Hailey pointed out that in the last war, India sent one million and a quarter men, three and a half million tons of supplies and contributed £160 millions. War had hastened the constitutional changes introduced by the 1935 Act. After referring to the Congress power in eight out of the eleven provinces and Mr. Gandhi urging unconditional support to Britain, he said the Congress hesitated to pledge itself to this extent, but hesitations of this kind must assuredly yield before long to the recognition of the fundamental fact that if the position of Britain were endangered the whole system of thought would be jeopardised which stands for the growth of political liberties in India and elsewhere.

VICEROY'S ADDRESS TO THE LEGISLATURE

His Excellency the Viceroy, addressing a joint session of the two Houses of the Central Legislature, said:

Given the necessity of concentrating on the emergency that confronts us, we have no choice but to hold in suspense the work in connexion with preparations for Federation, while retaining Federation as our objective.

His Excellency dwelt in the main on the war and the issues arising from it. He referred to the "complete and cynical disregard" by the German Government of civilised principles of warfare and declared that he was confident that, in the days that lay ahead, India would speak and act as one and that her contribution would be worthy of her ancient name.

His Excellency concluded with a reference to the defence of India and said: "The British Government's decision on the Chatfield Committee's conclusions marks an epoch in the history of Indian defence."

POTENTIAL DANGERS TO INDIA

H. E. the Commander-in-Chief, broadcasting from Simla, explained the potential dangers confronting India in view of the world situation to-day. He said:

Those who remember the Great War of 1914-18 know that though India's forces served beyond the borders of India, in Iraq and Africa and even in Europe, India itself was far from the seat of the war and was never directly threatened. In existing conditions it would be clearly unwise to assume a continuance of this immunity. Look eastwards and think what would happen to India if Malaya and its great fortress of Singapore were to fall into the hands of an enemy. The British fleet would thereby lose its great base in the East and the whole eastern coast line of India from Calcutta to Madras would become liable to raid and bombardment by sea and air. The loss of Malaya might well also mean a serious threat to Burma. Napoleon once said: When he occupied the low countries that he had in Antwerp, a pistol pointed at the heart of England. Burma in hostile hands, would be a pistol pointed at the heart of Bengal. Look westwards to the Red Sea and Egypt. So long as Egypt, our ally, is free and independent and is able with our help to check the movements of a hostile Power the Indian Ocean and the shores of India are likely to remain immune from attack from that direction. In other words, it may be said that it is vital to the interests of India that Egypt and Aden should never fall into hostile hands.

In the conditions of the world situation as has developed in recent years, the places which I have named have become of the first importance to the defence of India and may be considered to be her outposts. Eastwards we have Singapore, Malaya and Burma; westwards Egypt, Aden and the lands of the Persian Gulf. If these were to be lost to India's friends, India would be directly threatened. Happily this has not been realised, and as we have made preparation in time, there is, humanly speaking, little danger of their loss, especially as we can count upon the fullest and most whole-hearted help from our allies—Turkey, Egypt and Iraq. In all the places from which her security may be menaced, there are British garrisons, and in Egypt there is also the Egyptian Army.

It must, however, be remembered that even in Europe may make a very heavy call on the sea, air and land forces of Great Britain and moreover, that sea and air communication may become unsafe for some time; in which case the arrival of reinforcements from the United Kingdom to garrisons east of Suez might be considerably delayed. In that case, the country from which aid to the garrisons I have mentioned can be and most speedily come is India.

NATION-BUILDING ACTIVITIES

The portions of provincial revenues that are being devoted to nation-building activities in different Provinces of India are explained in the following note, which gives a comparative table prepared on the basis of figures given in the budget statements of the various Provincial Governments for the current financial year.

The figures relate to expenditure on departments usually described as beneficent, that is, the departments of Education including scientific developments, Public Health, Medical, Industries, Agriculture, Co-operation and Veterinary Services.

The following table shows the portion which the total expenditure on these departments bears to the total revenue in various provinces:

United Provinces	..	30.07	per cent.
Punjab	..	29.5	"
Madras	..	28.7	"
Bihar	..	27.8	"
Bombay	..	26.2	"
Orissa	..	25.8	"
Assam	..	25.5	"
Bengal	..	24.3	"
N.-W. F. P.	..	22.4	"
C. P. and Berar	..	21.1	"
Sind	..	13.01	"

The percentage is highest in the case of the United Provinces, that is, 30.07. The Punjab comes a good second with 29.5. The rest of the Provinces show lower percentages, the lowest being in the case of Sind.

MR. JINNAH'S DISCOVERY

The view that democracy is unsuited to the genius of India was expressed by Mr. M. A. Jinnah speaking at Bombay on August 5 on the present political situation.

The cultures of the two communities, Muslim and Hindu, were so different that one having power naturally tried to run the other down. In such a country, comprising different nationalities, a democratic system of parliamentary government was, in his view, an impossibility.

PLEA FOR VOLUNTARY FEDERATION

In view of the Viceroy's announcement suspending Federation, the following observations of Mahatma Gandhi, in the course of an article under the above caption, may be read with interest. Mahatmaji wrote:

"An imposed Federation is likely to divide India more than it is to-day. It would be a great step if the British Government were to declare that they would not impose their Federal structure on India. The Viceroy seems to be acting in that fashion if he is not saying so. If my surmise is correct, I suggest that a clear declaration will add grace to his action and will probably pave the way for real Federation and therefore real unity."

BOMBAY RULES FOR TEMPLE ENTRY

The rules and form framed by the Bombay High Court for trustees of temples in the province, who intend to throw open the place of worship under their charge to Harijans under the Bombay Harijan Temple Worship Act, are published in the *Government Gazette*.

All applications under the Act shall be regulated under the Code of Civil Procedure. The declaration opening a temple to Harijans shall be presented to the sitting judge of the High Court in Chambers. If the Chamber Judge is satisfied that the declaration is in order, he shall order it to be taken on file and shall cause public notice to be given and shall cause it to be published in accordance with the provisions of the Act.

After the expiry of three months from the date of the publication of the declaration, the trustee or trustees shall file in the Court an affidavit of proof of the publication along with a certificate of the Prothonotary and Senior Master, that no application has been made to set aside the said declaration, and the Court shall on application of the trustee or trustees make the declaration absolute.

BENARES HINDU UNIVERSITY

Tributes to the services of Pundit Madan Mohan Malaviya were paid on the occasion of his relinquishing the Vice-Chancellorship of the Benares Hindu University at a special meeting of the Court of the University when Sir S. Radhakrishnan was elected the new Vice-Chancellor. The Maharajahdiraj of Darbhanga, the Pro-Chancellor, presided.

His Excellency the Viceroy, as the University's Lord Rector, had sent a message praising Pundit Malaviya's great services and declaring his appointment as Vice-Patron of the University.

A resolution recording deep gratitude to Pundit Malaviya to whom the university owed its inception and its remarkable development was passed. The resolution added that the Court could never forget the invaluable services Pundit Malaviya had rendered as Vice-Chancellor for twenty years and prayed that he be spared for many years to inspire and guide the activities of this great institution.

SEPARATE UNIVERSITY FOR SIND

Closely following the acceptance of the principles of the Wardha Scheme of education by the Government who are evolving a fresh scheme on that basis to suit the peculiar conditions of the province of Sind, steps are being taken by the Government for the establishment of a separate university for Sind. The Minister for Education, Pir Elahi Bux, has invited prominent educationists in the province to submit schemes for this purpose and various suggestions are under consideration. The scheme receiving the most careful consideration is the one suggesting means to bring into being a full-fledged university as early as 1942.

TEACHERS AND POLITICS

The Government of Madras have banned teachers in state-aided institutions from taking active part in politics. The General Secretary of the South Kanara District Teachers' Guild addressed the National Union of Teachers in England on this matter to discover the position in England. The following reply has been received from the National Union:

"Teachers in England are not civil servants and have no restrictions imposed upon their civic and political liberties. But they cannot become members of Parliament or of their own, employing education authority and remain in service in the school. Teachers working under one authority, however, can become elected members to another. Many local education committees of authorities actually co-opt teachers as members, sometimes their own employees, sometimes from outside. Such restrictions as are implied are imposed upon teachers serving in grant-aided and rate-aided schools."

"The National Union of Teachers assists candidates for election for local authorities and for Parliament, but it always avoids any action which would imply bias toward any one political party. The Union is non-political in character, it imposes no tests upon its members and seeks to extend its influence on authorities, national and local, through equal representation among all parties."

DR. P. BASU

Dr. P. Basu, M.A., Ph.D., B.L., Vice-Chancellor of the Agra University, has been appointed to officiate as Chairman to the Board of High Schools and Intermediate Education.

HINDU WOMEN'S RIGHT OF DIVORCE

Polygamy for men one of India's time-honoured social institutions and indissoluble marriage for women one of Hindu India's sacred features of domestic life have recently been dragged out of their inviolable seclusion into the open arena of legislative discussion, writes Nelima Devi in the *Sunday Statesman*.

It is difficult to say whether there was any conscious plan to bring forward simultaneously the two Bills—Dr. Deshmukh's Hindu Women's Right of Divorce Bill in the Central Assembly and Seth Govindlal S. Motilal's Hindu Monogamous Bill in the Council of State—or if it was only a coincidence. Curiously enough, though one Bill applies to women and the other to men—they both aim at ameliorating the position of Hindu married women.

For many centuries past, Hindu man has exercised the right of discarding his wife on any pretext—often on no pretext at all—and marrying as many wives as he has desired, or could afford to keep. Obviously the object of the legislation which Seth Govindlal has had in view is to limit the Hindu man to one wife and Dr. Deshmukh's Bill seeks to provide divorce only for the Hindu woman. If both Bills are passed, it will create an hitherto unknown problem—the man's problem instead of the more familiar woman's problem of the present age, because the ultimate effect of such legislation will be that a Hindu will have to be monogamous and at the same time he will be without the right of a divorce under any circumstances, which will be possessed by his wife only.

THE BRITISH COURTS IN INDIA

Calling attention to what he described as 'the highly significant statement' recently made by Mr. Gandhi, Lord Snell declared, during the debate on the second reading of the Prevention of Violence Bill, in the House of Lords: 'India and Ireland are in some ways comparable. They have their differences of religion and race. They are disunited as between loyalists and separatists. The princes are reluctant to join Federation and in fact it is almost a parallel case with Ireland. Mr. Gandhi demands from the princes full civic liberty as long as it is not used to promote violence directly or indirectly and he asks that every person accused should have the right of appeal to a High Court and he makes this significant tribute which I ask Your Lordships to note "this is the one institution which the British have built up with persistent care". Let us beware lest in our own country we rob the people of the great safeguards that our courts have conferred.'

A HIGH COURT FOR ORISSA

The demand for the establishment of a Chartered High Court for Orissa has been made by the Cuttack Bar Association. A resolution passed by the Association says:

"On account of the national relationship between the people of British Orissa and the people of the Orissa States, the Oriyas as a race naturally look forward to an early establishment of a Chartered High Court, which will cater to the people of this province and the Orissa States in the same manner."

A TELLING ARGUMENT

Every young man worth his salt expects and intends to be financially independent long before he reaches the age of sixty-five, but cold hard statistics prove that for one reason or another, not necessarily through any fault of their own, few men have the good health and good fortune to succeed in such legitimate ambition. According to a survey conducted by the American Bankers' Association, the results showed that out of every 100 men age 25

80 will die before reaching 65.

4 will be rich at age 65.

19 will still be working at 65.

47 will be partly or entirely dependent on others.

In other words, only four per cent. of cases will be free from urgent need of the unique benefits of life assurance. Safety first means life assurance first.

THE PARAMOUNT INSURANCE CO.

By going through the necessary procedure, the name of the Gujarat Life Assurance Co., Ltd., of Baroda, has been changed into "The Paramount Insurance Co., Ltd." The change of name has been made in order to facilitate the Company's operations on an all-India basis, an increase of share capital and to give effect to the Company's desire to start fire and accident insurance business. The change of name, of course, does not in any way affect the rights and liabilities arising under and out of the existing rules with regard to the current business of the Gujarat Life Assurance Co., Ltd.

FIFTEEN PROSPECTING PLANS

The *Sun Life Monthly Agency Review* offers the following advice to agents who would make a success of their profession

1. Make a "Policyholder's Family drive."
2. Check newcomers in your neighbourhood in the past year.
3. See friends you have been putting off seeing because they are friends.
4. Do nothing for a week except prospect.
5. Call on prospects who have had deaths in their family.
6. Make special calls on centres of influence.
7. Call on the parents of friends of your children.
8. Call on people you have patronised in the past year.
9. Build a big policyholder list in selected families.
10. Work through the members of a particular profession or occupation.
11. Make a selected office-building your territory for a week or two.
12. Exhaust all the gold in your present prospect list.
13. Use a new-lead approach on old policyholders.
14. Analyse the sources of last year's business and prospect along those lines.
15. Set a daily quota of new prospects.

ALLIANZ & STUTTGARTER

The Deputy Controller of Enemy Firms announces that the Allianz and Stuttgarter Life Insurance Bank Ltd. has been added to the list of enemy firms.

Policyholders and others should not make any payments to this Company until further notice.

INDIA'S TRADE WITH GERMANY

An illustration of the manner in which Germany's "war economy" has been gradually built up during recent months is afforded by the returns of the foreign trade between India and Germany during the first six months of 1939, which are incorporated in the half-yearly report of the Indian Government Trade Commissioner in Hamburg. The following Table summarises the position as given in the German statistics:

(In Thousand Reichsmarks.)

	Germany's		Germany's		Balance of Trade	
	Imports from India	Exports to India	Imports from India	Exports to India	—in favour of India	—in favour of Germany
	1938	1939	1938	1939	1938	1939
Jan.-Mar.	41,622*	34,051*	28,138*	34,265*	—13,484	+ 214
April-June	33,917*	27,380†	24,264*	36,998†	—9,653	+ 9,618
Jan.-June	75,539	61,431	52,402	71,263	—23,137	+ 9,832

* Not inclusive of Austria. † Inclusive of Austria.

Commenting on these figures, *Capital* points out that the adverse tendency from India's point of view of Germany's trade with India during the first quarter of 1939 was even more pronounced during the second quarter. Germany's imports from India during the period April-June, 1939, decreased by 6,671,000 *reichsmarks* or about 19 per cent. as compared with the period January-March, 1939. Germany's exports to India, on the other hand, had increased by 2,733,000 *reichsmarks* or by about 8 per cent. during the period April-June, 1939, as compared with the period January-March 1939. Germany's imports from India during the first half of 1939 decreased by 14,108,000 *reichsmarks* or by about 19 per cent. as compared with the same period in the previous year.

CONTROL OF PRICES

"The Central Government have empowered the Chief Commissioner to control the prices of necessities such as medical supplies, food-stuffs, kerosine oil, salt and cheaper qualities of cotton cloth," states a Press Note. The powers are to be exercised subject to certain conditions, one of which is that the prices fixed should not in any case be less than the prices ruling on 1st September 1939, *plus* 10 per cent.

After examination of the position the following conclusions have been reached. As for medical supplies profiteering is considerable and the position is being examined. Immediate control of grain prices is not necessary, but daily price statements will be submitted to the Chief Commissioner and action will be taken to check any unreasonable rise.

Prices of sugar will be watched. It is understood that no change has occurred in the importers' prices of kerosine oil but steps have been taken to control agents and dealers. The advance in price of salt is well within the 10 per cent. limit; cheaper qualities of cotton cloth show no significant change.

The Press Note concludes by stating that matches and yarns show large increases, which probably follow all-India prices.

INDIAN TRADE COMMISSIONERS

It is learnt that Mr. H. M. Patel, I.C.S., the Indian Trade Commissioner in Hamburg, left Germany shortly before the outbreak of hostilities. Mr. Patel is now in London where he has rejoined the staff of the Trade Commissioner for India.

During the tension preceding the outbreak of war, Mr. M. R. Ahuja, the Indian Trade Commissioner at Milan, was ordered to proceed to London.

WOMEN SUB-COMMITTEE OF THE N. P. C.

The Women Sub-Committee of the National Planning Committee held its first meeting at Bombay on September 2, with Rani Rajawade in the chair. The Hon'ble Mrs. Vijayalakshmi Pandit, Minister for Local Self-Government, U. P., Mrs. Subbarayan, M.L.A., Mrs. Leela Roy from Bengal, Mrs. Gangaben Joshi, Miss Mridula Sarabhai, Secretary of the Committee and others attended.

Rani Rajawade in her introductory speech explained the purpose of the National Planning Committee and its women sub-committee. It was, she said, a recognition granted by the Planning Committee to the great advance made by the women in this country. She continued: "We have to lay down the line of our future. Planning is an attempt to control environments. It is true that for such planning full freedom is necessary; the National Planning Committee framed its plan on that supposition. It, however, considered the present difficulty and handicaps due to various restrictions in our freedom. But our plan should be so evolved that they will fall into a proper co-ordinated action when freedom comes."

Miss Mridula Sarabhai gave a brief report of the work hitherto done by the sub-committee.

The Hon'ble Mrs. Vijaya Lakshmi Pandit also addressed the sub-committee in the course of which she said that it was necessary to visualise what future they were aiming at. "It is in this future vision," she said, "that we have to plan the women's role. Our aim should be to evolve a plan which is indigenous and which will be beneficial to our country. The inspiration for such a plan should come from the masses and not from the top."

THE WAR AND WOMEN

The General Committee of the All-India Women's Conference, Madras Branch, deeply regretting that War should have broken out and earnestly praying that a righteous peace may soon be brought about, calls upon all women to be prepared to give whatever personal sacrifice may be necessary to relieve the sufferings of people who are victims of cruelty and oppression and to offer their services forthwith wherever opportunity arises.

Names of ladies willing to (a) take courses in First Aid - Sick Nursing, (b) to prepare hospital dressings, (c) to be trained for any special form of social work, are asked to send their names to—

Mrs. Clubwala, Locksley House, Royapuram.

SIX-YEAR PLAN FOR RURAL WOMEN

In pursuance of a six-year programme of the Punjab Government for the uplift of women in rural areas, thirty stipendiary women welfare workers trained in all branches of domestic science, agriculture and cottage industry will launch a drive against ignorance and ill-health in the villages. A Woman's Voluntary Committee including prominent women of all shades of opinion has been set up at Lahore to advise Government on matters regarding women welfare work in the Province.

MISS LEELE GHOSH

A Bangalee girl named Miss Leela Ghosh has earned the distinction of being the first Indian girl to be appointed to the Ministerial service under the Government of India. She has been appointed to the Defence Department after having passed the examination of the Federal Public Services Commission.

WRITING A BIOGRAPHY

"You learn more about writing a political biography by fighting an election than by sitting in a study," says Mr. Philip Guedalla in the *Book Window*. "One should write of what is within one's own imaginative range. Most great English history has been written by men who were actually engaged in the history of their own day. Teaching history is a noble profession, but it is not necessarily connected with writing history."

"Gibbon and Macaulay were out in the world of affairs, so they made their history interesting, making it alive as it was alive once. The untrue account is the dull account. To un-dramatise a dramatic event is inaccurate. The duty of the historian is to make his history move as it actually moved once."

JOURNALISTS IN POWER

Throughout the world journalists have risen to power, says George Selds in *Lords of the Press*. Lenin and Trotzky published their small revolutionary papers in Russia and abroad; Stalin edited *Pravda* in Petrograd during the Kerensky regime; Mussolini was a big shot in Socialist journalism in Italy until the French Government paid him to edit a pro-Ally paper and in whose presses Fascism began its advance. Kemal Ataturk once ran a rebel sheet. Hitler had his *Beobachter*. Every French premier has a personal organ, for the press of the Continent is an open weapon with which men and parties fight for power.

THE LATE MR. S. G. WARTY

We regret to record the death of Mr. S. G. Warty who passed away on 2nd September at the age of 52 after a short illness at his residence at Jogeshwary. He was interested in problems of education and civics and he wrote profusely on such topics. His work entitled "Sister India" written as a reply to Miss Mayo's "Mother India" is a very fitting denunciation of it. Last year he started the *Indian World* which is now suddenly deprived of his guidance.

BRITISH WAR CABINET

The British Government has thus been reconstituted with a War Cabinet:

Prime Minister: Mr. Neville Chamberlain.

Chancellor of Exchequer: Sir John Simon.

Minister of Foreign Affairs: Lord Halifax.

Minister for Co-ordination of Defence: Lord Chatfield.

First Lord of the Admiralty: Mr. Winston Churchill.

Secretary of War: Mr. Hore-Belisha.

Secretary of Air: Sir Charles Kingsley-wood.

Lord Privy Seal: Sir Samuel Hoare.

Minister without Portfolio: Lord Sankey.

OTHER MINISTERS

Dominion Secretary: Mr. Anthony Eden.
Lord President of Council: Earl of Stanhope.

Lord Chancellor: Sir Thomas Inskip.
Sir John Anderson becomes Home Secretary and Minister of Home Security.

In order that Mr. Eden may be in a position to maintain contact between the War Cabinet and the Dominions, he will have special access to the Cabinet.

SWAMI ABHEDANANDA

At the age of 73, Swami Abhedananda, the Founder-President of the Ramakrishna Vedanta Society, breathed his last at the Ramakrishna Vedanta Society Math, at Calcutta, on Friday the 8th September. He was the last surviving direct disciple of Sri Sri Ramakrishna Dev.

Swami Abhedananda was born in the year 1866. In 1896 he went to England. From England he went to America in 1897. For a period of twenty-five years he preached the message of Sri Sri Ramakrishna Paramahansa in America, England and Canada.

BRITISH FIELD COMMANDERS

The King has appointed Lord Gort, Commander-in-Chief of the British Field Forces, Sir Edmond Ironside, Chief of the Imperial General Staff, and Sir Walter Kirke, Commander-in-Chief of the Home Forces.

WATER CURE FOR CANCER

Water as an aid in curing cancer is the latest discovery of science. It has been discovered by Dr. Failla of the Memorial Hospital, New York.

He stumbled on it while working out a theory to explain the lethal effect of X-rays on cancer cells.

Briefly his theory is this: An electric charge passing through a cell divides the molecules of protoplasm inside the cell into positively and negatively charged particles. These particles then recombine to form new chemical substances thus disturbing the osmotic pressure inside the cell. In order to establish osmotic equilibrium in the cell, water from the inter cellular spaces flows into the cell through the membrane causing the cell to swell up and die.

If this theory were true, he argued, water injected directly into a tumour after treatment with X-rays would increase the swelling of cancer cells and kill them more quickly.

The experiment was made on 82 mice infected with cancer. After the X-ray treatment, small amounts of distilled water were injected into the tumours several times a day for three to six days. It was found that the tumours were completely cured.

CLINIC FOR PSYCHIATRY AND NEUROLOGY

For the treatment of early mental cases and diseases of the nervous system, the Bengal Government have sanctioned on a temporary basis till the end of the current financial year the opening of an out-door clinic in the Medical College, Calcutta, to be called the clinic for Psychiatry and Neurology.

The clinic will be in charge of an Honorary Visiting Physician, who will be assisted by one Honorary House Physician, one Clinical Tutor and three Clinical Assistants. In addition to the honorary staff, it will have one cooly and one *dhai* as paid staff.

The clinic will remain open for two days in the week.

MATERNAL MORTALITY

At least 200,000 women die every year in India from causes arising from child bearing. As regards children, in 1937, deaths of infants under one year of age accounted for 21.3 per cent. of the total mortality at all ages, of children under five for 18.6 per cent., and of those between five and ten years age for 5.4 per cent. Corresponding figures for England and Wales in 1936 were 7.1 per cent., 2.5 per cent. and 1.2 per cent.

These figures, according to the Public Health Commissioner in his Annual Report for 1937, show the extent to which preventable suffering incapacitation and mortality exist in respect of mothers and children in this country. Maternal mortality enquiries conducted in limited areas suggest that, for India as a whole, about 20 women die among 1,000 undergoing pregnancy and child-birth. The added danger to life that maternity brings to women may be seen from the fact that in Calcutta and Lucknow the female death rate between 15-40 years was in 1937 nearly three times that for males of the corresponding ages, in Bombay and Lahore about twice as high, and in Madras about 26 per cent. higher than the male death rate.

Child-bearing takes a much higher toll of life in urban than in rural areas and that the good effects of the better urban facilities may be more than outweighed by the ill-effects of overcrowding, of lack of sunshine and fresh air and of ill-balanced diets.

HEALTH OF BRITISH TROOPS IN INDIA

The fact that the modern British soldier has little interest in alcoholic liquors as compared with his forebears, and that there is less tendency now to shut up troops during the hot hours of the day is regarded as a probable factor in the reduction in the number of heat stroke and exhaustion cases among British troops in India during recent years. There were 212 such cases in 1926, but in 1937 there were only 52, according to the Director of Medical Services in India,

GOLD RESERVES OF THE WORLD

According to the calculations of the League of Nations, the stocks of gold held by the banks at the beginning of 1939 amounted to 15,765 millions of gold dollars, parity rate (that is to say 26,675 millions of dollars, new parity). More than half of that gold is to be found in the United States of America, one eighth in Great Britain (one seventh in the whole of the British Empire) and one eleventh in France. The three great democratic powers possess, therefore nearly 80 per cent. of the gold reserve of the world. They are followed by the "neutral" countries of Sweden, also democratic the Netherlands, Switzerland and Belgium. On the other hand, the totalitarian Powers have only insignificant gold reserves. We give below the fifteen States holding the most gold, in order of importance (percentage of world stocks of gold):

United States of America	.. 51.4
Great Britain	.. 12.9
France	.. 9.1
Netherlands	.. 3.7
Switzerland	.. 2.6
Belgium	.. 2.0
Spain	.. 2.0
Argentina	.. 1.6
U. S. S. R.	.. 1.4
Sweden	.. 1.2
India (British)	.. 1.0
Union of South Africa	.. 0.8
Italy	.. 0.8
Canada	.. 0.7
Japan	.. 0.6

BANK'S GOLD FOR EXCHANGE ACCOUNT

Sir John Simon announced in the Commons on September 6, that with a view to concentrating all Government's foreign resources in one reserve, the Treasury and Bank of England had agreed that except for a nominal amount, the whole of the gold now held in the Issue Department should be transferred to the Exchange Account as now constituted under the Currency (Defence) Act.

Gold to the value approximately of £0,000,000 was accordingly so transferred. This transfer entailed increase in the currency note issue of the Bank to £0,000,000. This may be regarded as another step in war time organisation of trade and finance which is proceeding smoothly.

NIZAM'S STATE RAILWAY

The annual report of H. E. H. the Nizam's State Railway for the year ended 31st March, 1939, shows that despite war and very serious political unrest in countries to which State produce is exported, railway traffic was adversely affected to a serious extent only in respect of cotton. The net earnings of the Railway system decreased from Rs. 129.3 lakhs to Rs. 124.0 lakhs, the fall being about the same as the reduction in the earnings from cotton and cotton seed. Unsettled internal conditions and illegal competition resulted in a serious decrease in road transport earnings, the total of which fell from Rs. 29.13 lakhs to Rs. 28.66 lakhs. At the same time, the measures taken to improve the condition of the fleet, though successful, were costly and the result was an increase of working expenses from Rs. 28.1 lakhs to Rs. 29.2 lakhs.

LOCOMOTIVE BUILDING

The life of the average passenger engine in England, we are told, is thirty years and it runs approximately 40,000 miles annually. Freight engines last for forty years and average 25,000 miles a year. After every 75,000 miles each engine is returned to the works for a complete overhaul and during its lifetime new boilers have been fitted and so many working parts replaced that very little of the original engine is left. There are 20,000 engines operated by the British railways and in the railway workshops alone there are three hundred now under course of construction.

SAFETY DEVICES IN CARRIAGES

New safety devices about to be introduced in third class women's compartments include iron bars to windows and a locking catch to be operated from inside. Proposals for making third class women's carriages safe against intruders have been repeatedly urged in the Central Assembly recently.

ITALIAN TRAIN'S SPEED RECORD

A new electric train in a trial run covered 137 miles from Bologna to Milan in 1 hour and 24 minutes, thus showing an average speed of 97.5 miles an hour.

WATTEAU'S MASTERPIECE

A twenty-seven year-old Russian painter, Serge Bougousslavsky, walked into the Palais de Justice one afternoon in August last and handed over Watteau's masterpiece L'Indifferent.

The Police stated that Bougousslavsky confessed the theft of the painting and made a statement in which he declared: "I am disgusted at the restorations and repairs to which the picture is submitted. In the circumstances I simply unhooked the picture and took it home. There I restored it to its original state."

SIMLA FINE ARTS EXHIBITION

His Excellency the Viceroy opened recently the 67th annual exhibition of the Simla Fine Arts Society in the presence of a large gathering, including the Governor of the Punjab, H. H. the Rajah of Faridkot and many prominent officers. The Exhibition was a varied and interesting one.

The Viceroy's Prize for the best picture by an amateur goes to Mrs. O'Neill Bidwell for her strong, simply painted bust portrait in water colour "Tibetan Man".

UNIVERSITY AND ART

Mrs. G. B. Bilimoria in her article on "Fine Arts in the University" contributed to the *Evening News of India* rightly emphasises the need of the Faculty of Fine Arts in the University. It is true that the University has neglected to develop the artistic taste of the people, but what is the remedy for it? Artistic sense of the people cannot be developed unless art is included as a subject in the system of general education.

SARGENT'S PORTRAIT OF WINDSOR

The trustees of the Tata Gallery have rejected the gift of a charcoal drawing of the Duke of Windsor (when Prince of Wales) by Sargent, and as though a little ashamed of their act, they have explained that the rejection of the proffered work of art was based "purely on its merits as a portrait". An explanation is very necessary when a portrait by Sargent is declined.

GOLF BALL AGITATION

A strong agitation is going on in the Press and elsewhere to have the weight and size of the standard golf ball altered. The reformers argue that a larger, lighter ball could be more easily controlled than the one used at present.

The futility of such an agitation was clearly demonstrated at Sandwich during the Oxford and Cambridge match. With the exception of John Langley, a Walker Cup man, not one of the other 19 players could control the ball in the wind. Now there is every possibility of these "blues" being invited to become members of the Oxford and Cambridge Golfing Society which is responsible for nearly 80 per cent. of the entries for the English and Open Amateur Championships. Hence there will probably be but one outcome to the agitation.

It stands to reason that the lighter the ball and the greater its surface, the more will it be at the mercy of the wind.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Four reasons were given by the Hon. Mr. C. J. Varkey, Minister for Education, why Government had done nothing substantial in the matter of physical education in the Presidency.

Major problems such as prohibition and debt relief, the introduction of Hindustani, the adoption of local languages as a medium of instruction, etc., were occupying the attention of Government.

There was lack of a sufficient number of adequately trained teachers.

The schemes submitted were all too costly for the finances of the Presidency to bear and

The Government wanted a scheme of natural physical activities in place of costly games.

NEW WORLD RECORD FOR WOMEN'S LONG JUMP

At the International Athletic Meeting in Berlin, Fraulein Schulz of Munster created a world record for the long jump by clearing 6'12 metres.

X-RAYS TO TEST STEEL

Nothing that scientific investigation can achieve in the way of ensuring excellence workmanship is being left undone by Canada in the execution of the aircraft orders she is receiving from London.

Take the case of the X-ray inspection of castings. This has been carried to a fine art by the experts of the National Research Laboratories in Ottawa, who are passing on the fruits of their labours to the individual manufacturers.

They use the rays to discover inherent weakness which cannot be revealed by human means. A wide range of tubes is used, their penetrating power varying from the very 'soft' 5,000 volt rays suitable for examining thin sheets of asbestos cloth to the 600,000 volt rays capable of penetrating five inches of steel.

Then there are tubes operating on 30,000 to 70,000 volts for examining magnesium or aluminium castings up to three inches in thickness, while a 200,000 volt set is also used for steel up to one and a half inches.

THE MATHEMATICAL ROBOT

Of all the scientific devices invented for defence against bombing raids, the predictor is the most valuable, writes Viscount Forbes in the *Sunday Express*.

The man operating the predictor, he says, has only to focus on a plane for a few seconds to enable this machine to calculate the angle of fire.

The gunners set the gun to what the predictor tells them. A shot is fired and it is a mathematical certainty that the target will be hit as long as the plane keeps its course for the matter of a further few seconds.

This predictor calculates a mathematical equation. It estimates where the plane will be by the time the shell bursts. The only information that the predictor requires from an outside source is the height of the plane.

This is easily acquired by means of a range finder. The predictor even calculates automatically the fuse setting on the shell so that it will burst at the correct height.

MARKET FOR AMERICAN FILMS

Wars and recent international disturbances have cost the American film producers millions.

Evidence recently given by Sidney R. Kent, President of the 20th Century-Fox, showed that until the civil war in Spain his company's annual business with that country amounted to £250,000. All that was wiped out. Recently American films were forced out of Italy.

For years producers had been carefully building up a big market for their films in China. Then the Japanese moved in. Not only did that mean the loss of the China market, but the Japanese market itself, once highly profitable, shrank to practically nothing.

Then there are the ideological complications. To make a film which would be approved by the Nazis and at the same time have some box office appeal elsewhere is almost an impossibility.

So the film industry, says Mr. Barney Balaban, President of Paramount, will in future have to make pictures designed for areas outside Continental Europe.

INDIAN FILM INDUSTRY

The prospects that lie before the Indian Cinema Industry are indeed very bright. For a population of 130 millions, U. S. A. has 20,000 cinema theatres and more than 100 million people visit these theatres each week. Throughout the world, there are 96,000 cinema houses and no less than 230 million people are estimated to visit them each week. India with her population of over 370 million, which is about one-fifth of the total world population, has hardly 1,000 cinema houses at the present moment. This number is bound to increase as education spreads.

As was recently emphasised by the Indian Picture Congress, the Indian Film Industry suffers seriously from the lack of suitable financial support. This grievance is capable of being remedied if only the Government of India chooses to accept and follow the recommendation of the Indian Cinematograph Congress.

KEEP EYES ON THE ROAD

Many a driver who is otherwise careful finds himself in a serious accident because he let his eyes or his attention wander from the road for just a moment, says a correspondent in the *Statesman*.

"Suppose, for example, that you are driving at 30 miles per hour. If you light a cigarette, or turn your head to look for a number or talk to a companion for just one second, in that second your car goes a distance of 44 feet.

In 44 feet many things can happen. A child may dart out from the kerb after a ball; a car may stop suddenly in front; a boy on a bicycle may sweep across your path, and when these things are happening, your attention is elsewhere. Remember driving is a full time job.

MORRIS CARS IN INDIA

Considerable increases in the sales of Morris cars throughout India are reported by Morris Industries Exports, Ltd., distributors. In Bombay orders for Morris cars during the first twenty-three weeks of the year showed an increase of 138 per cent. compared with the corresponding period of 1938.

Morris cars are also popular in Burma, and it has been established that at the conclusion of the 22nd week of the current season, the combined orders received from both India and Burma showed an increase of 49.7 per cent. over the corresponding period of 1938.

POISON FROM YOUR CAR

In a brick-built garage of 3000 cubic feet capacity, a motor car engine was set to run at idling speed, a dog being placed in the driver's seat.

The doors were closed and at the end of 20 minutes the dog lost consciousness, analysis of the air showing 1.3 per cent. of carbon monoxide.

Motorists will realise (say the W. I. A. A.) how much more dangerous an ordinary small home garage is when the engine is kept idling and the ventilation is poor.

AVIATION

INDIAN AIR FORCE VOLUNTEER RESERVE

Details of the proposed Indian Air Force Volunteer Reserve were given by Mr. Oglivie, Defence Secretary, when he moved in the Central Assembly consideration of the Bill to provide for the discipline of the members of the Force.

The object of the Reserve, he said, was to provide a force which in time of peace would be similar to the Indian Territorial Forces, that was to say, it was designed to cater for civilian personnel who were skilled either in aviation or in the technical maintenance of aircraft who would do their training in spare time and be called up periodically for intensive training. In time of war they would be embodied and, of course, when the enrolment of the proposed Reserves (which was shortly to begin) was completed, they would at once be embodied for actual service for the period of war. During war time, they would be paid the same rates as the officers and airmen of the Indian Air Force. During peace—and it was perhaps looking rather a long way away to talk about peace now—they would be paid a small retaining fee, a uniform allowance and full pay when called up for their period of training. The units would be Indian but there would be provision for seconding to the officers and airmen of the Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve in order that the skilled services of such men might not be lost. At present they would be designed for coastal duties and the units would, therefore, be recruited from flying and technical personnel living in or near the great ports.

AIR-SICKNESS

A Director of a large American Air Line Company has recently produced a survey in which he comes to the remarkable conclusion that only one per cent. of air travellers nowadays suffer from air-sickness.

This is a tribute to the comfort and steadiness of the modern air liner. Eating in mid air is to-day more comfortable than eating on board a train.

INDUSTRY

NATIONAL PLANNING

Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, in a statement on the work of the National Planning Committee, says some of the members are afraid that war conditions might interfere with the normal activities of the Planning Committee.

"National Planning," says Pandit Nehru, "is of vital importance to a nation at any time. In war time this subject becomes even more important. Our national attitude towards the war has not finally been determined yet and much will no doubt depend on this. But, in any event, India is on the eve of industrial development on a big scale and we must be prepared for this. I hope that the Committee will meet some time in Bombay in the latter half of October to review the situation and more particularly the new factors created by the war."

INDIAN SUGAR INDUSTRY

Interesting figures in connexion with the sugar industry in this country, the large imports of foreign sugar and the rise in the price of this commodity are given in the June issue of *Indian Sugar*.

The total production of sugar by cane-crushing factories and *gur* refineries in India (including States) during 1938-39 came to 614,000 tons as against 947,000 tons in the previous year, the decrease being 3,03,000 tons approximately. This large shortage is due to the short supply of cane on account of floods, attack of pests and insects in the United Provinces and Bihar which together account for about 85 per cent. of the total sugar production in India.

COIMBATORE MILLS

The Southern India Millowners' Association, Coimbatore, has telegraphed to the Government of Madras that consequent on the improvement of prices, the millowners are considering the question of resuming normal work in the mills. It is likely, therefore, that there will be no curtailment of production,

AGRICULTURE

INDIGENOUS DRUGS

A herbarium of medicinal plants growing in India is being collected with funds given by the Imperial Council of Agricultural Research and the Endowment Fund of the School of Tropical Medicine, Calcutta.

It now comprises about 1,500 species, or about 5,000 specimens, but a large amount of work still remains to be done as the list prepared contains more than 2,500 medicinal plants growing in India.

This herbarium, when completed, will be a unique collection. It has helped considerably in accelerating the work of the Indigenous Drugs Enquiry by providing authentic specimens of plant for chemical and pharmacological studies.

During the last three years much work has been done on poisonous plants. A large amount of useful information has been obtained in response to enquiries addressed to various Government departments, Universities and individual workers all over India. The information thus collected has been analysed. The number of plants poisonous to men, livestock, insects, etc., growing in this country is about 700. These are being gradually worked out and preliminary chemical examinations of a number of important ones are being made.

MADRAS IRRIGATION PROJECT

Flowing originally into the Arabian Sea, a Madras river has been diverted into the Bay of Bengal. By throwing a dam across a Travancore gorge, 3,000 feet above sea-level, in malaria-ridden country, what is known as the Periyar Lake has been formed.

A tunnel 5,700 feet long has been bored through the eastern ranges of the hills to carry the waters of the lake to the plains of Madras. From the tunnel water is let into the Surulaiyar, a tributary of the Vagal. After irrigating more than 120,000 acres of the Surulaiyar valley, it is again picked up at the Peranal regulator across the Vagal about 80 miles downstream, whence it flows into the Periyar main canal.

FACTORY LABOUR IN INDIA

The number of registered factories and the average number of operatives employed during 1937 were the highest yet recorded. This is revealed by the latest statistics of factories for British India just published.

The number of factories rose from 9,189 in 1936, to 9,863. The number actually working, which was 90.5 per cent. of the total, was 8,930, of which 5,287 were perennial and 3,643 seasonal.

While there was a slight decline in number in the United Provinces by 13, Madras with 202 new factories, Bombay with 185, the Punjab with 51, Central Provinces and Berar with 49, Sind with 29, Bengal with 27, and Assam with 24 mainly contributed to annual increase.

Simultaneously with the increase in the number of factories, the average number of operatives employed increased from nearly 600,000 in 1936, to 1,700,000 in 1937. The most marked increase were in Bombay 3,000, Bengal 35,000, Madras 16,000, the United Provinces 6,000, the Punjab 4,000, Bihar 4,000 and Sind 3,000. The number of workers employed in the cotton textile industry rose by about 50,000 to 75,000 while, consequent on the establishment of a few small mills and the adoption of double shifts by several of the old mills, the jute mills recorded an increase of about 6,000 in a total of about 300,000.

Amongst the operatives, the number of children employees went down by over 1,000 to about 11,000, and the percentage of children in the total factory population declined from '76 to '64. The only provinces where child labour increased appreciably were Madras and the United Provinces.

The number of women employees, however, rose by about 10,000 to about 230,000, Madras, Bengal and Bombay being chiefly responsible for the increase. The increase is partly to be explained by the fact that new premises carried on without the aid of power, and probably already employed large numbers of women were for the first time brought within the scope of the Factories Act. Another relevant fact worth noting is that while the percentage of increase among female operatives is 4.2, that in the total factory population is 7.2.

PAUCITY OF ROTARY NEWSPRINT

The President of the Indian and Eastern Newspaper Society, Mr. Arthur Moore, has sent a letter to the members of the Society in which he says:

"Newspapers using Rotary Presses depend upon imported newsprint and therefore they will have to exercise strict economy, and the public will realise that their papers will be smaller.

"Several have already reduced their size. Landed stocks of newsprint available to purchasers are, I believe, very small or non-existent. Where such stocks exist, any increase in price would render the vendor liable to prosecution for profiteering.

"Where newspapers' own stocks become exhausted, recourse might be had to Indian reeled paper. This, though excellent for flat presses, is not yet made suitable for fast Rotary printing like imported paper with mechanical content made from soft pine pulp. It might, however, be used and both for the sake of daily newspapers and also for the numerous weekly and other publications which depend upon it, it is essential that the price of Indian-made paper should be controlled. On behalf of the Society, I am addressing the Government of India on this point. In the use of metal, strict economy will also be necessary."

"As regards price, the public can, I think, trust every newspaper not to raise the price to the public unless it becomes absolutely necessary."

COMPULSORY RETIREMENT AT 55

Government servants in Bombay hereafter cannot remain in service after they are 55 years old. A Press *Communique* issued by the Government in this connexion says that "Government have decided that, with effect from January 1, 1940, Ministerial Government servants will be required to retire from service when they attain the age of 55. Those Ministerial Government servants who have already attained the age of 55 and have been retained in service or who will attain the age of 55 between now and January 1 next, will not be allowed to continue in service after the latter date".

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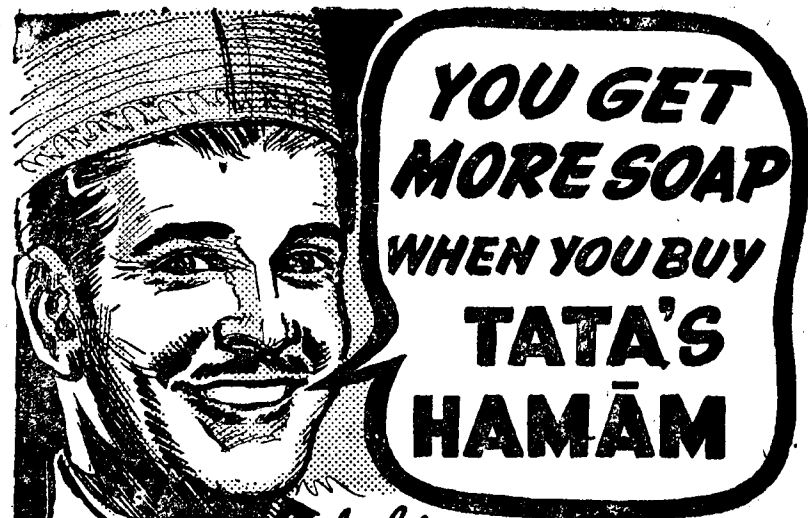
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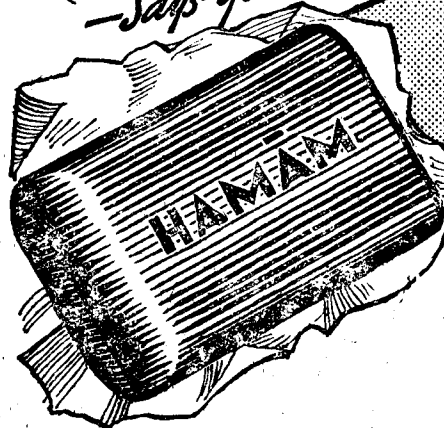
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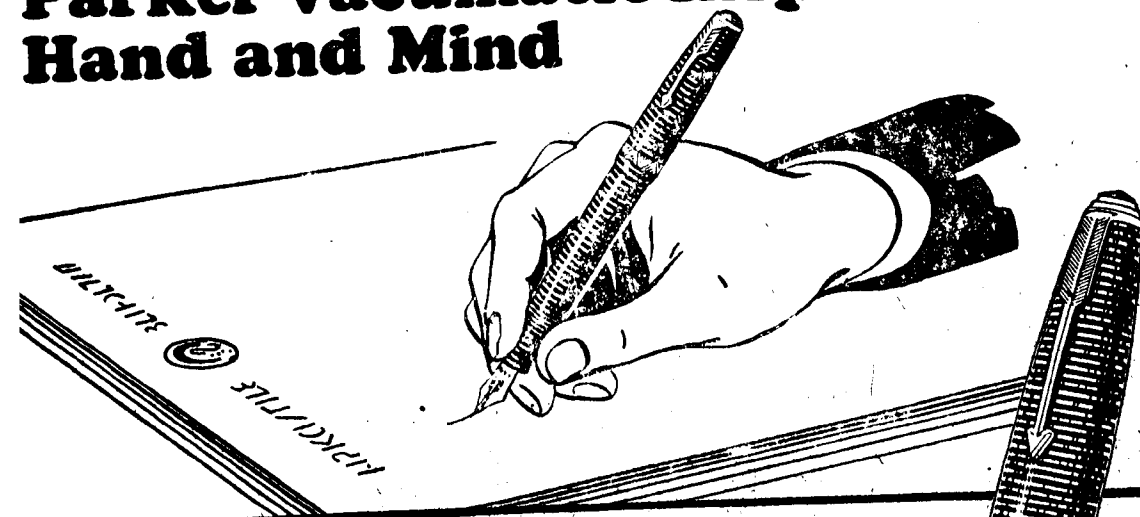
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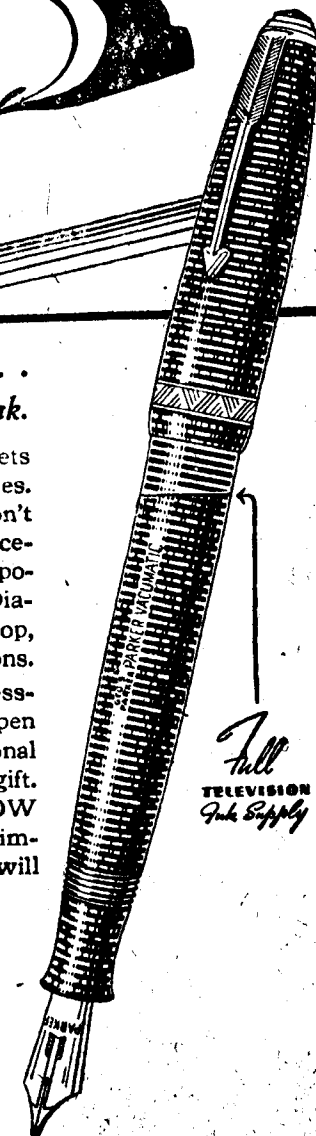


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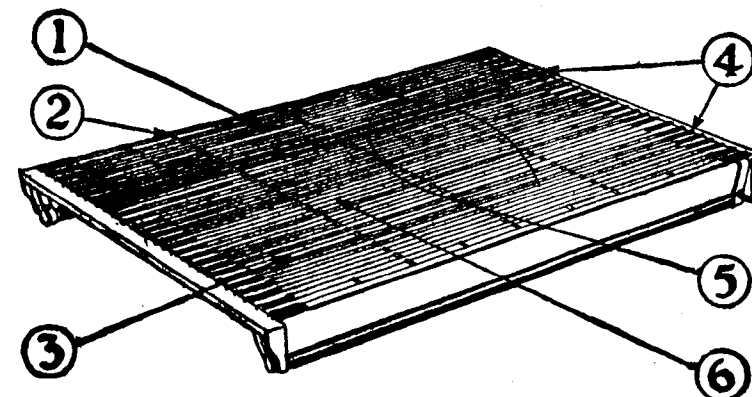
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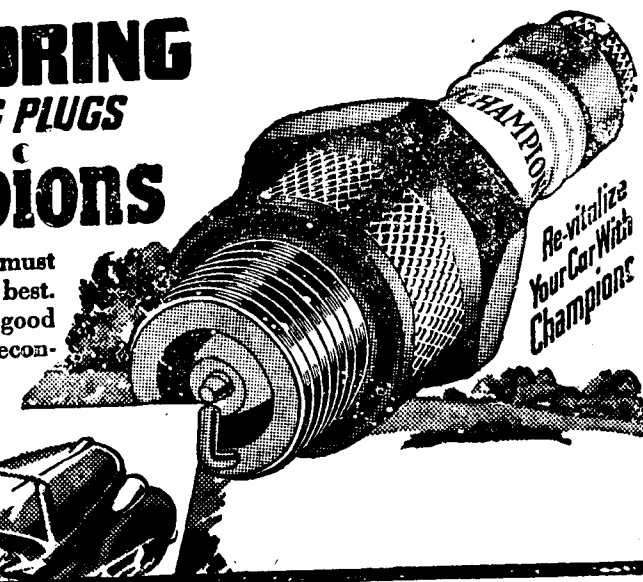
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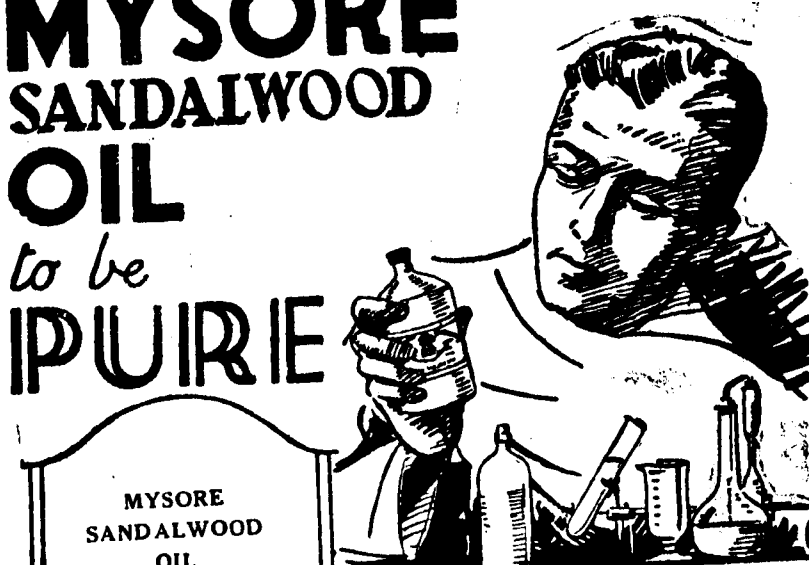
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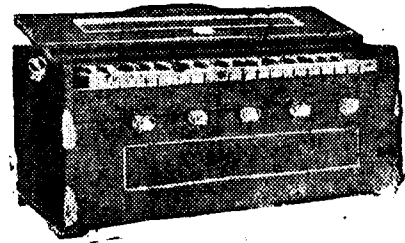
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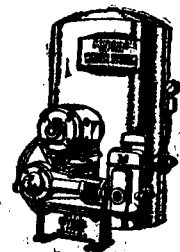
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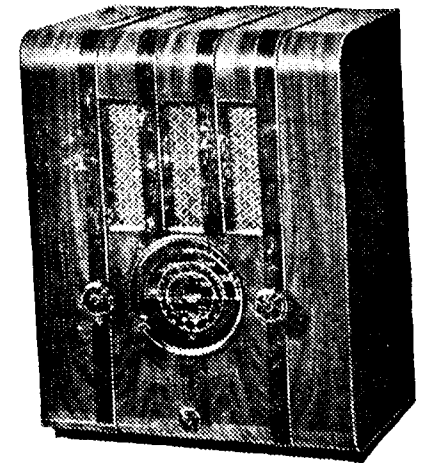
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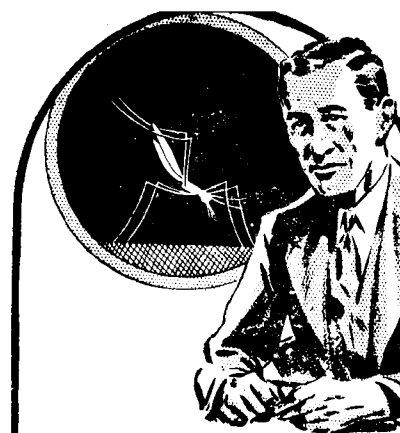
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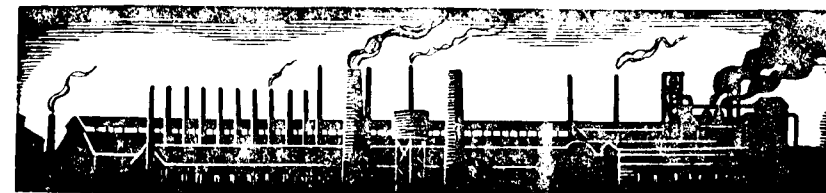
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AMERICA AND THE WAR

BY DR. DAVID MALAIPERUMAN, M.A., Ph.D.

ON the question of American entry into war there is much difference of opinion in the United States. The final decision in a democratic country rests with the people. The people are divided into various groups with regard to war. One of the most powerful groups is that of the Isolationists. They believe that they can afford to stay out of any world conflict. They seem to think that because of the gifts of nature and geography, the United States can live its full life alone. They are convinced that for no cause short of actual invasion will the United States enter any war. The isolationists believe in territorial self-defence having resort to arms only to defend against invasion. They are set against military expeditions abroad. Since the last war, when the United States sent her troops abroad to "make the world safe for democracy", and the chaos in Europe that followed, the power of the isolationist groups has been in the ascendancy.

The fear of European entanglements in future was further aggravated by the failure of the Allied powers to deal firmly with the Fascist powers. Abyssinia, Austria and Czechoslovakia fell one after the other. The resignation of Anthony Eden came as a surprise and British foreign policy seemed to compromise with the Fascist powers. In the Far East, America failed to get British co-operation in her dealings with the Manchukuo situation. Many American politicians feel that in the shaping of British foreign policy, American opinion is not given much consideration. So they say: "Let us keep out of the European scene."

Though there still remains a sentimental regard for old Mother England, on the

part of many Americans, there has been, on the other hand, lack of understanding on the other side of the Atlantic. One might expect at least England to understand the Americans aright, for there the press is free and the movies and radio are not propaganda tools. But even there the more deplorable aspects of American life are played up, exaggerated and generalised out of all proportion. The English have poked fun at "Yankee" ways and manners with an air of superiority and looked with condescension on American institutions and seats of learning. This is deeply resented in the United States. Americans, on the other hand, have an astonishing knowledge of, and interest in, British civilization. They rightly feel that this understanding should not be a one-way traffic. So long as in English minds the capitals of the American continent are held to be Hollywood and Reno, there is no hope of understanding.

Despite the Isolationists, Americans cannot forget with the close proximity of Canada that the boundaries of the British Empire extend to her door-step. The organisation of English-speaking Unions (of which Sir Frederick Whyte is the organising secretary), the visits of Anthony Eden, Lord Russell and Sir Josiah Stamp have helped to promote better understanding. Anglo-American friendship has been further cemented by the visit of the King and Queen—a historic event that America can never forget. Earl Baldwin, who later followed Their Majesties' visit to the U. S., speaking before the Congress on Education and Democracy at New York, said:

There is one thing our peoples—yours and mine—have in common: freedom is the air we breathe, freedom is in our blood and bones; the independence of the human spirit. . . . A

democrat should work for and be prepared to die for his democratic ideals. . . . England has never tolerated dictatorship. . . . Whatever it may call itself, the thing will never be tolerated by our people. . . . If war comes, it will find us as a people united as we have never been before.

The delegates to the Congress lustily cheered.

The common hatred of dictatorship is an important factor in Anglo-American understanding. Hitler's tactics and Nazi propaganda are being vehemently denounced in America. As a matter of fact, American cinema magnates, most of whom are Jews, have resorted to anti-Nazi propaganda. The recent film "Confessions of a Nazi Spy" is a striking example.

With the actual outbreak of war in Europe, American public opinion is gradually becoming opposed to the policy of isolation. In his address to the Congress in November 1937, President Roosevelt stated: "America hates war. America hopes for peace. Therefore, America actively engages in the search for peace." The President's appeal, time and again, for peaceful settlement of international affairs fell on deaf ears. The present international situation has so profoundly impressed American public opinion that the repeal of the Neutrality Law, which was originally introduced by the Isolationists, has become inevitable.

The will of the Isolationist to keep out of war found expression in the Neutrality Act of 1936 which was passed soon after Japan seized Manchukuo. According to this law, upon discovery of war abroad, the President was to withhold war material from all concerned, regardless of whether an invaded nation, fighting for its own as in the case of Ethiopia, was left at the hands of a ruthless aggressor. Further, by the "cash and carry" provision of this Act, American vessels were virtually swept from the seas. When in October 1937, the President voiced the people's indignation against the invasion of China by Japan and horror at the butchery at Shanghai, he recalled that there still were "quarantines" against aggressors. The isolationists denounced these expressions as violations of the spirit of the Neutrality Act. With the growing feeling against Dictatorship and Fascism, the power of the isolationists

in Congress dwindled. With a view to help Democracy against Totalitarian Dictatorship, the President appealed to the U. S. Congress to repeal the Neutrality Act and remove the embargo on arms. Cordell Hull, the Secretary of State backed up his chief in a radio speech and made this characteristic remark:

The search for national isolation springs from the counsel of despair and an admission of defeat.

Not till the actual outbreak of war did the U. S. Congress heed the warning of Roosevelt and take it seriously into its head to repeal the Neutrality Law and lift the embargo on arms. Both Democrats (now in power) as well as Republicans are backing Roosevelt. The repeal of the Act will be a tangible expression of the will of the people of United States to stand by the other democracies. One of the foremost leaders of the anti-isolationists is Colonel H. L. Stimson, former (Republican) Secretary of State. He uttered the following warning in a recent speech:

Britain and France are fighting a battle which, if lost, will become our own battle. In the interests of our own safety we should repeal the foolish and dangerous embargo and return to the wise policy of our forefathers.

Senator Borah, "the Lion of Idaho", and his isolationists are much opposed to the arms embargo. In a recent speech he pointed out that powerful British influences are trying to draw the United States into the war on the side of the Allies. He accused Lord Lothian, the British ambassador, as having been most active in influencing President Roosevelt and advancing reasons why the embargo on arms should be removed. But it must be remembered that the President has asked for the repeal of the Neutrality Act long before Lord Lothian stepped on American shores.

It cannot be denied that in the conflict between democracy and freedom on the one side and fascism and aggression on the other, American sympathy is on the side of democracy and Americans cannot tolerate ideas of victory for the fascist aggressors. No American would like to stand aloof and watch, should the Allies be found to be playing a losing game. As Representative, Hamilton B. . . when he returned . . .

NOVEMBER 1939]

AMERICA AND THE WAR

August: "Europe is drifting toward war. . . . America will go to war. . . . if the British fleet is defeated." Under the leadership of Roosevelt, Americans are learning to look at the European scene, not from a narrow national view but from the widest international point of view. The great majority of members of Congress expect that the U. S. will give much assistance to the Allied powers and little or none to Fascist powers. Public opinion in the United States is growing more and more hostile towards Hitler. The feeling against Germany is said to be much stronger now than during the war. Senator Morris, who voted against American entry into the last war, is an ardent supporter of the repeal of the arms embargo in the present war. In a radio talk he recently said: "Our sympathies, our hopes and our prayers are with the British and the French Governments in this conflict." He expressed the fear that failure to repeal the arms embargo would be to favour Hitler.

Thus far the war is that of the totalitarian states against the democracies. Col. Stimson pointed out that the world is facing "one of the most powerful, deliberate and dangerous efforts at organised aggression" and that repeal would encourage France and Britain and help wavering nations from joining the aggressors. The impulse of self-preservation would demand that the United States join hands with the Allies. Senator Austin, another Republican supporter of the proposed amendment of the Neutrality Law, considers that a Franco-British victory is necessary, because the defeat of the Allies might lead to the invasion of Canada by Totalitarian powers and a threat to the independence of the United States. The invasion of North or South America by any Totalitarian power will be violation of the Monroe Doctrine and a menace to the U. S.

The fires of war are actively burning in two regions of the world. In both these regions, America has much at stake directly and indirectly. This tightening up of the Neutrality Act while war rages in Europe is analogous to a new type of fire-proof construction in our building

while the building next door is on fire. It is certainly important to try to make our building more fire-proof, but it is equally important to try to help to put the fire now raging. The virulence of the Black Plague, which ravaged Europe in the Middle Ages, was due in large part to the circumstance that people sought to quarantine themselves against the plague instead of the plague against the uninfected.

The Neutrality Law as amended would not close the door to American entry into the scene of war. It contains features which for the time being certainly act as a brake against rash and headlong action on the part of the President. In spite of such proposals, the 300 mile zone where submarines are barred, pitfalls are many and the peril great (as the *Washington Star* points out). In case of any emergency or crisis the Congress can reopen the situation and judge then what should be done.

With the determination on part of the U. S. Congress that "so far as lies within its power, the mailed fist of America shall not extend across the oceans pound upon the Americans", it is difficult to state at this stage how far America will go in supporting the democracies besides the repeal of the arms embargo. But Senator Borah sounded a note of warning when he said: "Having changed our laws that we may send arms to the Allies because of their urgent call, I do not see how we could refuse to send our armies in the hour of their greatest need should that hour unfortunately come. I do not see how we could. I doubt very seriously if we would. There is no gainsaying that circumstances can arise and make junk overnight of the Neutrality Act."

The sinking of the "Athenia" with more than 350 Americans aboard, the report of the American ambassador in Warsaw of the ruthless massacre of civilian population and the bombardment of open towns and villages in spite of Roosevelt's appeal that bombardment should strictly be confined to military objectives, the partition of Poland between Germany and Russia, Nazi-Soviet design

in the Balkan states, the threat to the independence of smaller states like Finland, Nazi radio propaganda in South America—all these and many more events have shocked the American public and aroused their indignation. The moral conscience of America is already at war against Hitler.

Though there are many groups such as the pacifist and isolationists that have to be conciliated before America ever enters into a war, one cannot minimize

the fact that there are powerful forces at work. Bertrand Russell, recently visiting Professor at Chicago, made this characteristic statement (speaking after the crisis of 1938):

Whatever might be the conditions of public opinion or of your government, you almost inevitably would have been drawn into the next war. If I were an American, I should on pacifist grounds wish to keep America out of the next war, but as a prophet, I think it very unlikely, because there would be tremendous forces dragging you in.

The Mystery of Russia: India's Duty

BY MR. JANKI DASS, M.A.

THE upheaval that has been wrought in the international political arena during the last few weeks proves that the "diplomatic world" and mystery sail in the same boat. The Soviet-German Non-Aggression Pact represents beyond doubt one of the greatest diplomatic stunts displayed by the modern heads of the States and the Soviet policy presents a still greater enigma that baffles the ablest of the modern politicians.

Till 1932, Russia had been practically aloof. Her trade agreement of 1921 was abrogated by Britain, which further requested the Soviet Diplomatic Staff in London to leave England. Similarly her relations with France were in no way cordial. But the rise of Hitler in the west and that of Japan in the east brought forth a new danger for Russia.

The Nazis and the Soviets made no secret of their hatred against each other. In Spain, when civil strife flared up between forces—Communist and Fascist—airmen and technicians from remote Soviet Russia and Hitlerian Germany, on Governmental instigation, flung themselves eagerly into the fray on opposing sides, slaughtering one another with grim satisfaction owing to the presumably unbridgable doctrinal gulf which separated their two regimes. Besides, there began in Russia an extraordinary internal convulsion which rocked the Administration to its very foundations. Owing to alleged treasonable pro-Fascist contacts with representatives of the Nazi party, hundreds

of the highest servants of the State and in their wake innumerable humbler folk were arrested, tried, shot or imprisoned.

The conquest of Manchuku in 1931 by Japan and her occupation of Jehol and other parts of North China was a serious menace to the prestige of Russia in the Far East. She was thus confronted with a situation that implied war on two fronts—Japanese and German. Since she could not come to terms with Germany or Japan, she sought once again the friendship of the Western democracies, who apprehending danger from Hitler, welcomed her. She was admitted into the League and was also given a permanent seat in the Council. True to her word, she joined hands with England and France in the denunciation of Italy for her conquest of Abyssinia. Even during the last September crisis, she expressed her willingness to help Britain and France if they were attacked by Germany.

But the incidents following changed her foreign policy entirely. First, the Munich debacle, which was the outcome of the activities of Mr. Chamberlain, Hitler and Mussolini (without their having consulted Stalin), and secondly, the dilly-dallying attitude of her democratic friends towards her proposal on the occasion of the dismemberment of Czechoslovakia for the immediate formation of a Peace Front to stem the over-rising tide of Hitler's ambition brought home to her that her position was insecure and that in the event of a war she will

have to fight on two fronts without the express guarantee of help from Britain and France. Since then she has shown marked distrust of the Anglo-French policy.

The dismissal of the late Russian Foreign Secretary, who had always stood for collaboration with the Western Powers on the basis of collective security, represented Stalin's first warning to the Western Powers that Russian foreign policy was undergoing a new orientation towards isolation. The reluctance of Britain and France to guarantee the territorial integrity of the Baltic States confirmed Stalin's worst suspicion that these two powers only wanted Russia to pull their chestnuts out of fire for them. Stalin refused to play the British game and was eventually won over by Hitler, who evidently promised him share in his loot.

It is Russia and not Germany that has scored as a result of the Russo-German Pact. Evidence is accumulating to show that Hitler's need has been Stalin's opportunity. In the demarcation of the line through Poland, which will divide Germany from Russian forces, Hitler has lost more than he has gained after the casualties of 150,000 men killed or wounded. The Russo-German Pact has brought Soviet Russia nearer to the realisation of its dream of playing the role of the chief actor on the Eastern European stage than the Soviet Government ever believed it to be possible and at very little cost, since Soviet Russia was able to provide itself with a cat's-paw in the person, ironically enough, of its most vociferous and persistent opponent, namely, Hitler. Russia may now have as many air bases against Germany as she desires. With one stroke, Von Ribbentrop has made Russia overwhelmingly powerful in the Balkans, which no longer depend on Germany for aid. Hungary has resumed her diplomatic relations with Russia, and Bulgaria has ready concluded a new trade pact with Moscow. Hitler has undoubtedly dragged the powerful Soviets to the very gates of Germany. Russia has advanced at least as far as the line of Bialystok-east-Lwow, to the chagrin of the Germans, who had hoped to seize the oil wells of

Eastern Galicia. Moreover, the longer the war lasts, the weaker the belligerents become and that will leave the Soviets the strongest power in Europe. The Soviets, therefore, while staying out of the war, will supply fuel to Germany to keep the blaze burning until both belligerents become prostrate. Even the championing of the cause of Czechoslovakia by Soviet Russia in September last, when the latter was ready to go to war with Germany, was intended to serve the same purpose which the Russo-German Pact has served so admirably from the point of view of Stalin and Molotov. In the September crisis, there was in fact no country looking forward so unconcernedly to an outbreak of war as Russia, in spite of her taking the attitude of England and France as "dilly-dallying".

Stalin's ultimate policy is still secret. It appears crystal clear, however, that Russia's motive is to help herself and promote revolution, not to help Germany, but the fact remains that she is now drifting into enmity with France and Britain. They are fighting not merely for the restitution of Poland, but for a principle, and that principle Russia is apparently about to violate as outrageously as Hitler has done. She has not even gone through the mockery which Hitler attempted of stating a case against Poland and stimulating a desire for peace but is at once resorting to force. She has concentrated a vast army, has patched up peace with Japan on the Mongolian front and would appear to be attempting to seduce Turkey from her friendship with Britain and France. It seems the Totalitarian States: Italy, Germany, Russia and Japan are all pitted against the Western democracies. The four dictators who rule over the countries that lie between the shores of the Pacific Ocean in the East to the shores of the Atlantic and the Mediterranean in the West seem to have made a common cause to plan the ruin of the democracies.

INDIA'S POSITION

A new danger to India and Afghanistan also looms large on the horizon. The Indian frontiers Gilgit are very near

the Russian province of the Pamirs. On the north-west, India is separated from Russia by the buffer state of Afghanistan. The ever-increasing military and economic strength of the U. S. S. R. since 1919 have not remained unobserved by the British authorities. They have established a strong military base at Gilgit in order to watch that part of the frontiers against the Russians. Even the tribal areas of the N.-W. F. P. has been decorated all over with metalled roads in order to keep up communications with the new cantonments that have recently been established all along the Durand line. Quetta has been reconstructed at heavy expenditure. This military city surely works as a watch-tower from which India can watch the military movements of her north-western neighbours in Kandhar and Seistan. In spite of all this, over-optimism is to be deprecated as the man-power to defend these fortifications is mainly Punjabee. And suppose if they fail to stem the tide of invasion, the history of India is surely unmade. It is already clear that Russia is not confining herself to what was formerly Russian but is annexing Eastern Galicia. On the other hand, Britain and France have no common frontier with Russia, and unless Russia proceeds to violate the neutrality of Rumania or of Iran and Afghanistan, no contact between the elephant and the whale is yet possible.

OUR DUTY

Unquestionably, Britain and France had been compelled, reluctantly, to enter on war, seeing that the aim of Hitler was to destroy the peace and security of the

world without just cause and to sacrifice on the altar of his ambition and greed the lives and property of innumerable innocent persons. There is no gainsaying the fact that the present war is on a large scale clash between democracies on the one hand and one man's simple and pure aggression on the other. The English have taken up cudgels on behalf of Poland to see that no injustice is done. We have known the English people for quite a long time and they, too, are fully conscious of the aspirations of Indians to govern themselves. "The benign shadow of the British Government under which India has lived for a long time past is an unrivalled blessing to this country which none can deny." Not only that, there is the vital question of self-preservation and national existence which cannot be ignored. During my tour last year through the Dominions of Australia, New Zealand and Tasmania, I was immensely impressed with the practical expression of feelings of friendship on the part of our brethren towards India and her children. As the sole representative of India at the British Empire Games, 1931, I was charged with the duty of conveying messages of goodwill and friendliness from the youth of the British Empire to the men and women of this country. In the present critical period in the world history, the British Empire appears to be the sheet-anchor of the peace of the world and India will surely be a gainer by remaining within the British Empire. We Indians should do our best to support Great Britain in this crisis.

Sigmund Freud and Modern Thought

BY MR. M. V. AMRITH, M.A.

(Member, Indian Psycho-Analytical Society)

PROBABLY no single man has influenced Modern Thought so profoundly and extensively as Sigmund Freud, the founder of Psycho-analysis, who died on the 24th of September. It is no exaggeration to say that he has revolutionized existing systems of thought in Medicine, Psychology, Religion, Sociology

and Politics, Crime, Literature and Fine Arts, Anthropology and Education. Previous observers had only reckoned with the conscious mind and had assumed that man was a rational being who, even if backsliding now and then, could be reformed by education, persuasion or punishment. It was Freud's distinctive

merit to have discovered that the main motives of human behaviour lay, not in reason, but in emotion, in the hinterlands of the dynamic unconscious mind, with its repressed wishes, anxieties, crude instinctive cravings and terrible destructive impulses. The full significance of Freud's researches has not yet been realized by modern man. Man, when he has applied these discoveries to his own emotional, social and political life, would have taken the first step in controlling his own destinies instead of being the blind plaything of Chance as he is to-day.

Medicine.—Freud's contribution to medicine is epoch-making. Psychology is admittedly more than half of medicine and yet before the dawn of the twentieth century, the mental factor in disease was pooh-poohed and neglected completely. All mental disorders were ascribed to some unknown lesion in the brain or nervous system, if not to demoniacal possession. Freud was the first to introduce a rigidly psychological standpoint in the treatment of the psycho-neuroses like hysteria. The symptoms of the psycho-neurotic like the delusions of the mad man, had a meaning. The symptoms were a compromise formation of the repressing and the repressed factors in the unconscious mind. When the repression was removed, the symptoms disappeared. A radical therapy known as Psycho-analysis was thus developed. By the aid of free association and dream analysis, it was possible for the Psycho-analyst to probe into the farthest regions of the mind which had remained dark continents before. Thanks to Freud, it is now possible for Psycho-analysts to cure cases of hysteria, phobia, obsessions, certain perversions, psycho-sexual disorders, character anomalies, depression and even selected cases of psychosis (insanity). The influence of the mind is seen not merely in mental disorders but even in a variety of so-called physical disorders like conversion hysteria (where repressed wishes are transformed into physical symptoms) like hysterical paralysis, blindness, etc., dyspepsia, asthma, peptic ulcers, gastric neuroses. A new branch of psycho-somatic medicine has arisen under the lead of Franz Alexander, Jelliffe and Dunbar.

Psychology.—"Freud has done more for the advancement of Psychology," says

McDongall, one of Freud's severest critics, "than any other man since Aristotle." His analysis of dreams throws profound light on a subject which was undeveloped and neglected till that time. His "Interpretation of Dreams" is considered by many as his greatest work. Dreams, according to Freud, are disguised fulfillments of repressed wishes, working under the cover of condensation, displacement, dramatisation and symbolism. In "The Three Contributions to the Theory of Sex", Freud attempted an analysis of sexual impulse which still remains the best on the subject. Autoerotism, narcissism, homo-sexuality, hetero-sexuality, the Oedipus complex, the Castration complex, the development of the libido through the oral, anal and genital stages—all these concepts are invaluable to the student of Sexual Psychology. In "The Ego and the Id", Freud classified the mind into the Ego (the reasonable portion), the Id (the instinctive portion) and the Super-Ego (the moral portion). There is constant struggle between these three aspects of the mind. This tripartite conception of the mind has proved to be of the greatest significance in clinical psychology. In his later works, Freud has come to grips with the problem of instinct. According to him there are two fundamental instincts: the Life and the Death instincts.

Religion and Law.—Freud's contribution to religion is anathema to the theologian. In "The Future of an Illusion", he traced religion to the Oedipus complex, to the ambivalent attitude (both loving and hating at the same time) of the child to the father. The desire of the child to have a good and perfect father is later projected to the Heavens, with the postulation of a perfect Being who will succour him in all difficulties and tribulations even as an earthly father feeds, protects and loves his child. Freud believes that in prehistoric days there was actual killing of the tyrant father by the sons joining together. Later there was remorse. This constitutes the original sin of religion and man ever since has been burdened with an unconscious sense of guilt and a need for expiation. Freud has with great ingenuity developed these

ideas in the "Totem and Taboo" and in his latest book "Moses and Monotheism".

There is no doubt that Freud's ideas on Criminology will transform current ideas in days to come. Present-day criminology is crude with its insistence on retributive punishments. An eye for an eye, a tooth for a tooth. Psycho-analysis teaches, however, that a criminal is a mentally abnormal person, one fixated to an early stage of development and that the only cure lies not in punishment but in a thorough exploration of his mind and the removal of his early repressions which give rise to his animistic behaviour. In future, prisons will have to give place to psychological clinics.

Politics and Sociology.—Freud's conception of the Oedipus complex is central to his contribution to Politics and Sociology. The child's conflicting relationship to his parents is repeated in the political field. The once-loved leader (who stands for the father) is hated and deposed later. The child's hatred of the bad and sadistic father is transferred in later life to dictators and foreign nationalities or political opponents, while the child's love for the good mother gives rise to love for the motherland, nationalism and patriotism. The whole field of politics is vitiated by unresolved feelings of love and hate originating in childhood. The immense significance of these factors in creating bad blood between nations culminating in war is only too evident, but politicians who ought to have been experts in psychology—for politics is merely applied psychology—are the least informed in the subject. The causes of war are primarily psychological and not economic and until this is realised there is no hope of our ever solving the problem. Freud's ideas on this subject are collected in a book recently published by the Hogarth Press entitled "Civilisation, War, and Death".

Literature, Fine Arts, and Education.—Freud's concept of the Unconscious has given a new fillip to Literature and Fine Arts. Freud has himself traced the sources of all artistic activity to repressed sexual impulses. His analysis of Sex has brought a new world before the gaze of novelists and they have not been slow to take advantage of it. In particular, the notion

of the Oedipus Complex has fired the imagination of writers—novelists like D. H. Lawrence and James Joyce, dramatists like Eugene O'Neil, literary critics like Herbert Read. The problem of Hamlet has been solved along these lines. Modern literature has been permeated through and through with the spirit of Psycho-analysis. The frankness of expression, subtlety of analysis, depth and vigour of characterisation of present-day literature must ultimately be traced to the influence of Freud. In the field of Fine Arts, new schools have arisen like expressionism, cubism and surrealism where his influence is clearly seen.

The notion of freedom in education, the futility of punishment and the potency of love, the cultivation of the senses, diversion of interest rather than repression of impulses, sex education of the young, sublimation are all the legacy of Psycho-analysis to education. Freud has traced character formation to Infantile Sexuality. "The child is father to the man." He was the first to conduct analysis on a child of five and cure its phobia. Child analysis now, under the lead of Anna Freud and Melanie Klein, is an important branch of Psycho-analysis. Delinquent children have been cured nervous children brought round and criminality nipped in the bud.

Anthropology.—Before Freud, anthropology, though a flourishing science, was handicapped, because it could not explain the facts it had so laboriously collected. Frazer, Westermarck and others had done magnificent work on Totemism, Taboo, the peculiar puberty, marriage and death ceremonies of savages, but they could not make head or tail of the meaning of these peculiar customs. It was Freud who illuminated the whole field by his work "Totem and Taboo" and unravelled the mysteries underlying Totemism, Taboo, coyness and allied problems. Modern anthropologists like Malinowski and Seligman, though they do not fully accept psycho-analytical explanations, are profoundly affected by Freud's teaching. A new school of Psycho-analytical anthropology has arisen under the lead of Roheim and Money-Kyrle and doing valuable work.

EDUCATION FOR DEMOCRACY

BY PROF. HANS RAJ BHATIA, M.A.

(Birla College, Pilani)

THE present clash between dictatorship and democracy, more pronounced to-day than it ever was before, has not left the aim or content of education undisturbed. Dictators may not be very safe to-day but they are making their way of life and thought safe through education. They have given the school-master a ready made yard-stick of their doctrine or creed and asked him to establish a monopoly over the thoughts of youth by hammering into them through every phase of educational work one and only one creed. Action rather than wisdom is their ideal; they stress speed, progress and "getting things done", and they want their future citizens to develop qualities tersely summed up in the Italian slogans: "The state is the fulfilment of the individual. The functions of the citizen and the soldier are indissolubly linked. Believe, obey, fight." The mother-tongue is taught by using political speeches and proclamations; in arithmetic, problems are taken from contemporary life, the government plans for armament, electrification, or social legislation; history and geography are taught to awaken among children the feeling of unity, race superiority and love for their country. One has only to pass through any town in Germany, Italy or Russia to convince himself that totalitarian states are producing, specially among the young, an enthusiasm and devotion which will certainly help to prolong the life of dictatorship whatever faults humanism may have to find with it. There is an accepted ideology to which all individuals must conform through coercion or through a type of education which is indistinguishable

from propaganda. Schools, colleges and universities do not stimulate but supervise thinking to drive home to the students the true import of the totalitarian spirit while at the same time giving them fair and sound knowledge.

On the other hand what are democracies doing to meet this challenge and make their future safe? Practically nothing in comparison with the programmes of dictators. They still talk in vague terms of liberty and fraternity, of attaining a form of government of the people, by the people and for the people; the apex of their educational work is still contemplative philosophy and they are too self-complacent to grapple with the situation. In a recent address, the President of the English Board of Education remarked: "Democracy will not survive because we make speeches about it; we must see that we make it work." The charge that democracy has failed, that it is based upon a negative doctrine of non-interference and that it stresses the rights of individuals rather than his duties is a serious charge and a real challenge. To meet this charge, it is not enough for those who still have faith in the ideals of democracy and liberalism to adopt a negative attitude and dismiss this challenge saying that totalitarianism is based on a dogmatic ideology, that it kills intellectual freedom and that it cannot survive long. The time has come when these charges must be inquired into, when this challenge must be met and when a battle royal has to be offered with the same courage and strength of belief in democratic ideals and institutions as the enemies have. Democracies should cast off this dangerous mood of self-satisfaction, provide

educational agencies with a clear-cut creed and carry out a vigorous campaign to develop understanding of, enthusiasm for, and devotion to, that creed. If the next generation is to be democratic, it should be early imbued with the spirit of democracy and that can only be if we not only make sure of the qualities necessary for the making of a citizen in democracy but also work with a plan and a will to propagate those ideals and qualities through every type of educational influence. Democracy is not only a form of government which can be acquired by a change of constitution but a way of life, an adventure aiming not at perfection but always perfecting, and education should above all foster among the impressionable young minds a strong democratic attitude and outlook on life.

If India is to be made safe for democracy and if her future democracy is to be composed of citizens who have a strong and willing faith in the goodness of democratic ideals and institutions, the qualities of democratic citizenship to be developed should be made clear and every type of educational effort and influence should concentrate on their development. A few suggestions are here made in the light of what Sir Ernest Simon advised an association of teachers in London.

Every school should cultivate among young people a sense of deep concern for the freedom and good life of their fellows, a sense of respect for other people's point of view and anxiety to understand and appreciate it. Co-operation, neighbourliness, love of truth and the desire to seek it should not only be talked about but practised.

Every school should impart along with knowledge and experience such power of clear thinking as will help him to form sound judgments on the main problems of life. They should be able to guard themselves against being over-deliberate on the one hand and being rash on the other. They should be able to strike a

balance between slow contemplation and rash performance. Most of us take too leisurely a view of things and end in inaction or are easily duped by the prospect of quick performance and through sheer self-conceit are driven to a red end. Let us be enthusiastic with an all-absorbing creed but let our enthusiasm be tempered with wise consideration.

Schools should develop energy, initiative and personality necessary to leadership along with a habit of trying to find out the right balance between independence and compromise. The new citizen should be large-hearted enough not only to admit his mistakes and accept the better judgment of those who follow him, but also be ready to give up the fruits of leadership when he finds that another fellow placed higher or lower than him can serve society better.

Happily in our history and contemporary life, we have a host of examples of leaders whose lives are living embodiments of these ideals, dedicated as they are to the cause of truth and peace. They serve as beacon-lights to millions in and outside the country, but have their ideals pierced through the high walls of our schools and colleges? Hitler and Mussolini are exploiting education to make the future generation safe for dictatorship. What are we doing to make our country safe for democracy? If democracy stands for individual freedom, let its defence like charity begin at home. Let homes, schools, colleges, temples, mosques, in fact, every institution, social and political, be saturated with the ideals discussed above. Education for democracy has a strong obligation to develop a body of common traditions, loyalties and interests as the basis of community life, to inculcate a moral fervour and faith in its ideal by providing an environment for the free flowering of personality—the self-realization of the individual to the fullest development of his abilities. This will be possible when our educational institutions are worked in a spirit of freedom, which is not a natural right but a conquest through self-discipline and understanding of the rights of others.

MENTAL AUTARKY

By MR. AHMAD SHAFI

THE exercise of responsibility for shaping the policies of provincial governments has brought to surface a disquieting feature in the cultural life of the country. The causes of communal conflict have spread from the streets and bazaars of our cities to the realm of ideas and cultural concepts. The national anthem of one section is anathema to the other. The Wardha and Vidya Mandir educational schemes, which are primarily designed to create and foster a new culture, are regarded as destructive of the culture of another community. The efforts to coalesce different communities into one nation are met with schemes for fostering two nationalities in the country. All this indicates as if the Hindus and the Muslims have been living side by side in an atmosphere of mental self-sufficiency if not mental exclusiveness.

The several academic conferences which are held every year to discuss subjects of scientific, historical, philosophical and educational interests afford opportunities to the Hindus and the Mussalmans to mould and enrich the cultural heritage of the country, but this inter-communal co-operation in the intellectual sphere has not succeeded in making any appreciable impression for the reason that its scope is limited and its guidance and direction has been received from sources which have not been in touch with the realities which the man in the street is called upon to face.

Gone are the days when the Muslim League and the Congress used to meet in the same city and the former used to repeat the resolutions by the latter. The wisdom which is born after the event now tells us that that was not a healthy practice. The League lost the initiative

and the power of doing its own political thinking. Then came the hectic days of the Khilafat movement and Non-co-operation. The alliance of these two heterogeneous forces—the one Indian and national, the other religious and extra-territorial—under the stress of political expediency raised different hopes in two different camps and when this incongruity was later discovered and the alliance was dissolved, the League as was to be expected in doing its own political thinking began to drift further and further away from the Congress. The Congress made no effort to nip the evil in the bud. It had itself passed out of the hands which used to shape its policies and guide its deliberations which were readily adopted by the Mussalmans as their own. It began to be afflicted with a sense of its own self-sufficiency.

Meantime the denominational institutions continued to pursue their own merry course. By an irony of fate, the late Sir Sayed Ahmad Khan has been blamed for inventing the first of these institutions. He had sufficient reason and valid excuse for starting a purely Muslim school. The Government of the day had sadly neglected to provide adequate facilities for the education of the people. The Mussalmans were unwilling and reluctant to take advantage of the few existing institutions. Sir Sayed conceived the idea of coating the pill of modern knowledge with the sugar of Islamic studies. We know how readily the pill was swallowed. But, to continue the metaphor, as the chief ingredients of the pill were not made and compounded in Sir Sayed's own laboratory and the coating was a little too thin it lost its potency. Any one who has any knowledge and experience of the working

of the Muslim Schools and Colleges knows how ill assorted this compound has proved to be. The Mission sent by Al Azhar from Cairo on return to Egypt reported that the scheme of Muslim educational institutions in India was at best weak.

Some of my Hindu friends tell me that in this respect the Hindu institutions also have been faring no better. Such has been the fascination of these denominational institutions that the institutions started in the days of the genesis of the Swadeshi movement for imparting national education could not flourish and had to be closed or denominationalized after a short half-alive half-dead existence. Perhaps the worst feature of such institutions (both Hindu and Mussalman) is that a demand has been created and met for the supply of books of history which pander to the communal vanities. Whether history is a science or an art it is certainly not propaganda. Even general readers have not been spared. This has created self-sufficiency in matters educational.

The drift towards political and educational self-sufficiency has necessarily brought in its wake influences which make for cultural self-sufficiency and a remarkable instance of this development is the scheme expounded with all seriousness for the repartition of the country into culturally homogeneous regions with wholesale transfers of populations. It is claimed for this scheme that it is an improvement on Pakistan, but when it is bereft of the sentimental gush which covers it, its real object is made manifest clearly. It is a reply to the wish of those politicians who talk of establishing Hindu Raj. If discussions of schemes for establishing Hindu Raj or constituting Muslim provinces had

no more than academic interest, one would be inclined to tolerate them as harmless intellectual exercises although hare-brained but in the present temper of our country men they tend to assume proportions far beyond their merits. The gulf which the political and educational conditions have created is widened and there is a class which begins to see the fulfilment of its dreams in the chaotic conditions which will prevail in the country if any of the rival groups is allowed an opportunity to put pet schemes into operation.

It is useless to apportion the blame. This has been done far too often. Negative attitude will not help. What is needed is positive action. Such schemes are writings on the wall. To call them or their opponents bad names is no better than closing your eyes to their danger. The obvious step to take is to arrest the process of mental autarky which now holds the country in its grip. It will not be an easy affair but there is no reason why a beginning should not be made. In his convocation address to the Osmania University, Hyderabad (Deccan), Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru said that "while religion and politics divide society into sections and accentuate the acerbities of opinion, the pursuit of common culture tends to unite us and soften these acerbities." So far while the Congress and the Muslim League have agreed on a common political ideal—the attainment of the freedom of the country—they have not devoted their attention to the evolving of a common culture. It is true that their main interest is politics, but we have seen how their differences have divided the country into two main groups, each of which tends to seek sustenance from a culture which is either mainly Sanskrit or Arabic. A separate body is indicated for this purpose. Will the Liberal Federation be prepared to give the lead?

THE FIRST CAPITAL OF ANCIENT LANKA

BY MR. D. T. DEVENDRA

FEW cities in the world have such a wonderfully continuous historical record as Anuradhapura, now the chief ruined City, but once a magnificent capital of the Kings of old Ceylon. Its recorded history dates back to nearly the fifth century before Christ, when the first colonists arrived from India. The city takes its name from the prince who founded it in those early days.

In the ancient times the port of call was in the north-west of the Island, far away from the modern capital, Colombo. This port was Mantai. It was the door to the land. Through it entered Indian and Arab, Greek and Roman. A river which flowed to the sea here, had its beginnings near about Anuradhapura, and the two cities were connected by a trunk road which ran across the country and, crossing the great river of the Island, extended to the extreme south at the west coast. This road is mentioned in the relevant sections of the "Ramayana".

Well protected from hasty invaders was Anuradhapura, the capital. It developed into a great city from about the third century before the Christian era when contact was established between the Island's King, Tissa, and the great Asoka. Buddhism provided the link between their two Majesties.

Anuradhapura remained the capital of Raja Rata (the King's Country), that is, the greatest of the three provinces into which the Island was divided during early times. The province derived its name by virtue of the fact that it was directly ruled by the monarch, unlike the other two in which he generally held the lordship, being content to leave their administration to important members of his family.

The entire province of Raja Rata, which used to be the most prosperous and favoured in Lanka, is to-day a land

of thick forest where roam bear and elephant, wild buffalo and cheetah. Giant trees brood over ruins which are yet unknown to man. Great artificial lakes, locally called Tanks, overspread jungle regions—evidence of the activity of departed generations. And, most sinister of all, "million murdering death", whose defeat Ronald Ross sang in verse forty-two years ago, flits relentlessly from hamlet to city, with an insatiate lust for the blood of the wretched specimens of Ceylon's manhood that struggle to win back, against mighty odds, a once royal tract, into smiling plenty.

There is no place in or about the city but the visitor will, literally, strike his foot against a brick or stone of some ancient building. The works at Anuradhapura are mainly of stone, unlike those at the second Buried City, Polonnaruwa, the mediæval capital, where the material is brick. As you roam from spot to spot, you will see here a cluster of stone pillars unroofed, and there a forest of them. In between are enormous big-bellied topes on most of which grow trees of goodly girth. The tope, or Dagoba as it is locally called, has in Ceylon attained to a development unknown in India from which Buddhism, whose symbol it is, disappeared in the early centuries of the present era; and the probable architectural evolution ceased once and for all.

The most venerated object in the city is an insignificant looking tree, the peepul, or Ficus Religiosa, to give its botanical name. It appears hardly credible, but it has a recorded history of nearly 2,200 years! It was sent by Asoka to his royal brother Tissa about 250 B.C. Since that time it has continued to be tended with the most fervent devotion. It is the holiest link with Gotama Buddha who attained to enlightenment in the shade of the umbrageous fig of which this is a branch.

Facing it stands a cluster of pillars of stone, like some plantation in which the heads of trees have been sliced off. This is all that remains of a storeyed building constructed as a residence for many

the second century B.C. by Gamani Abhaya, the hero of the Sinhalese race. It had been built in diminishing stages. The roof was originally covered with tiles of brass, whence its name, the Brazen Palace.

A little way beyond, gleams the polished whiteness of a dagoba that is being restored with feverish haste, in preparation for a festival this month, which promises to be unparalleled in the history of modern Lanka. This is the Ruvanveli Seya, or the Dagoba of Golden Sand, also built by Abhaya, after the pattern of the Sanchi topes of Central India. It has the appearance of some enormous bowl, inverted, with a square tee on top, surmounted by a longish cone. This is to receive a metal finial, the pinnacle, which was recently cast out of bronze and gilded. Its top will be crowned by a big crystal specially obtained from and cut in Burma, the gift of the Buddhists of that country.

This crystal is enclosed in a silver framework which is covered with gold. Over 4,000 rubies and sapphires (the only precious stones used in it) have been embedded in the costly metal. On the top of the crystal is a gold crown in which is set a beautiful ruby. The entire treasure is valued in the neighbourhood of two lakhs of rupees.

Ruvanveli does not hold this merely topical interest. Around it may be seen numerous appurtenant structures, restored, old statues, and other sculptural and architectural relics over two thousand years old.

A few yards' walk in any direction brings the visitor to countless basements in which stand other pillars adorned by capitals of varying shapes, fixed by the tenon and mortice method. Among these, the pillars round the pretty bell-shaped Thuparama dagoba, and those at the Peacock Palace, an old religious college, are the most noteworthy.

Then there is the place known as the Buddhist Railing site, whose prototype may be seen in North India. By way of this one comes to two enormous dagobas whose "bellies" (the word means relic-womb) are covered with big trees that continue to flourish through the passing years. One of them, the Abbaya-

giri, is bigger than the third Pyramid at Gizeh.

Through the trees of the park-like country could be seen the sparkle of blue waters of three great tanks that water the outlying plantations and fields for acre upon acre, as they did hundreds of years gone by. The waters are held by enormous banks of earth and rubble. So wide are some of the bunds of local tanks that three motor cars, or more, can easily be driven abreast on the roads that have been laid on them.

Below the banks and level with the surface of the water may generally be seen little bathing pavilions complete with tiny pond and retiring room, the latter often carved out of living rock *in situ*. These ruins are being restored. The artist had made use of every little bare space for the execution of some design or group, floral or animal, to fit into the surroundings with harmonious effect. One of them has a panel of elephants carved in low relief with surprising liveliness and vigour.

The most arresting elephant group, however, is at a rock temple known as Isurumuniya. The name, as may be guessed, indicates its origin from Iswara Muni. The lay-out of the entire grounds resembles the Ganga Memorial, the Pallava Temple of the Seven Pagodas at Mahabalipuram, about 50 miles south of Madras.

There is, for instance, a lump of rock which represents Mount Kailasa. In it is a cleft to symbolise the flowing Ganga. The water originally fell from a little tank on the top into the neat little pond that one sees at the bottom. On either side of the head of this pond are two groups of elephants. Right above, on the bare face of the rock, is the seated figure of a man with noble features, "one of the finest ancient sculptures of Ceylon". Over his right shoulder appears the face of a horse. The group is believed to be a representation of the sage Kapila at the rite of the Aswamedha (horse sacrifice).

The temple was probably begun in the time of King Narasinhavarman I. in the

seventh century. A prince of Lanka sought and received aid from the Pallava ruler, and on his accession to the ancestral throne, a large number of Indians settled in Ceylon.

Mr. A. H. Longhurst, lately of India and presently the Archaeological Commissioner of Ceylon, makes the following observation, after an exhaustive comparison of the two historic sites:

I venture to think that it is obvious that the sculptors who created the unfinished Ganga Memorial at Anuradhapura must have been perfectly familiar with the Mahamallapuram example. The selection of the site, the cleft and terrace on top of the rock, the tank below and the group of unfinished elephants at the water's edge, the details alone clearly show that the monument was started by Pallavas from Mahamallapuram. The work was never completed owing in all probability to the outbreak of war, when the origin and the meaning of the monument was forgotten. In latter times, the Buddhists took over the site and adapted it to suit the requirements of their religion.

In among the litter that has been roughly patched up into a wall may also be seen sculptures of different Indian periods. The most fancied of them is the relief of a man and woman in the Gupta style.

Anuradhapura being essentially of stone, hardly any buildings remain which have been made of brick and mortar. Among these few is a Hindu building, domed somewhat like one with a gopuram, which goes by the name of Gedige.

Most of the ruins are of a religious nature, for art in those days of Ceylon's early history was employed little for lay purposes. Few, therefore, remain of the latter type. Outside the old city, where the crematoria used to be, there are groups of very remarkable stone buildings known as the Western Monasteries. Here dwelt monks of a severely ascetic order. Here may be found highly carved urinals or privy stones which show that the men who set them up had the grasp of a sound sanitary science.

Other notable specimens of old work are the exquisite Moonstone at the "Queen's Pavilion", in the Amaravati style; deep wells of terra-cotta, ringed like oil-drums; and long troughs of stone which used to be set up by alms-houses in order to store

boiled rice or gruel for the monks, of whom there came to be a teeming population in later years.

The numerous sites abound in epigraphs of the earliest type. The early Buddhist monks brought with them the Brahmi script which was employed by Asoka in practically all his Edicts. Here, it underwent certain changes, and in some particulars differs from the parent. In Ceylon, too, some of the earliest epigraphs read from right to left, pointing to the certain Semitic origin of the alphabet.

A few miles to the south of the city, and by the ancient road, is the hill known as Mihintale, which bears the same meaning as Mahendragiri. The hill is associated with Mahinda, the ascetic son (brother, according to some accounts) of Asoka who introduced the Buddhist religion into the Island during the Emperor's lifetime. On it are remarkable ruins and inscriptions that tell the story of a busy religious settlement. A recent discovery has added much interesting knowledge in regard to the history of lithic decorative art of the Island.

The city and its Royal Province now attracted too much attention from India, especially of the South. The chronicles record numerous invasions from the mainland, Pandya, Chera and Chola, with which extensive relations existed. For periods, foreign dynasties from these kingdoms established themselves on the throne of Lanka. Of these the greatest and the most beloved was Elara, a Pandyan or a Chola prince, whose beneficent rule earned for him the title of the Just. He reigned for fifty years in the second century B.C. until he was put to death and the kingdom wrested from Dravidian rule by the national hero, Abhaya.

These constant wars, no less than peaceful penetration, had their effect. To-day, nearly the whole of the ancient King's Country is populated by the descendants of these races from India.

Anuradhapura became too open to attack, and by the 12th century had given place to the safer Polonnaruwa.

MATERNITY HOMES IN RURAL AREAS

By MRS. RUKMINI S. IYANGAR, R.N., S.C.M.

IF India can afford to spend immense sums of money on the control and eradication of diseases like Cholera, Plague and Small-pox, which cause us comparatively not so great concern as Maternal deaths, it stands to reason why she could not spend an adequate sum in the effort to obviate the loss to the nation of young mothers who silently pass away in renewing the nation. No nation-building can progress if mothers are allowed to die in such numbers, and it is common knowledge that the chief causes of maternal deaths such as septic fever, anaemia, etc., can to a large extent be prevented if every mother received skilled attention at the time of child birth.

Women's Hospitals are still few in number and are ordinarily to be found only in district headquarters and other large urban centres. The great majority of confinements in rural areas are, therefore, even to-day conducted by unskilled hands, with the result that the wastage of lives connected with child bearing remains unchecked.

In the circumstances the establishment of a Maternity Home for every few villages in India is the paramount need of the hour. It is, however, of utmost importance that the authorities in dealing with this problem should pay very careful attention to the various factors that go to produce an ideal Maternity Home.

The underlying object of running a Maternity Home in India should be more to serve than to make money. In other words the Home should render free service to poor people with little or no income, and levy a scale of charges in the case of others on par with their individual income with a view to meet the maintenance charges of the Home.

In a city or a town if a Maternity Home is run on such lines it will work very well, as the urban population comprises of rich, middle class and poor people in more or less equal proportion, and that the free service rendered to the poor will be more than compensated by the visits from the rich and middle class people. In the case of rural areas, however, this scheme will not be a

practical solution, as the great majority, if not all, of the rural population are extremely poor and can hardly afford to pay any fees for confinements.

In such a case what is the solution? To any lay person it would appear that if six or seven villages could be formed into a Maternity League, and each family of a husband and wife living in these six or seven villages be made to contribute a subscription of Re. 1 per annum, it should go a long way to brighten the prospects of establishing a Maternity Home for every few villages. Taking on average 100 families in a village, the Maternity Home should be able to collect an annual subscription of Rs. 700. Again among these 700 families one can safely put aside a hundred under the category of paying patients, as the Maternity Home can be expected to render free service only in case of families whose annual income does not exceed Rs. 180 per annum, and that in the case of others a scale of charges on par with their annual income can be adopted.

Of course as already pointed out the paying patients may be few and that a Maternity Home cannot on an average be able to collect a sum not exceeding Rs. 600 per annum in the way of confinement charges. This sum coupled with the annual subscription suggested would yield a sum of Rs. 1,300 per annum to run a Maternity Home, but whether this will in itself be sufficient to run a Maternity Home is open to question. Taking the present day standard of living, the cost of rent and various other things, it is apparent that it will not be possible to run a Maternity Home on anything less than Rs. 3,000 per annum. The following necessities cannot be avoided in any case:

1. A decent cottage for the Home;
2. The engagement of a Staff comprising of a State Certified Midwife and Registered Nurse, a dai and a sweeper;
3. Conveyance arrangements for visiting the villages;
4. Provision for housing the Staff;

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5. Proper supervision of accounts and records of the Home; and
6. Provision for diet for patients and other materials such as linen, etc.

Here one should not forget the fact that a Maternity Home in rural areas should be fully equipped with all the equipment and instruments necessary to enable normal as well as abnormal cases to be conducted in the Home. In short it should be a small maternity hospital minus the doctor. Of course there must be one, if not two, doctors, women preferably, registered at the Home, and should be called in cases of emergency. In such cases, when doctors usually get very short notice, they will be saved the trouble of having to carry all the necessary things to conduct an abnormal case, and at the same time will enable the Sister-in-charge to keep all the instruments etc., sterilized and ready in time for the doctor to come. This will be a great advantage and will prove a boon in moments of despair of patients' lives. Now again to turn to the question of meeting the expenditure for running the Home, we are left with a deficit of Rs. 1,700 in the budget. It should be possible to make up this deficit from a grant from the Government. Also there might be Charitable Trusts who would be disposed to help such projects.

As regards service, a Maternity Home can render the following service to a group of six or seven villages:

1. Each village will be visited by the Sister-in-charge of the Home once a week, and expectant mothers will be seen, examined and given advice from the third month of pregnancy;
2. A probable date will be given of the approaching confinement, and arrangements will be made then to remove the mother to the Home;
3. In cases where the Sister expects complications she will advise the patients to enter a Hospital for confinement, but in cases where patients can afford to pay the charges of a private doctor, the same will be conducted in the Home by the doctors registered at the Home;
4. In the case of confinements in the Home, the patient will be asked to stay in the Home for a period of ten days after the confinement.
5. Mothers sent away after confinement will be periodically visited by the Sister-in-charge and advice given.

Such Homes will prove a boon in villages where there is little or absolutely no medical help, and Ministers responsible to the people should examine the question thoroughly with a view to adopt certain measures whereby the poor and helpless mothers will be saved.

NUTRITIVE VALUE OF RICE VARIETIES

By DR. A. SREENIVASAN, M.A., D.Sc., A.I.C.

(Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore)

IT might be supposed that the estimation in which any variety of rice is held among the consumers, as evidenced by its market price, would be mainly determined by its value as foodstuff. Unfortunately, however, such is not the case. The consumer's preference is only based on appearance and palatability which includes culinary qualities such as swelling and consistency on cooking, flavour, taste and such other factors. It is not often that this

choice is also the best from the nutritional point of view. With the march of progress from primitive to modern conditions, there has been an increasing demand for a rice that is white, not merely on account of its more attractive appearance on the table, but also because of its finer texture and superior keeping and cooking qualities. In pursuit of this objective, the processes of modern milling have been so elaborated as to remove everything that may impart a brown tinge

to the rice grain and so detract from its appearance; as a consequence, the older methods of stone-grinding and hand-pounding have gone entirely out of use even among the most primitive communities.

PREFERENCE FOR POLISHED RICE

To look back along the centuries at the changes in cereal production is to see the gradually gained ascendancy of milled over unmilled products. Peasant farmers began to forsake traditional methods of reaping, threshing and grinding grain and adopted the mechanical appliances which were being introduced with astonishing rapidity. The general current of recent industrial progress and production of cheap food grains by improved methods of agriculture have resulted in unlimited supply, low cost, abandonment of primitive customs and urbanisation of populations; these factors have in turn contributed in no small measure to the increasing consumption of milled cereals during the last hundred years. The last Nutrition Conference held at Delhi has realised the necessity for detailed investigations regarding relative costs of milled and home-pounded rice and the reasons for the gradual replacement of the latter by highly polished rice.

SUPERIOR VALUE OF UNPOLISHED RICE

In considering the nutritive value of rice, the feature of outstanding importance is the high concentration of essential constituents found both in the outer coat and in the germ or embryo. The outer envelope or bran and the germ portion together constitute nearly one-sixth of the whole grain, the remainder being the endosperm. This is a circumstance of considerable practical importance inasmuch as it is just these portions which are removed in the process of milling. In the production of polished rice, therefore, more than half the mineral matter of the grain and a fourth of the protein constituents are lost while the fats and the vitamins are almost entirely removed. Is any more argument needed in favour of the use of whole unpolished rice?

Shelled unpolished rice does not, however, keep for long periods, becoming

rapidly rancid and getting readily attacked by insects. This difficulty can be overcome by shelling the required quantity from time to time in small wooden hand-hullers or in hand or power-driven hullers which are also available. Hulled rice can also be kept unspoilt for prolonged periods by suitable methods of storage.

DIGESTIBILITY OF UNPOLISHED RICE

On account of the thick bran layers, unpolished rice is rather slow to cook, but this defect is more than compensated by the bigger return of shelled rice. The present system of milling yields only half to two-thirds by volume of head rice whereas if only hulling is resorted to, the yield may be over three-fourths. In this manner, the consumer will stand to gain not only in the quality but also in the quantity of available food material.

There is a general impression that unpolished rice is very difficult to digest. There is no doubt that some of the bran constituents exercise an inhibitory action on the digestive ferments, but the difference in digestibility between unpolished and polished specimens is so small as to be insignificant in practice. Unpolished rice is richer than polished rice and must therefore be taken in smaller quantities.

ILL EFFECTS OF UNSTORED 'NEW' RICE

It has been largely borne out by experience that freshly harvested rice cooks to a pasty condition and produces certain digestive disorders. The most important change attendant on storage is the increased capacity for swelling on cooking. The cooked grains also remain detached from each other. The properly swollen grains are better penetrated by the digestive secretions than those which are not. They also present a larger reactive surface so that the digestion proceeds very rapidly. Furthermore, stored rice after cooking has more filling power because of its greater volume and thus gives a sense of satisfaction more readily than that from unstored rice. The latter is generally consumed in larger quantities so as to obtain the necessary satisfaction and being also slow to hydrolyse, causes digestive disorders.

COARSE vs. FINE RICE

In spite of the bewildering number of rice varieties, it is rather remarkable that the average values for the different constituents such as proteins, fats, carbohydrates and mineral matter in rice fall within a close range. However, it has been observed by the writer that the coloured and coarser rices contain larger amounts of protein and mineral matter, particularly phosphorus and iron.

From results of extensive feeding experiments with animals, it has been shown by the author that the growth-promoting qualities of different varieties of rice are essentially related to their protein and mineral contents. There is no doubt that other things being equal, the variety of rice which contains larger amounts of albuminoids and minerals such as phosphorus, calcium and iron is more valuable. It is therefore highly desirable to educate the public in regard to the superior nutritive value of unpolished and coloured rices. The present popular favour for white polished rice is comparable with that of white bread a few decades ago. By suitable health propaganda, it should be possible to change the outlook of the people and in fact, even create a fashion for unpolished and coarse rices as we now have for the various brand of brown bread.

RICE BRAN AS AN ARTICLE OF FOOD

Rice bran is the most nutritious part of the rice grain since it contains fats, proteins and vitamins. The fats in rice bran are about the same as those in peanuts and are considered quite nutritious. The proteins are very similar to meat proteins. Rice bran contains vitamin B₁ which prevents beri-beri, and vitamin A which prevents eye afflictions and general ill-health. It has also the anti-sterility vitamin E. It has other excellent food constituents with a high calorific value.

At present, rice bran is very cheap and is used for feeding cattle and poultry. Millers often dilute the bran with rice hulls in order to dispose of the hulls with profit. Bran admixed with hulls is not suitable for use as an edible product because the

latter has an irritating effect when taken internally.

Bran flours are considered quite nutritious and are very popular in the United States and elsewhere. This would naturally suggest the use of rice polishings for human consumption, especially since it is very much cheaper than the flour. The reason the rice bran has not become a popular human food is that it contains a quantity of vegetable fatty oil. When rice bran is stored, the oil becomes rancid and the bran acquires a disagreeable taste. The most convenient method for preserving rice polish is to heat it when fresh at a temperature of about 100° for a few hours and then keep in moisture-proof packages. Heating removes some moisture, stops the destructive action of the enzymes, destroys any mold spores, insects or insect eggs which may be contained in the bran but does not affect the vitamins. Bran treated in this manner is slightly darker in colour than the fresh, raw bran, but it has a pleasanter odour and flavour.

The natural flavour of rice bran may be considerably toned down by diluting with wheat flour. A mixture consisting of three parts of wheat flour and one part of rice bran makes a good combination for bakery products such as bread, cakes and biscuits. Indeed large quantities of bran are exported from India for this purpose. Rice bran does not contain gluten and so when used alone, it does not make bread that will rise. The addition of wheat flour not only weakens the flavour of the bran but also supplies the gluten necessary for making bread.

Commercial rice bran may contain some fragments of rice kernels and rice hulls. If the bran is to be used for making bakery products or other foods, it is necessary to sieve and remove the hard and coarse particles.

For the poorer classes who live on a diet composed principally of polished rice and is more or less deficient in fats, proteins and vitamins, the use of rice bran as a food would serve to supply, to a considerable extent, the present dietary deficiency and thus improve their general health and well-being.

INDIAN CONSTITUTIONAL PROBLEMS

BY "ARISTIDES."

INDIAN constitutional questions continue to receive the attention of students and scholars. Although the present system of Government as such has not had a longer ancestry than the advent of the British in India, many of the administrative institutions originated far earlier in the Hindu and Moghul periods. Mr. Ruthnaswami is one of the most erudite of Indian scholars; with marvellous industry he has collected the details of the Indian administrative system in the book under notice, details many of which are being presented to the public for the first time from out of the musty records of the East India Company or the publications of long forgotten authors. As a collection of useful and interesting facts upon an obscure branch of study, this book* will occupy a high place. Mr. Ruthnaswami demonstrates how the particular needs of the situation helped to evolve the complex administrative system and the broad policies of British Rule in India. In tracing this evolution, he has tried with commendable success to avoid controversial issues as far as it is possible under the circumstances, and this adds to the usefulness of the book to the student.

A somewhat more general survey of the constitutional as apart from administrative aspects of the development of institutions in India under the British has been attempted by Mr. Punniat† whose earlier work in this field has met with very good reception among the discerning public. Mr. Punniat wields a simple and forceful style. Even when he deals with current controversial questions which have a bearing on the constitutional progress of India, he scrupulously avoids asperity although he leaves the reader in no doubt as to the sympathies which move him. His exposition of the main principles of the new Indian federal constitution is lucid and if it is also a little

critical it is to be remembered that no Indian writer of note has yet appeared who has ventured to support the scheme of the Government of India Act of 1935 on its merits. He has marshalled the chief objections to the scheme of that Act unobtrusively but with effect; and in particular we would commend his views on the problem of the Indian States as members of the Federation.

Dr. Ambedkar approaches the subject from a somewhat different angle. He is frankly a critic and makes no effort to disguise the fact that he is out to expose the mischief, the shallowness and the total unworkability of the new system of government. Dr. Ambedkar has made his points with force and it is difficult to meet him either on the political or on the theoretic side of his vigorous argument. Equally severe is he against the trends of Gandhism which, he asserts, constitute the Dark Age of this fair country. An intellectual and a practical politician, Dr. Ambedkar cannot tolerate the methods of Gandhiji which convey no meaning or purpose to him beyond the spiritual and subjective exaltation of the great man who conducts his personal experiments in the laboratory of the nation. Dr. Ambedkar has many sympathisers in this attitude towards the ruling political idea of the moment in India, but the opposition to this school is yet unorganised and ill-directed. In any case, it seems unlikely that the opposition will have any effect so long as the forceful personality of Gandhiji dominates the Indian scene. The position of men like Dr. Ambedkar, who are profoundly disgusted with the new Act and at the same time deeply disturbed by Gandhism, is a little difficult in public life in India to-day. But nevertheless it must be admitted that Dr. Ambedkar and those of his way of thinking are no less sincere patriots of India than any member of the Gandhist school of thought, and it is only necessary to remember that complete identity of views on all major questions is not always a healthy sign of political life. In this book, Dr. Ambedkar has presented the view-point of those who are discontented equally with Gandhiji and British Imperialism.

* SOME INFLUENCES THAT MADE THE BRITISH ADMINISTRATIVE SYSTEM IN INDIA. By M. Ruthnaswami. Luzac & Company, London. Rs. 10.

† THE CONSTITUTIONAL HISTORY OF INDIA. By K. V. Punniat. The Indian Press Ltd., Allahabad. Rs. 6.

FEDERATION VERSUS FREEDOM. By B. R. Ambedkar. R. K. Tatnais, Bombay 2. Re. 1.

MAHATMA GANDHI*

BY MRS. SAROJINI NAIDU

I have been asked to say something about Mahatma Gandhi. Of all the subjects in the world the most difficult for me to speak about is Mahatma Gandhi. You might as well ask me to separate a bit of myself from my own

Gandhi has been so closely and so deeply a part of my life as of the lives of many thousands of men and women in India.

But I don't propose to-day to speak about the great statesman, the politician, Gandhi the public man, Gandhi the world figure, Gandhi who is a legend, Gandhi who is a miracle, Gandhi who is a menace, Gandhi who is a saint, Gandhi who is a sinner—all according to the interpretation people put upon him. I propose to speak of him as the thoughts come to me—of the little Mahatma, the man that I love. To millions and millions of people all over the world, he stands as the one supreme figure of India, as the one modern embodied symbol of the Indian genius, the Indian dream and the Indian achievement. To many who are never likely to see his face, he stands as a mystery and the stories that have gathered around his name are fantastic, whether built up in immeasurable reverence or in mockery or in misunderstanding or in malice, the stories that gather around him, I say, are fantastic and beyond one's power to count. He marks an epoch, he names a country.

WHO IS THIS MAN?

You see advertisements, very tempting advertisements of world travel set out for tourists; they talk of the Pyramids of Egypt, they talk of the Ruins of Greece, they talk of the wonderful landscapes all over the world, but they say, 'come to Gandhi's country', they talk of Gandhi's epoch, they talk of the Gandhi cap, they talk of Gandhi's followers. Gandhi gives a name to all kinds of things legitimate and otherwise.

Who is this Gandhi? What is he? Why should he stand before the world as a power, as a symbol, as a miracle, as a menace. This tiny fragment of a man, so fragile, toothless, all his weary limbs crooked and bent with pain, this little Gandhi who lives on almost nothing, who owns nothing; some people think he knows nothing but there I differ from them. What is he? The heel of an

being, you might as well ask me to separate the blood from my veins or the heart-beat from my heart. I do not mean it in any romantic sense but I mean very literally, in a very profound and intimate sense, because Mahatma

* A broadcast talk on Mr. Gandhiji's birthday—2nd October.



impetuous child might well crush his bones unto dust; a blow from an angry enemy might lay him out in death and yet this tiny creature whom I once in a mood of loving irreverence called a "Mickey Mouse of a man"; he literally sways the destiny of millions of people in this country and acts as a source of inspiration to myriads of people beyond the geographical boundaries of his own land.

WHAT IS THE SECRET?

I have known other men myself with a wider and deeper learning—men of wealth might mock at his beggary, men of beauty at his physical ugliness, men of strength at his physical weakness. What is there in Gandhi that raises him above Kings and Emperors and gets for him the spontaneous homage of myriads of people who are never even likely to hear a sound of his voice? Very simple secret—the secret of love. He is human in every fibre of his life. What Browning said: 'The red ripe of his human art,' I am quoting wrongly: 'The human at the red ripe of his art,' because I am moved.

He is simple as a child and he fulfils that old and lovely saying that echoed through the world many centuries ago: "Suffer little children to come unto me, for their's is the Kingdom of Heaven," and he suffered little children to come unto him because he himself is the supreme child. He is like a poem by Blake so simple that a little child says: 'I understand it,' so profound that all the mystics of the world ponder over these words and say: 'Here lies depth, the meaning and mystery.'

He talks of poverty, and all the phrases we have used through the centuries become mere academic things. To him the poverty of his people or the poverty of the world is a matter for personal atonement.

We talk glibly of ameliorating the sorrows of the world, to him the sorrows of the world are his sorrows and for the amelioration of those sorrows he gives not money, he does not give rounded phrases, he gives himself, his love and the daily renewed sacrifice of love for their succour and for their solace.

25 YEARS AGO

He came back fresh from his triumph from South Africa long ago—twenty-five years ago. He came to London and, of course, I along with my other Indian friends wanted to meet Gandhi—Gandhi that had conquered General Smuts who now keeps a pair of shoes which Gandhi made when a prisoner in the South African jail as a treasure in his drawing-room. Well, we went to see him, I went to see him. I said: 'I cannot wait for the public reception. I must go.'

What did I find? A little thing, a shaved head sitting on the floor on the prison blankets and eating the most foul-looking food out of a prison bowl just tomatoes meshed up in olive oil—and he had a robe doubtfully clean—I must say with plantain biscuits and monkey-nuts.

My first greeting to him was: 'Are you Mr. Gandhi—he was not Mahatma then. He said: 'Yes, come and share my meal.' I said: 'Oh no, it does not look tempting enough.'

That was my first human contact with this great man twenty-five years ago in August, almost exactly twenty-five years ago, and since then I have been his follower, not in the mere technical, conventional sense of the word because our temperaments are poles asunder, our approach to life poles assunder but because being a poet seeking beauty everywhere, I found this tiny little man so different in his approach to life to mine, the real living symbol of all that humanity should stand for in its attitude towards humanity.

EMBODIMENT OF LOVE

I found in him the love that knows how to transmute, as Gokhale said, common clay and make them heroes. His was the love that would touch the leper's wounds and heal them, his was the love that did not shrink from the sinner any more than it overvalued the virtue, the narrow virtues of a saint. He had no separate measure to measure the wealth of the rich and the poverty of the poor, he had no separate definition of what divides race or sect from sect, or man from woman. He gave equally to all the great message of love that realises itself

and realises freedom for the world to serve and it is this love that makes him the lord of all hearts.

Even as Chaitanya in far off Bengal spread his arms wide and said: 'All come to me, you who suffer and be healed by my love, you who have mortal bones of disease, let me touch them and make them whole, you who have fallen by the way take my hands and rise up again, you little blind children, let me touch your eyes and give you the vision of the spirit if not physical vision, you women who have sat in prison for centuries believing that you are meant to be slaves to break open your prison doors, rise to the heights of your womanhood and recreate the world into image of beauty and freedom.'

This was his message—not confined to his own country, not confined to any section of the world. He said there shall be no more slavery and he did not mean only an emancipation from political bonds; he said: 'Know your prisons are within yourself, your ignorance, your superstition, your fear, your falsehood, your sense of isolation from others, your sense of being different and separate from your brothers;' break those prisons first and then speak for the rest of humanity.

And if he who stands on great spiritual heights comes down at the valley as he tries to suffer, it is because he realises that the true standard of humanity is not the man upon the peak but the lean and the weakest, the most exploited and the most sad and the most hungry of humanity. And he said: 'When that man who is sad, weak and hungry ceases to be exploited, rises to the height of his humanity, of his manhood or her womanhood, then and only then can the world be free.'

HIS MESSAGE

And his message to India is only this: 'We want freedom for you not because you are in India, we want freedom for your children not because they are India's children but because they are human and because no section of humanity dare to stand in the way of the freedom

and liberty of any other section of humanity.'

He brings to us love, so much humour, so much courtesy, so much kindness, so much understanding and no problem is too small for him, no problem too great. In the midst of his discussions on the most vital and urgent issues of the world, he has still time to listen to a small child's complaint that it has lost its toy or that his shoe-strap is broken.

Some people have said why should a great man waste his time about little things. Are not the problems of the world awaiting urgent, requiring his wisdom, requiring solutions from his great experience, from his fore-vision, from his prophetic knowledge? The answer is 'No'. A little child shall be set in your midst and it will lead you if you have the heart of a little child. And he who now has passed his three score and ten years, this little shadowy creature who must, because he is mortal, soon pass into a region of other shadows; he will pass from us no doubt. But the message that he has embodied with his life, the symbol for which he has stood radiant and incorruptible cannot perish.

THE LEGACY

That is the legacy he will leave to the Nation, that is the flame with which he will kindle the hearts of myriads of men, and every Indian who is fit and worthy to be a spiritual descendant of this little Mahatma must realise that his has been not merely a privilege to have been his contemporary but a terrible burden, the burden of responsibility is put upon us to see that his message of love and service reaches the uttermost corners of the world and if possible within our own time and through our own service and through the inspiration of our own action, there shall not be one little corner of the world where a single child says: 'I am hungry,' where a single woman says: 'I am naked', where a single man says: 'I am a slave.'

Let us accept the message of his love and let us give back to the world that treasure that he has given to us, bequeathed to us in his lifetime and of which we shall be the stewards when he is gone,

A Bird's-Eye View of Indian Philosophy

By Mr. P. NAGARAJA RAO, M.A.

THE most distinctive contribution of India to the world of thought is its profound philosophy. Indian philosophy covers a very wide ground—the theistic as well the atheistic schools of thought. India has produced besides its national religion Hinduism the world religion Buddhism. Indian philosophical thought developed unaffected by outside influence for over a period of thirty centuries.

Professor D. M. Datta and Dr. Chatterjee's book on "Indian Philosophy" is an excellent account of all the systems of Indian philosophy. It is more than a mere account of some of the salient features of each system. Every system of thought is discussed under different heads and the theory of knowledge section of each system is a distinct mark of this book. The comparison with Western thought in many places is very helpful.

The characteristic feature of Indian philosophy on the theoretical side is the study of the method of knowledge. The Nyaya system together with the analysis of Vaisesika system bears ample evidence of the rich logic characteristic of Indian philosophy. The ultimate value for man is to know his Real-self as distinguished from the not-Self. Owing to a fundamental ignorance there is the wrong identification of the not-Self with the self. This delusion can be destroyed only by Jnana which is not mere intellectual knowledge. In some form or other all the systems aim at this.

Dr. Datta's chapters on the Buddhism, Jainism and Advaita are readable and well done. In connection with the Mimamsa theory of knowledge, our learned author points out that the Bhattacharya theory of error (viparita khyati) which is defined as "*akaryasya Karyataya Bhanam*" as the reversal of right behaviour (p. 372). But I submit that the traditional view, on the strength of the word 'bhanam' indicates that it is not a reversal of behaviour but a reversal of cognition. On the Prabhakara view alone the reaction

is from the point of behaviour and not cognition. The individual fails to discriminate the recollection from perception. On the Bhattacharya view it is the reversal of the cognition and not behaviour.

Professor Datta has failed to state the Kumarila point of view in his discussion of the Mimamsa conception of duty. Duty for duty's sake is laid down as the Mimamsa position is after the Kantian model. This position is only taken up by Prabhakara and not by Kumarila. Kumarila points out that *vidhi*, i.e., injunction derives its potency by *Ista sadhanata*, the securing of the good, i.e., the desired. This position is not utilitarian. The Mimamsa position is not exhausted by the Prabhakara view alone.

The book under review deserves to be prescribed as a text-book for the general study of Indian philosophy in the Honours Classes.

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* AN INTRODUCTION TO INDIAN PHILOSOPHY. By Dr. Chatterji and Dr. Datta. Rs. 5. Calcutta University.

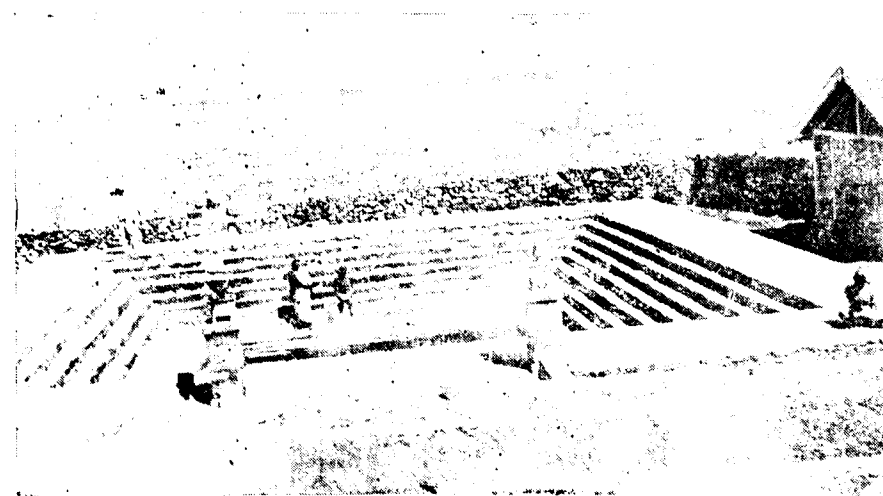
Oct. '39.

PINDARA: THE PIND FLOATING TIRTH

By Mr. G. J. JOSHI

CONSIDERABLE attention of the people is now-a-days directed to the announcements notifying the organisation of special pilgrim trains incorporating visits to various pilgrim centres. But when one hears about the tangible religious proof shown at a certain place in these days of conviction, the desire to visit the place is doubly intensified. Such a solid proof is visible at Pindara when a Pind, a lump composed of cooked rice which must, according to its natural ingredients, go down to the bottom of the water when put into it, is seen floating on the surface of the Kund. This is a miracle and is a potent cause why people far and near flock there in large numbers all the year round.

some solid proof which he could see with his eyes. He revealed his doubt to Sri Krishna who thought the question a hard nut to crack. He, therefore, intended to go to Pindara to refer it to Durvasa Muni whom, he thought, to be the proper judge for the solution of such a complex problem. The five Pandavas headed by Sri Krishna went to the hermitage of Durvasa at Pindara which was the glorious abode and place of penance of the Muni, who was noted for his fiery disposition. He cursed any one who dared to incur his odium. They told him the object of their mission. Durvasa Muni meditated on the matter and opined that they should perform the Shraddha of the Kauravas



THE HOLY KUND, PINDARA.

According to the Holy Puranas, the visit to Dwarka is not complete without a visit to Pindara some twenty miles from Dwarka. Legend has it that at the end of the historic battle of Mahabharata between the Pandavas and Kauravas, Sri Krishna, the comrade-in-arms of the Pandavas and Arjuna, started on a peregrination to all the prominent holy Kshetras for performing Shraddha ceremony for the liberation of the souls of the Kauravas who met with their untimely end in the Great Battle. Despite visiting many places in this way, Arjuna was not satisfied with the mere mention that his brethren were liberated. He wanted

at Pindara, which was the appropriate place and would afford the visible proof as desired by Arjuna. Under the direction and supervision of Durvasa, Arjuna undertook the performance of the Shraddha ceremony of the Kauravas, strictly according to the dictates of the Shastras. When the time came for offering Pinda, Arjuna told Durvasa Muni that since his brethren were valiant warriors, he intended to offer an iron Pinda signifying strength of arms. Arjuna was anxious to see the Pinda floated with Chandan and Tulsi floating on the water, thus affording him proof of the salvation of his brethren. A large iron Pinda (an oblong ball)

was thereon prepared and placed in a utensil. When Arjuna endeavoured to lift the utensil he found himself unable to do so. Sri Krishna then commanded Bhimasena to take up the Pinda and put it into the water. This weight was nothing to Bhimasena, who was the stoutest of the five Pandavas and was distinguished for his strength. He took up the utensil easily and in the twinkling of an eye threw the Pinda into the water with such a force that it created a great roaring sound like that of a thunderbolt. To the surprise of all the on-lookers, the Pinda came to the surface of the water with Chandan and Tulsi on the top and floated like a piece of wood. All became overjoyed and the mind of Arjuna was appeased on seeing the proof. Sri Krishna was mightily pleased with Durvasa Muni for the solution of their doubt and asked him to select a boon. Durvasa Muni requested Sri Krishna that even in the horrible Kaliyuga, Pindas of rice offered by any man after undergoing the Shraddha ceremony at that place should float on the surface of the water in the celebrated holy Kund as a proof for the liberation of the soul of their ancestors. Sri Krishna granted the request. Since those days the place is regarded as a holy Tirtha.

There is another illustration testifying to the religious significance of the place which is given below.

There lived in days of yore in Benares a learned and religious Brahmin named Meghavi. His devoted consort was equally pious and performed Uma Vrit. But in the course of her Vrit, she enjoyed the company of her husband. Goddess Uma was enraged at her failing and cursed her in a dream that she would take her next birth among animals with the knowledge of her previous life and would incur the sin of killing a Brahmin. When she got up, she narrated the dream to her husband, who advised her to perform Girija Vrit on the full moon night to get rid of the curse. As a result of the Vrit, Goddess Girija was appeased at long last and said that her curse could not be revoked, but since she repented for her action and pleased her by practising Girija Vrit, she would show her the way to mitigate the influence of the

curse. Goddess Girija advised her to worship God Shiva with full enthusiasm and that he would help her in calamitous times.

Many years rolled by and she was born among the cows of king Vijaya in the Vindhya-chala Hills. The king was very devout and God-fearing and daily gave away a hundred cows in charity. Upon a time a learned Brahmin approached the king and demanded in charity a particular cow who was the animal for Meghavi's wife. The king decorated the cow with ornaments and clothes and gave it with the calf to the Brahmin. The Brahmin was pleased and having blessed the king departed with the cow and calf. On the way the cow became obstinate and did not go further. The Brahmin became very angry and began to belabour her with a stick. But all was no purpose. He then parted with the calf and began to go on. Being separated from the calf, the cow attacked him with the result that he sustained serious injuries to which he succumbed. The cow thus incurred the sin of killing a Brahmin and turned black according to the curse of her previous life. When she became aware of her mistake, she lamented and wandered from one holy place to another to purify herself of the sin. She at last having the knowledge of her previous birth, went to God Shiva for removal of the sin. God Shiva having been pleased with the devotion in her previous life, advised her to proceed to Pindara on the western coast and to take a dip in the Pind Tarak Kund. In pursuance of the sacred injunction, she went to the place suggested by God Shiva and bathed there with piety. She at once got back her original white form and got rid of the sin and at the end of the animal life regained the human form.

This is the Puranic history of Pindara which seems to have been neglected. The remnants of Rishi Durvasa's Ashram, which may interest the students of archaeology and one of the twenty-six Bethaks of the Vaishnavites close by put in by the founder of the faith, are among the many attractions of this great religious and historical place.

INDIAN AFFAIRS

By "AN INDIAN JOURNALIST"

The Viceroy's Statement and Its Reaction

THE Congress has declared that the Viceregal statement is unsatisfactory and unfortunate and called on the Ministries in the Congress Provinces to resign: the Liberal Federation has declared that it cannot but be deemed unsatisfactory; the Muslim League, while feeling happy that its political status has been recognised by the Government, is still undecided as regards its future course of action. It is significant to note that the proposed Consultative Committee is condemned by the Congress, disapproved by the Liberal Federation, and the Muslim League is still hesitant to accept it. To those who find fault with the Congress that at this juncture the British Government is being asked to make an unequivocal declaration of its intention regarding India's future, we would recall that in 1911, five months after the beginning of the Great War, the 29th Session of the Congress, which met at Madras, passed a resolution urging the British Government

to take such measures as may be necessary for the recognition of India as a component part of a Federated Empire in the full and free enjoyment of the rights belonging to that status.

A year later, when strife was more grim, the Congress at Bombay under the presidency of Sir S. P. Sinha reiterated that in the reconstruction of the Empire, India shall be lifted from the position of dependency to that of an equal partner in the Empire with the Self-Governing Dominions.

During the same period there was the famous Home Rule agitation under the leadership of Dr. Besant.

As a result of all this, we had the famous declaration of Mr. Montagu in August 1917. If, therefore, Britain really means it, why not remove all suspicions and doubt, declare even now that, at the end of the war, India will be placed in a position of equality with the other units of the British Commonwealth, following up such a declaration with a reconstruction of the Central Government by the infusion of the popular element? It is unfortunate that Britain should attempt to take shelter under the cover of minorities whenever the question of India's political advance is urged.

The Congress Governments

Congress Ministries in all the eight Congress Provinces have been instructed to tender their resignation. It is pitiful to think that this should be the end of over a month's hectic efforts to find a solution to the impasse created by Congress demand for clarification of Britain's aims in regard to India, and the vague Viceregal statement after prolonged interviews with diverse persons representing various "communities, parties and interests, besides the princes". Incidentally the importance given to the so-called differences has only tended to increase the tension. The Government, instead of meeting the Congress with a generous gesture which would have inspired the whole country have chosen to throw cold water on their generous enthusiasm and shown a lamentable lack of imagination and statesmanship at this critical hour. It is regrettable though evidently inevitable that the Congress Ministries should now choose to give up the good work which by all accounts they have been doing in all the eight provinces during the 27 months since July 1937 when they took office after a dead-lock. We had hoped that the present impasse will also be resolved in the same spirit of mutual trust and courage as the dead-lock of July 1937 was resolved by sagacious statesmanship. The issue is straight and clear. Congress only wants a declaration that at the end of the war the exalted aims for which England professes to fight in Europe shall be applicable to India as well. What good is it to be told at this time of the day that our aspirations are implicit in the Declaration of 1917 and that we should be content with the unwanted Government of India Act of 1935? Long-winded annotations of past pronouncements can be no substitute for a definite assurance of India's status in the Empire.

The studied moderation of the Working Committee's resolution lends hope to the view that the last word has not been said. The Working Committee has wisely warned all Congressmen against any hasty action in the shape of civil disobedience, political strike, and the like.

The Commons' Debate on India

The Viceroy's statement and the reactions following it were the subject of an impressive debate in the House of Commons in which two ex-Secretaries of State for India took a leading part. Col. Wedgwood Benn, former Secretary for India in the Labour Government, who initiated the debate, criticising the Declaration as a rather "clumsy document", made two pertinent observations:

If you are asking India to make sacrifices which she is being asked to make, surely she is entitled to be assured that the cause for which this country is fighting is also her cause.

It must be remembered that we stand at the bar of world opinion. It is up to us to prove before the world that we are sincere in the profession we make.

Sir Samuel Hoare, speaking on behalf of the Government, reiterated the pledge of Dominion Status.

There are no two kinds of Dominion Status as some people seem to think. The Dominion Status that we contemplated was Dominion Status which has been described by Mr. Wedgwood Benn—the Dominion Status of 1926.

On the subject of the proposed consultative committee, Sir Samuel said:

I believe that the great possibilities of consultation of this kind have not been sufficiently appreciated. If they are fully used—and I give an undertaking that the Viceroy is anxious to make the fullest use of them—they may well prove to be the bridge that is needed to carry Indians over the great gulf of communal bitterness that at present stands chiefly in the way of constitutional advance.

He went on to say, however, that the Congress had acted in undue haste in rejecting the Viceroy's statement and added that if it came to non-co-operation the King-Emperor's Government would be carried on with efficiency, strength, and justice. The Viceroy would be given full support in tackling non-co-operation.

The speech was otherwise conciliatory in tone, though Sir Samuel made much of the difficulties inherent in the many divisions between communities.

We have long ago set aside imperialistic ambitions. We believe that our mission in the world is not to govern other people but to help other people to govern themselves. It is in this spirit that we intend to administer the Act, and during the war to do our utmost to remove the divisions which stand in the way of its full achievement. And when the war ends victoriously as a result

of the Empire's united efforts, we mean to proceed at once to deal with the constitutional difficulties that have emerged in the experience of recent years. Non-co-operation alone will stop this swift and steady progress.

Mahatma Gandhi, while welcoming the admission that Britain has shed her imperialistic ambitions, felt constrained to remark that

this profession sounds unreal when the protection of minorities is pleaded against declaration required by the Congress.

I venture to suggest that if Sir Samuel Hoare's speech is the last word on behalf of the British Government, British political morality will be found wanting.

Behind all the conciliatory words of Sir S. Hoare, said Babu Rajendra Prasad, the Congress President, he could see a clear intention not to give full responsible government to India even at the end of the war.

Meanwhile, the Congress Ministry in Madras has submitted its resignation and other Congress Governments will follow suit.

But the situation is not without hope. For neither the Congress nor the Government have closed the door against further consultations. Gandhiji said that the Working Committee resolution is by no means irrevocable. Nor has Britain banged the door, judging from the considerate pronouncements of Sir Samuel Hoare and the Under-Secretary for India.

I wish to close no door. I wish to explore every possibility within the ambit of the Government of India Act,

said Sir Samuel in reply to Mr. Wedgwood Benn's question whether it would be possible

to introduce into the Viceroy's Council political leaders who would hold portfolios in certain of the great departments.

Sir Samuel's remarks

that the Viceroy had not tied himself to the exact methods of 'consultation', that he would invite leaders to discuss the method and the details thereof and that "until these and other discussions take place, I claim that it would be a blunder of the first magnitude to take up an irrevocable position"

suggest the hope that personal discussion may yet avert the crisis. This is the most hopeful part of the situation and we yet trust that

The clouds ye so much dread
Are big with mercy and shall break
In blessings on your head.

"There is no adamant finality about the White Paper," said the Under-Secretary of State for India.

It might be that before the end of the war a constitutional discussion of some kind would, in fact, take place.

It may be as Mr. Gandhi himself has admitted that a time of war is not precisely the time for framing the actual constitution. But surely there could be no difficulty in acceding to the simple request that Britain (in the words of the Prime Minister of Madras)

should be willing to concede at the end of the war whatever constitution the people of India have agreed to, not only as a majority agreement, but with the seal and approval of all important minorities.

The request is simple and modest enough and is certainly capable of settlement without unnecessary delay. It would be a tragedy if anything is done to alienate India's willing and hearty co-operation in the great task in which Britain and the Empire are now engaged.

Gandhiji's 71st Birthday

October 2, Mahatma Gandhi's 71st birthday was the occasion for extensive celebrations all over India and in many important centres abroad. It is not without significance that even amidst the tragedy of a great war, the prophet of non-violence is still heard with respect. "We may be quite sure," observes the *Manchester Guardian*, "that whatever may be the condition of mankind and its affairs, Mr. Gandhi will proclaim this faith to the end. Our modern age has produced no comparable character or career."

The occasion was happily availed of to present him with a volume of appreciations from distinguished contemporaries at home and abroad, edited by Sir S. Radhakrishnan. This notable production is reviewed in another page, but we must draw attention to the singularly felicitous observations of General Smuts, now the Prime Minister of South Africa, who had felt the full force of Gandhi's technique of political action. The gallant General speaks of the Mahatma's "distinctive contribution to political method" as "deserving the attention of political thinkers" all over the world.

Congress and Provincial Legislatures

It would appear that Congress Prime Ministers who recently met in Wardha decided to put through their respective Legislatures a resolution disapproving the Viceregal declaration. The text of the resolution as presented by the Prime Minister of Madras runs as follows:—

This Assembly regrets that the British Government have made India a participant in the war between Great Britain and Germany without the consent of the people of India and have further in complete disregard of Indian opinion passed laws and adopted measures curtailing the powers and activities of Provincial Governments. This Assembly recommends to Government to convey to the Government of India and through them to the British Government that in consonance with the avowed aims of the present war, it is essential in order to secure the co-operation of the Indian people that principles of democracy should be applied to India and her policy should be guided by her people; and that India should be regarded as an independent nation entitled to frame her own constitution, and further that suitable action should be taken in so far as it is possible in the immediate present to give effect to the principle in regard to the present governance of India.

This Assembly regrets that the situation in India has not been rightly understood by His Majesty's Government when authorising the statement that has been made on their behalf in regard to India.

A similar resolution has been adopted by the Bombay Legislative Assembly. Resolutions almost identical in wording are tabled for other Congress Legislatures and will no doubt be adopted. The Congress has done well to obtain the approval of these constitutional organs of public opinion.

There can be no doubt that the considered verdict of the duly elected legislatures will have due weight with the British Government. The unanimous verdict of eight Provincial Legislatures is decidedly an impressive demonstration of the strength behind the Congress demand and can hardly be disregarded as of no weight by those in authority.

FOREIGN AFFAIRS

By "CHRONICLER"

Hitler's Peace Proposals

HERR HITLER uttered what he called his "Last Word" to the Allies in an 83-minute address to the Reichstag on October 5. He added that if his demands were not considered, Germany would have to fight. Enumerating the German Government's claims, Herr Hitler placed them under five heads as follows:—

(1) Adequate settlement of German frontiers in accordance with ethnological and social conditions; (2) the various races throughout the German sovereign territory throughout south-eastern Europe are to be put in order; (3) an attempt for the settlement of the Jewish question; (4) rebuilding of commercial relations with all countries; and (5) building up of a Polish State whose neutrality will be guaranteed by Germany and Russia.

"Poland," said the Feuhrer,

of the Versailles will never rise again; the final question of a Polish State will be solved by Russia and Germany.

Those two Powers had mutually agreed to respect each other. Germany and Russia would, however, retain their individuality and principles. Herr Hitler, in conclusion, suggested that to attain the end of Continental peace, the great nations should meet at a conference.

Should Mr. Churchill refuse this, then this, my declaration, will be the last. Mr. Churchill may be convinced that Britain will be victorious. I have no doubt that Germany will be victorious.

The speech made little impression in England. Summing up the Government's attitude, Mr. Chamberlain said in the House of Commons on October 12:

Hitler had rejected all suggestions for peace until he had overwhelmed Poland as he had previously overthrown Czecho Slovakia. Peace conditions cannot be acceptable which begin by condoning an aggression.

After saying that Hitler's proposals were uncertain and contained no suggestion of righting the wrongs, Mr. Chamberlain declared:

Even if the proposals contained suggestions to right wrongs, it would still be necessary to ask by what practical means the German Government intend to convince the world that aggression will cease and that the pledge will be kept. . . . Acts—not words alone—must be forthcoming before we, the British peoples and France, our gallant and trusted ally, would be justified in ceasing to wage the war to the utmost of our strength.

The plain truth is that after our past experience, it is no longer possible to rely upon the unsupported word of the present German Government.

The Progress of the War

Hitler's so-called peace proposals having fallen flat, the war on the western front is steadily taking an acute turn. The Germans are reported to have massed enormous troops near the Luxemburg frontier with a view to a sudden push. While the allied troops have occupied a number of German villages bordering the Sigfried line, Germans have reoccupied one or two positions which the French troops are reported to have vacated strategically. The German gibe at Britain's "determination to fight to the last Frenchman" lost its point when it was revealed by Mr. Hore Belisha, the British War Minister, that two British Army Corps and most of the Royal Air Force were in position in France. Hitler's rejoinder, it is reported, is that he is prepared to sacrifice a million men in breaking through the Maginot line.

The high seas are clear of enemy vessels which are locked up in their harbours. Such is the power of the British navy that enemy overseas trade has practically ceased. But German submarines are still doing mischief with considerable professional skill and daring and the loss of the "Courageous" and the "Royal Oak" show that they cannot be altogether ignored. Under the new Convoy system, British shipping is practically safe though one must always be prepared for accidents from enemy torpedoes.

Enemy raids on the Scottish coast were unexpected, but air-craft guns are meeting the menace with resoluteness, while the people of the region are being taught to be alert to take advantage of the A. R. P. measures now maintained.

The Prime Minister has summed up the activities of the last few weeks on land, sea and air.

On the Western Front, the British expeditionary force has now finally taken over the allotted sector of the French line, and all divisions are in position. The understanding between the French and British Higher Command is complete. The fact that our expeditionary force is under the command of the French Commander-in-Chief and the unity of command thus achieved at so early a stage of the war is one proof of this accord. Another is to be found in the agreement whereby French troops are serving under the orders of the British Commander-in-Chief in France.

NOVEMBER 1939]

FOREIGN AFFAIRS

At sea, activity has been unremitting both in attack and defence.

In carrying out their task, the Navy during this week sustained severe losses both in officers and men and the House will desire to pay a tribute to the memory of all who have given their lives to the defence of their country whether on sea, land or in air. Heavy toll has been taken of U-boats since the war began. Failure of this form of attack to interfere with our trade may be judged when I inform the House that it is estimated that the losses sustained by British shipping, entering or leaving our ports during the week end of October 17, represents only about one half per cent. of the total number sailing.

Attacks by enemy air-craft on our fleet bases have begun. In air battles we have destroyed eight enemy air-craft without losing a single machine of our own. We believe that more German bombers may have failed to reach home. The total number of air-craft taking part in the raids did not exceed 30. The casualties which we inflicted upon the enemy thus certainly exceeded 5 per cent. of the attacking force and may have been higher.

The Ankara Agreement

The failure of the Soviet-Turkish talks as quickly followed by the welcome announcement of an agreement between Britain, Turkey and France signed at Ankara on October 19. This is a first-class diplomatic victory for the allies. Besides strengthening their own position, it ensures the security of Rumania and Greece and the Mediterranean area.

The treaty, which is practically in its final shape and has undergone only very slight unimportant modifications, provides:

Firstly, that British and French Governments undertake to assist Turkey (a) in the event of an act of aggression by any European Power; if any action by European Power shall lead to war in the Mediterranean area wherein Turkey should be involved.

Secondly, Turkey agrees to come to the support of Britain and France (a) in the event of any act of aggression by a European Power involving interests in Eastern Mediterranean; (b) if the United Kingdom and France are engaged in hostilities as a result of their guarantees to Rumania and Greece; and

Thirdly, the three Governments agree to consult in regard to common action in the event of conditions arising under the previous Articles.

The treaty is for a period of fifteen years. The protocol provides that Turkey shall not be compelled to take action under the treaty if such action would involve conflict with Soviet Russia.

Britain's War Aims

Britain's general attitude towards war is explained in one of Mr. Chamberlain's recent speeches. He declared on September 26 in the House of Commons:

No one can doubt that in modern warfare, it is on the determination, courage and endurance of ordinary men and women that victory ultimately depends. No one familiar with conditions in this country can have any doubt as to where we stand in these respects. Never have our people been more united and more determined. They have resolved and the simple fact cannot be too often stressed—to rid themselves once for all of the perpetual threat of German aggressions, of which Poland is only the latest instance. We and France have entered the war to rid ourselves and the world of that menace and our peoples are united as they never have been united before in their resolve to achieve that purpose.

On a subsequent occasion, Mr. Chamberlain said:

We are seeking no material advantage for ourselves. We are not aiming only at victory, but looking beyond it to laying a foundation of a better international system which will mean that war is not to be the inevitable lot of each succeeding generation. We, like all the peoples of Europe, long for peace but it must be a real and settled peace, not an uneasy truce interrupted by constant alarms and threats.

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Nov. '39.

DIARY OF THE MONTH

- Sept. 29. President Roosevelt, in a Press Conference in Washington, says that U. S. A. will remain neutral.
—Text of the Russo-German pact is published.
- Sept. 30. Count Ciano leaves for Berlin.
- Oct. 1. Dr. Besant's birthday is celebrated.
—Congress President exonerates C. P. Minister Pandit Misra.
- Oct. 2. Gandhiji's 71st birthday.
—America refuses to recognise German government of Poland.
- Oct. 3. Babu Rajendra Prasad and Pandit Nehru interview the Viceroy in Delhi.
- Oct. 4. Lord Halifax, speaking in the Lords, replies to the "peace offensive".
—Sardar Patel interviews the Viceroy.
- Oct. 5. Japan withdraws from the Anti-Comintern Pact.
—Mr. Jinnah interviews the Viceroy.
—Gandhiji interviews the Viceroy for the third time.
—Soviet-Latvian Pact is signed.
- Oct. 6. Addressing the Reichstag, Hitler demands peace on his own terms.
- Oct. 7. Artillery action between the Moselle and the Saar is reported.
—Franco-German air-battle over the Rhine.
- Oct. 8. The Steamer *Binendesik* of the Holland-America line is sunk.
- Oct. 9. A. I. C. C. at Wardha endorses Working Committee statement.
- Oct. 10. Sir M. Zafrullah Khan is appointed to the British and Dominion Ministers' Conference in London.
—Sir Abdul Quadir is appointed temporary member of the Viceroy's Council.
- Oct. 11. Mr. Hore Belisha says that 158,000 men have been sent to France in five weeks.
- Oct. 12. Finnish-Soviet talks in Moscow.
—Mr. Chamberlain replies to Herr Hitler in his statement in the Commons.
- Oct. 13. Jinnah-Prasad correspondence re: League's allegations against Congress government is released.
- Oct. 14. The 29,000 ton British battleship *Royal Oak* is sunk.
—Col. Lindberg in a broadcast speech advises America to keep away from the Western Hemisphere.
- Oct. 15. German aircraft attack on coastal objectives in Scotland.
—R. A. F. planes engage raiders.
- Oct. 16. Russia promises guarantee of Rumanian frontiers in return for Soviet influence in Balkans.
—Further enemy air raids in the region of the Firth of Forth.
- Oct. 17. H. E. the Viceroy makes a declaration of the British Government's attitude to India's status *vis-a-vis* the war.
- Oct. 18. Lord Zetland in the House of Lords defends the Viceroy's declaration.
—Gandhi and Congress leaders and others characterise it as disappointing.
- Oct. 19. Anglo-French-Turkish agreement is signed at Ankara.
- Oct. 20. Germany warns Neutral countries that any of their ships accepting Convoy by Great Britain and France will be treated as enemy craft.
—British labour supports Indian demand.
- Oct. 21. Finnish Government sends counter-proposals to Moscow.
—Italian trade agreement with Yugoslavia.
- Oct. 22. Congress Working Committee at Wardha passes a resolution calling on the Congress Ministries to resign.
—The Council of the Liberal Federation meeting at Bombay declares the Viceregal Statement as unsatisfactory.
- Oct. 23. Parliamentary Sub-Committee instructs Congress Governments to resign by 31st October—Speakers, Deputy Speakers and Presidents and Deputy Presidents to retain their offices.
- Oct. 24. A series of Government of India Orders are passed by the House of Lords.
- Oct. 25. Prime Minister of Bombay moves the Congress party resolution disapproving the Viceregal declaration.
—Soviet Economic Mission visits Berlin.
- Oct. 26. Madras Legislative Assembly passes by 153 votes against 22 the Premier's resolution on India and the War.
—Debate on India in the House of Commons.
- Oct. 27. Congress Ministry in Madras resigns.
—The U. S. A. Senate by 67 votes against 22 votes repeal Arms embargo.
- Oct. 28. H. E. Lord Erskine unveils the statue of H. H. the Maharaja of Travancore in Madras.
—Reforms are announced by the Rajkote Durbar.



The WORLD of BOOKS



MAHATMA GANDHI: Essays and Reflections on his life and work. Edited by Sir S. Radhakrishnan. George Allen and Unwin, Ltd., London. (Available of G. A. Natesan & Co., Madras. Rs. 5-10.)

It was an excellent idea of Sir S. Radhakrishnan to have asked all the leading savants and statesmen of the East and West to contribute to a volume of essays and reflections on the life and work of Mahatma Gandhi and present the same to him on his 70th birthday (October 2nd). As Sir Radhakrishnan rightly points out, Gandhi is the prophet of the liberated life, wielding power over millions of human beings by virtue of his exceptional holiness and heroism. His reputation is more universal than that of the greatest statesmen and leaders of nations and his personality more beloved and esteemed than any or all of them. He is the unquestioned leader of the millions of his countrymen. Difficult though to put into practice his doctrines, the admiration for the man and his teachings has not in the least abated. Professor Radhakrishnan himself in his brilliant introduction to the volume presents a very effective and live picture of the Mahatma and his services to the motherland. The Mahatma has kindled a torpid generation with the fire that burns in his soul with his passion for freedom. His outlook has nothing sectional or provincial about it. He rightly believed that the heritage of India can help the culture of the world.

The Mahatma feels strongly that if the British are earnest about their mission of justice, peace and order, it is not enough to put down the aggressive powers and preserve the *status quo*. Self-government for India is the acid test of British honesty.

The contributors to the volume are many and they are representative. Special mention may be made of the following:—C. F. Andrews, Albert Einstein, Prof. G. E. M. Joad, George Lansbury, Gilbert Murray, Romain Rolland, General Smuts, Viscount Samuel, Dr. Tagore, Lord Halifax.

Rabindranath Tagore, who has known the Mahatma intimately and has watched his career and activities in India with keen interest, pays a well-merited tribute to the personality of Mahatma Gandhi. "Ineffable, like music, like beauty. Its claim upon others was great because of its revelation of its spontaneous self-giving." The value of the volume is considerably enhanced by an appendix of fifty pages from the writings and speeches of the Mahatma on important topics.

THE SCIENCE OF THE SELF. By Bhagavan Das. Published by the Indian Book Shop, Benares City. Re. 1-8.

The book under review is an elaborate expansion of the author's article on "Atma Vidya" contributed to the "Contemporary Indian Philosophy" edited by Professor S. Radhakrishnan and Professor J. H. Muirhead. The arguments were too terse in the original article, and in the present book they are elaborately amplified and illustrated by profuse examples. The documentation is thorough and we find the traits of a perfect and comprehensive scholarship which are the chief marks of the writings of this great theosophist, Professor Bhagavan Das. Bhagavan Das with remarkable insight synthesises with the good and the best in the West with the spiritual experience of the Eastern seers. The Eastern seers are scholar seers and not inspired idiots. The great teaching of Vedanta and Yoga has fallen into discredit, says Bhagavan Das, because of the ways of the idlers and professional ascetics. The universal nature of the teaching of Vedanta and Yoga are not only good as spiritual diets but as firm guides to practical conduct. The conclusions of Vedanta and Yoga are in tune with the recent investigations of science. The author maintains and demonstrates that Indian spiritualism is far more than what is good for the other world only.

MOSES AND MONOTHEISM. By Sigmund Freud. The Hogarth Press and Institute of Psycho-Analysis, London. 8s. 6d. net.

Professor Sigmund Freud has in this volume given us the fruit of his researches into the history of Moses, together with a new and startling theory of the origin and rise of monotheistic religion. He is, as every one knows, no ordinary delver into the musty pages of the past but one who digs deep into the human soul to discover its secret workings, the whys and wherefores of the strange doings of men and the motives that, all unknown to the conscious mind, influence them and guide their steps. With this method of research, we find in these pages a totally new aspect of the ancient story of Moses, the Jewish child, who, according to the sacred histories of the Jews, was hidden from the danger of death in the rushes of the hill, rescued by an Egyptian princess, brought up by her, and later became the liberator of his oppressed people.

The argument of Freud is that Moses was not a Jew, but an Egyptian of high origin, that he imposed on the Jews not the orthodox Egyptian religion but a new monotheism to which he himself had become a convert. Not finding followers among his own people, he had gone to the Jews and imposed on them not only his religion but a series of advanced laws and had led them out of Egypt towards a new land.

These conclusions he does not lay down as absolute facts. In dealing with such remote histories, there are no facts only inferences and deductions, only a linking together of likelihoods. But he dwells first on the name of Moses—an Egyptian one—, on the resemblance of his story to that of the myth common to all primitive peoples—the babe hidden from mortal danger, rescued by aliens and later becoming a national hero to his own folk—and on the connection of the Jewish monotheism with the monotheistic period in Egyptian history.

In arguing thus, Freud has written new and fascinating pages on the rise of monotheistic religion, which must be of intense interest to students of comparative religion.

CRIME AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE. By Abdul Hasanat. Published by the Standard Library, Dacca, Bengal. (Available of G. A. Natesan & Co., Madras. Rs. 5-8.)

The author is a Superintendent of Police in Noakhali, Bengal, and writes from considerable experience in regard to the matters contained in the book. He takes a bird's-eye view of crime and problems of crime in all the civilised countries of the world with special reference to India and conditions obtaining in India. Prevention of crime and subsequent treatment of criminals after detection and conviction are dealt with fully. The problems of criminology are indeed vital problems touching social, economic and political life of the community at every stage affecting every one's life and happiness, the social progress and economic welfare of the state. A deep and intensive study of crimes and criminals is, therefore, essential for the welfare of the country. The need for an early institution of a permanent state department of criminology with a research bureau is rightly stressed. The author's suggestions for various reforms in criminal procedure and in the Penal Code are worthy of serious consideration. His plea for the establishment of conciliation courts is surely worthy of being tried.

A HISTORY OF MADRAS. By Rao Sahib C. S. Srinivasachari, M.A. P. Varadachary & Co., Madras.

The tercentenary celebration committee of the Madras University could not have secured a better writer than Prof. Srinivasachari of the Annamalai University to write a history of the city. We have read the volume with deep interest. Almost every page of it is filled with interesting matter. No record, no document, and no despatch of interest relating to the history of Madras has been left un-ransacked. The introduction which covers nearly fifty pages affords very interesting reading. Well might the Vice-Chancellor of the University say: "Prof. Srinivasachari has brought to bear on his task un-remitting industry and wide scholarship. He has traced the history of Madras from its earliest beginning right down to the present day and has dealt with every aspect of the life and growth of the city."

A PLAN OF PROVINCIAL RECONSTRUCTION. By Dr. Syed Mahmud, Minister of Education and Development, Bihar. Superintendent, Government Press, Patna. (Available of G. A. Natesan & Co., Madras.) Price Rs. 3.

Babu Rajendra Prasad writes in the Foreword to this book how the author has been giving an impetus to the problem of mass illiteracy and introducing the Wardha scheme of education in an experimental way in Bihar. Reconstruction should comprehend all branches of material production and the services essential to social happiness. The author examines the liabilities, assets and objectives of social and economic life in general outline and deals in detail with the solution of the problems connected with rural indebtedness, land revenue modification and agrarian reconstruction. He recommends an All-India Planning of Industries and has set to work four Sub-Committees for different industries in his Province. Lastly, he deals with reconstruction in the field of education comprehending the topic of adult illiteracy also. He holds that University education, properly reorganised, will simultaneously solve the problem of adequate technical, vocational or professional training. For providing the required finance for his schemes, our author would advocate an inheritance tax and a sales tax among other expedients.

THE GREAT MYSTERY OF LIFE BEYOND DEATH. By Dewan Bahadur H. L. Kaji, I.E.S. Bombay. Published by the New Book Co.

This is a remarkable book. In these days of growing materialism and scientific advance, it is rare to find people interested in spiritualism, psychic research, clairvoyance and telepathy. But Principal Kaji claims to expound the great mystery of life beyond death as unfolded by the spirit of the late *Sir Arthur Conan Doyle*. The author himself is the medium and the book is presented to the public as spelt out letter by letter on the *Pinja Board* by the departed spirit of Sir A. Conan Doyle. The dictation commenced in July 1936 and completed in May 1937. The passage of the soul after death to the *Patala Loka* guided by the *Yama Duta*, the great trial before *Yama*, the seven *Lokas*, the daily routine and the powers and disabilities of spirits are all described in minute detail by the spirit of Sir Arthur. The author claims to have communion and communication with Conan Doyle's spirit and assures all genuine seekers of truth that any queries for a fuller information on points ignored in the book will be referred to Sir Arthur. Students of occultism and post-mortem life may read with profit this book, whose author is an earnest, sincere, and high-principled man.

BOOKS RECEIVED

—O:—

THE GROWTH OF FEDERAL FINANCE IN INDIA. By Dr. P. J. Thomas. Oxford University Press. (Available of G. A. Natesan & Co., Madras.) Rs. 12-8.

TAMIL SELF-TAUGHT. Foreword by Hon. Dr. P. Subbarayan. Saiva Siddhanta Publishing Co., Ltd., Triplicane. As. 6.

INDIAN HISTORICAL RECORDS COMMISSION. Proceedings of the 15th Meeting held at Poona, December 1938. Manager of Publications, Delhi.

THE SEA TOWER: A LOVE STORY. By Hugh Walpole. Macmillan & Co., London.

EARLY HISTORY OF INDIA. By N. N. Ghosh, M.A. United Book Company, Allahabad.

THE INDIAN INSURANCE YEAR BOOK, 1938. Published by the authority of the Government of India. Manager of Publications, Delhi.

INDIAN STATES AND RESPONSIBLE GOVERNMENT. By K. R. R. Sastry, M.A., M.L. University of Allahabad.

WHO AM I? By Swami Sivananda. Published by M. M. Balarama Reddy, Jolarpet.

FOURTH CONFERENCE OF INDIAN UNIVERSITIES, Bombay, March 1939. Issued by the Secretary, Inter-University Board, Lucknow.

ANNUAL STATEMENT OF THE SEA-BORNE TRADE OF BRITISH INDIA. Manager of Publications, Delhi.

AUNODIKAPADARNAYA. By PERUSURI. Edited by T. R. Chintamani M.A., Ph.D., University of Madras.

1914-1939, HITLER AND THE GREAT WAR. (In Tamil.) By A. G. Venkatachari. Foreword by Hon. Dr. P. Subbarayan. Introduction by M. Ratnasamy, C.I.E. Bindaban Press, Mysapore. (Copies can be had of G. A. Natesan & Co., Madras.) Rs. 1-4.

Hyderabad

SURPLUS BUDGET FOR HYDERABAD

The necessity in view of the outbreak of war for husbanding the resources of the State with the utmost care was emphasised by the Finance Member in presenting the budget estimates for the new financial year commencing from October 7. The budget is a surplus once again, but the margin of 1'25 lakhs is the smallest for several years past. The estimated receipts are 887'41 lakhs and the estimated expenditure 886'19 lakhs. Last year's anticipated surplus of 33'28 lakhs is expected to go down 23'10 lakhs.

The factors contributing to this fall of revenue are scarcity conditions in certain districts due to failure of monsoons with resulting fall in land revenue, which is expected to yield 30 lakhs less than last year with consequential falls in the customs receipts by 10 lakhs and in excise receipts by 5 lakhs. On the other hand, the net railway earnings are anticipated to yield 13 lakhs more than last year while sugar excise is expected to yield 5 lakhs more.

PRESS COMMISSIONER

The Nizam's Government have appointed Nawab Aliyaver Jung, Press Commissioner, as State Press Adviser, and the Director of Information Bureau as Special Press Adviser.

Jaipur

JAIPUR'S NEW DEWAN

Rai Bahadur Gyan Nath's appointment as Dewan of Jaipur ends a somewhat prolonged controversy in favour of the Maharaja, who showed marked unwillingness from the beginning to accept another European Dewan. Mr. Gyan Nath has considerable experience in States, his last appointment being that of Administrator of Nabha for several years.

Mysore

PROHIBITION IN MYSORE

By the closing of liquor shops in the Closepet Rural Welfare and Health Centre, including those in Chennapatna and Closepet towns, the Mysore Government will lose revenue of approximately Rs. 50,000 per annum, says the Annual Report of the Mysore Excise Department.

Our policy has been, says the report, "to reduce the number of liquor shops. The consumption of arrack and special liquor amounted to 1,672 gallons in 1926-27 and it had fallen to 893 gallons in 1936-37. The number of trees tapped in 1926-27 was 315,488, while 187,653 trees were tapped in 1936-37.

The consumption of ganja and opium had fallen from 12,930 seers and 1,362 seers to 8,755 and 631 seers respectively after a decade.

An important feature of the policy of the Government is that the loss of revenue should not result in the levy of fresh taxes and it is one of the reasons why progress towards complete prohibition is slow.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Addressing the annual meeting of the Mysore Chamber of Commerce on October 5, Sir Mirza M. Ismail, Dewan, emphasised the importance to the State of the Chamber's work and said:

I desire to pay tribute to the fine spirit of co-operation which the Chamber is displaying in the promotion of measures for the public good. The happiness of the people is the main objective of all administrative work, and whoever lends a helping hand in such work is contributing to the welfare of the country. Government Ministerships, of which one hears so much to-day, are only a means to an end. The economic betterment of the people is the principal aim and desire of His Highness's Government, and in the pursuit of that aim I claim your aid and co-operation. It is a great task and calls for our united efforts.

LOANS TO SMALL INDUSTRIES

In the case of loans for developing small industries not exceeding Rs. 500 and repayable within 3 years, Government of Mysore direct that the rate of ordinary interest be reduced from 6 to 5 per cent. The rate of penal interest will, however, continue to be the same.

Baroda

EDUCATION IN BARODA

The Education Department controls 2,542 institutions of different kinds, in 128 of which English is taught. The Baroda College and the B. T. College are affiliated to the Bombay University. There are a number of high schools, technical schools, and schools for special classes such as the jungle tribes and unclean castes. The State is in a way pledged to the policy of free and compulsory primary education. It maintains a system of rural and travelling libraries. Eighteen per cent. of the population is returned in the census as literate. Total expense on Education is Rs. 38,65,181.

Travancore

GOVERNMENT'S POLICY

Sir C. P. Ramaswamy Ayyar, Dewan of Travancore, at the conclusion of the debate on the budget, discussing matters of policy in the Legislative Assembly, outlined Government's policy and said:

It will be the object and policy of Government not to allow such natural monopolies as China clay and mineral sands, not even an ounce to leave the shores of the country unless Government gets an adequate proportion of the net profit derivable from such profitable undertakings.

It should be the aim of every agricultural department to induce, to attract educated unemployed young men to go back to the land and make a living out of it and to cease from wandering in the corridors of public offices with infructuous applications for jobs.

He criticised the fragmentation of land holdings and emphasised the impossibility of proper agricultural methods on such small plots.

A SANATORIUM FOR TRAVANCORE

The Government of Travancore are considering the proposal of establishing a sanatorium and a summer resort in the Kundala Valley, 14 miles from Munnar and situated about 5,400 feet above the sea-level.

Bhopal

DOCTORATE TO THE NAWAB

A special delegation from the Aligarh Muslim University consisting of Sir Shah Muhammad Sulaiman, Vice-Chancellor, Professor A. B. A. Haleem, Pro-Vice-Chancellor, the Treasurer and the Registrar of the University conferred on His Highness the Nawab of Bhopal the degree of Doctor of Laws at a special function in the presence of leading officials and non-officials of the State.

CABINET FOR BHOPAL

The appointment of a Cabinet with Princess Abida Sultan, Heir-Apparent as President, and Raja Oudh Narain Bisaraya and Sir Liaqat Ali Khan as members is announced by the Nawab of Bhopal in a *firman* published in a *Gazette Extraordinary* on September 27.

The new Cabinet created for the duration of the war will be entrusted with the day-to-day administration to enable the Nawab to be free to deal with measures. The Nawab recently offered his personal services to the British Government.

Cochin

HONORARY SURGEONS

In an order which is calculated to give an impetus to the Honorary system in the State Medical Department, the Government of Cochin indicate the kind of individual who should be appointed to honorary posts in the medical department. "In appointing honorary civil surgeons," says the Order, "great care should be taken to see that only men with high qualifications and considerable experience are recruited. Otherwise, the posts of honorary surgeons will become cheap and not attract the proper type of men."

Indore**EXTENSION OF SERVICE TO
PREMIER**

The *Holkar Government Gazette* (Extraordinary) dated 24th September 1939, issued on the occasion of the birthday of His Highness the Maharaja, announced that, in appreciation of the loyal and commendable services rendered by Aitmad-ud-Dowlah Rai Bahadur Colonel Dinanath, BAR-AT-LAW, Prime Minister, His Highness has granted him an extension of two years from the date he completes his fifty-fifth year.

THE MAHARAJA'S GRANT

In celebration of his birthday, the Maharaja Holkar of Indore has announced the grant of a lakh of rupees from his privy purse for the improvement of the housing conditions of the poor and for clearing the slums in Indore town. A sum of Rs. 28,000 is being spent immediately for the construction of a sweepers' colony.

Jamnagar**FAMINE RELIEF**

A state of famine has been officially declared in Khambballa, Kalyanpur, Bhanvad, Jamjodhpur and Lalpur Talukas. Government have sanctioned over Rs. 15,00,000 for the purchase of grains for free distribution to the poor. Orders have already been placed and some of the consignments are on their way.

All fodder reservoirs of the State have been thrown open for public use. Large quantities of grain and fodder have been purchased locally and shops are being opened in all districts to ensure their speedy distribution. Besides, the State authorities have launched on a comprehensive scheme of relief works.

Porbandar**FAMINE RELIEF MEASURES**

Effective measures have been taken in Porbandar State to meet a threat of famine due to an unprecedented drought, states a Press Note issued by the Relief Committee.

Taccari loans amounting to one lakh of rupees have relieved the situation in the villages considerably. A sum of over Rs. 32,000 has been set aside for sinking and deepening wells. Another sum of Rs. 10 lakhs has been allotted for immediate relief for over 10,000 unemployed labourers. Embankments are being constructed and many other irrigation projects have been taken in hand.

In response to an appeal to the public made by His Highness the Maharaja Rana Sahab, contributions of over Rs. 2,25,000 have been collected. This includes a donation of Rs. 50,000 by the Maharaja Rana Sahab, who has toured the affected areas.

Among numerous other measures to alleviate distress, fodder and cotton seeds have been distributed in the villages as gratuitous relief.

Udaipur**UDAIPUR RULER'S OFFER
TO BRITAIN**

In view of grave and serious developments in the international situation, the Maharana of Udaipur has placed at the disposal of the King-Emperor the entire resources of the State and contributed Rs. 75,000 now and further promised to give 50,000 annually from October 1, 1940, till the war ends.

Miraj**REFORM SCHEME FOR MIRAJ**

The recommendations of the Miraj (Junior) State Reforms Committee, presided over by Rao Sahab Gadre, have been submitted to the Durbar.

The recommendations include extension of the franchise to 10 per cent. of the population. Subjects paying Rs. 10 in land revenue or paying one rupee in house-tax annually or those who have passed the vernacular fourth standard are entitled to vote. Literate women and literate Harijans can also vote.

INDIANS OVERSEAS

South Africa**INDIAN M. P's FOR S. AFRICA**

A permanent solution of the Indian problem in South Africa is being sought at present by the Minister of the Interior, Mr. R. Stuttaford, says the *Rand Daily Mail*.

Officials of his department, it is understood, have advised that one of the essential aspects of the plan is the question of parliamentary representation for the Union's Indian population.

The scheme is to give the Indians similar representation to that which is enjoyed at present by Natives through the medium of their three European spokesmen in Parliament and the Senate.

If it is decided to have Indian M.P's, two of them will probably represent Natal and the third the Transvaal and the rest of the Union. The scheme is part of an even wider settlement that is being sought.

Mr. Stuttaford has made it clear that there is not to be another round table conference although he is willing to meet a delegation from India and discuss with them the line of Government policy which is decided upon.

The difficulties of the situation have been considerably eased by a change in Indian opinion in the country.

According to opinion in two leading Indian newspapers, there is now possibility that the community will agree to residential segregation provided that adequate guarantee of commercial rights is given and there is an extension of political privilege.

The political representation will probably be conditional on the Indians accepting the principle of residential segregation.

INDIAN UNITY MOVE

General Smuts, the South African Prime Minister, has welcomed the Indian unity move. He says in the course of a message:

I heard with great interest and pleasure that the breach in the ranks of our Indian citizens in Natal has been healed and they have come together in the Natal Indian Association. I welcome this not only in the interests of Indians but also of good administration as one body can speak with more influence and effect in all matters which call for co-operation of Indians in the government of the country.

I hope that this settlement will be a good augury for the future and be a pointer to the solution of other problems and difficulties which may confront us in this land of complex and conflicting interests.

China**INDIAN POLICEMEN IN CHINA**

The new Japanese-sponsored Chinese Governments in Peiping, Nanking and Canton are recruiting Indian policemen for the seaport towns of China now under Japanese occupation, says a Shanghai report.

Those Indians who lost their jobs due to upheavals in the seaports are being invited to join the police force at practically twice the salary they used to get under the British regime.

Many Indians have already enrolled and others are reported to be on their way to China from India. It is stated that the Japanese are treating the Indians well and giving them special facilities. In Tientsin, for example, the Indian residents have been immune from search by the Japanese sentries under special orders from the authorities.

Fiji

CHILDREN'S EDUCATION IN FIJI

Evidence of an unimpeachable kind is reaching Simla that education of Indian children in Fiji is suffering gross neglect. The latest figures available for 1936 show that only 31 per cent. boys and 12 per cent. girls of the school-going age are receiving education, while at least 18,000 children of Indian parentage are growing up without any sort of education.

Mr. Mayhow, former Educational Commissioner with the Government of India, found Indian education in quantity and quality and in all aspects and grades considerably below the level of Fijian education and recommended three years ago a comprehensive educational programme on the part of the Government. The Indian community has proved its earnestness by financing out of private funds 70 schools against only seven Government schools. Particularly great is the need for women teachers in the colony.

Ceylon

CEYLON AND INDIA

It is learned that the Government of Ceylon recently approached the Government of India to begin trade negotiations for a commercial agreement. The Government of India are understood to have replied that they could only begin trade talks if the Ceylon Government were agreeable to discussing the other outstanding questions relating to Indian settlers in the Colony. The negotiations for a trade agreement would follow the settlement of these questions.

It is gathered that the Government of Ceylon have now accepted the Government of India's standpoint and talks between the two countries may begin in November next.

General

THE PROBLEM OF EMIGRANTS

Out of the thousands of the stranded Indians who have returned from the Colonies year after year, at least two hundred each year have been forced by hunger to take to beggary and this number is perpetually being increased by fresh arrivals. A single ship from the West Indies recently brought back 167 'paupers and decrepits'. Thus writes Mr. C. F. Andrews in the *Statesman*. He suggests three remedies for this:

The colonies from whence they came should be asked to provide compensation in land or the equivalent in money for the 'free passage' which was promised to these ex-indentured Indians under the indenture contract when they first went out. This step has already been taken with marked success in Dutch Guiana.

Secondly, the 'colonial-born' who came over with their parents must be given the opportunity to return to the land of their birth. These people did not come to India by their own choice. They belong to the colonies and are crying night and day to get back. The problem should be solved by the Indian and Colonial Governments acting jointly. It should not cost more than 2 lakhs to settle the whole business once for all.

Thirdly, the older persons who may have difficulty in returning must be provided for in some settlements in India. Some of them may be able to go back with their children and this should be done wherever possible. But the rest must be provided for on generous terms.

INDIAN TROOPS OUTSIDE INDIA

The Government of India are now in a position to state that all troops that have proceeded out of India have arrived safely at their destinations and that no Indian units have so far suffered any loss.

There has, however, been considerable and unavoidable delay in the transmission of mails both to and from India, which must have to some extent dislocated communication between those who have gone abroad and their friends and relatives at home.

The Government of India are, however, making arrangements to ensure that this delay is reduced to the minimum.



TOPICS From PERIODICALS



GERM WARFARE

Gas warfare was first introduced by Germany in the Great War of 1914, and there is every likelihood that Germany may introduce another new horror—germ warfare in the present war. This was probably what Hitler meant when he made an allusion to the mysterious weapon in his Danzig speech. The Fuehrer said:

The moment might come very soon when we might make use of a weapon with which we cannot be attacked. It is to be hoped that nobody will then complain in the name of humanity.

In the following article from *Deutsche Wehr*, the official organ of the German General Staff, a High German military expert discusses in an inhumanly cold-blooded manner this latest horror which the Reich is getting ready for the non-combatants.

In preparing for the use of germs in a coming war, he writes, we must first concentrate our attention on three principal questions.

"The first is, what kind of germs produce strongest and most irresistible effect. The second is, the best way of spreading microbes. And the third is, what conditions are most favourable for spreading disease and bringing about epidemics.

As to the first question, we should not be too particular. It is, of course, rather tempting to speculate on the hope of spreading epidemics of yellow fever, spotted typhus, or small-pox.

In order to achieve this, it will be necessary to scatter great swarms of flies or lice contaminated with the virus of yellow fever, spotted typhus, or small-pox.

and to keep a large stock of freshly infected vermin always prepared.

But best of all from every point of view is the infection of the enemy country by bubonic plague. The plague bacillus is comparatively easy to produce in large quantities; it retains its contagious effectiveness even in moist and cold surroundings and it never fails to produce infection.

As far as the question how best to spread the microbes is concerned, it must, of course, be assumed that all efforts to infect the enemy will be concentrated against the civil population and not against the soldiers at the front. Epidemics at the front might easily infect our own soldiers, and there are other reasons which make attack upon the civilian population more advisable.

Aeroplanes will prove the best weapons in microbe warfare because they permit of several ways of spreading germs, namely, by squirting them from specially built apparatus or by raining down bombs or glass containers filled with microbes.

As for the third question, we must study what effect the seasons have on the efficiency of certain epidemics and how the temperatures and moistures of the air influence the effectiveness of microbes. During the summer, epidemic of the digestive organs like dysentery, cholera and others have the best chance, while in the winter time infections of the respiratory organs are to be preferred. In addition, the nature of the soil and social conditions also must be taken into consideration when choosing the kind of epidemics to be spread from the air."

THE HINDU-MUSLIM QUESTION

The Hindu-Muslim question is decidedly the most difficult problem which the leaders are facing in India to-day. Speculation is made as to the possible outcome of the Mahatma-Nehru talks in Delhi following their interviews with the Viceroy. The failure of repeated efforts to solve it has made many people well-nigh despair of a settlement. But it is realised that no political or constitutional advance in the country is possible so long as this ticklish question remains unsolved.

In a symposium contributed to the pages of *Current Thought*, Sir Liakat Ali, Sir Gokul Chand Narang and Mr. Nirad Chaudhuri discuss the question in the light of recent history and express their views with marked outspokenness.

Sir Liakat Ali reminds us that Moghul rule was a period in which the Hindus and Muslims lived happily together in a spirit of paternal amity and goodwill. In the spirit of communalism, he contends, first appeared in Indian society as a result of the wrong policy of the Indian Government after the Mutiny.

The new rulers of the country began to show undue favour to one community at the expense of the other. The Mohammedans were first to incur the displeasure of the Government, because they were considered responsible for the great rebellion organised for the subversion of British rule. During this period the Hindus basked in the sunshine of official favour, while the Mohammedans were left in the cold. . . . The turn of the tide came with the foundation of the Indian National Congress, which was considered a Hindu organisation hostile to the British Government. The Hindus were thereupon protected from Government favour and the Muslims called in their place. This constant tipping of the scales, first in favour of one community and then in the interests of the other made both of them mistrustful of each other and produced a heart-burning which, with the help of other factors, grew into mutual antagonism and ill-will.

Sir Liakat then outlines certain methods which have been used in politics and education which

would conduce to national unity. The rapprochement should not be confined to political issues only but extended to social and educational movements. Persistent and systematic efforts must be made to create a permanent Hindu-Muslim *entente*.

The communal problem appears to be very difficult of solution, but it will present no difficulty if there is a change of heart in either community, together with a realisation of the fact that the destinies of both the communities have been linked together by the will of a higher power for some inscrutable end.

Sir Gokul Chand is of opinion that the Congress under Gandhi's leadership has been pandering to the unreasonable demands of the Muslim League and has thus spoiled the chances of real unity.

They should have firmly refused to recognise the League like every other communal organisation, but in their anxiety and fond hope to secure Hindu-Muslim unity, they succumbed to the temptation of negotiating with the League and entering with it into a pact known as the Lucknow pact. This was no doubt done in good faith and in the hope that this would settle forever the differences between Hindus and Muslims. It was, however, a blunder from the national point of view and stultified the position of the Congress as it was a tacit admission that the Congress did not, in practice, represent all the communities of India but only the Hindus. This recognition of the League as the representative of the Muslims gave a further impetus to the separatist tendency of the Muslims. The position was made much worse when Mahatma Gandhi in his zeal to win over the Muslims took up the cause of Khilafat. This was putting an extremely undue premium on communalism. Mahatma Gandhi, acting on the principle that any stick was good enough to beat the British dog with, perhaps thought that he was using the Muslims for his own ends. The fact, however, was that the Muslims were using him to achieve their own object.

All efforts to placate them have failed and the only result has been "that spoiled children as they were, they have become all the more spoiled". But what is the remedy? Should they go on trying to placate the Muslims and live at their indulgence and mercy or should they take any steps to safeguard their national interests?

WALT WHITMAN

The *Aryan Path* for October contains an interesting article on Walt Whitman by Hugh P.A. Fausset who brings out the contrast and duality evinced by this unconventional American writer, this practical altruist who loved his fellow-beings and rejoiced in spending himself in their service. The 120th anniversary of Walt Whitman's birth was celebrated last June by the Library of the Congress in Washington, which held an exhibition exclusively devoted to his poetry. Whitman has now come to be considered as the author of the Declaration of Independence for American Letters and as the poet who gave a "grand, sane, towering" America to the world.

Many have separated falsely the natural and the spiritual, but it is no less an error to identify them indiscriminately. In doing so, Whitman proclaimed the basic equality of all men and women and practised the comradeship he preached but was almost blind to the real spiritual distinctions which, unlike the artificial ones of wealth or of rank, do not divide human society but enrich it. And for the same reason he assumed far too easily that ordinary men and women by merely expressing their natural impulses could form a creative community. True democracy, as we have begun to learn, costs more than this. A new world of brotherhood can be born only of new men and women who have cast off the old Adam and won enlightenment of will and of mind. In them Nature will be renewed and fulfilled on a higher level. As a mystic Whitman, despite his experiences of atonement with life and the undoubted virtues which he derived from them and communicated to others had, judging by his writings, a very partially illuminated consciousness. This did not prevent him from declaring much that is vital and liberating. There is, too, a lasting value in his unwearied wonder at things, in his capacity for simple happiness and for being at home with simple people, and in his large acceptance of patience and imperturbability. In all these qualities he was a true mystic as he was a true democrat. And of the elemental nature which he evoked, of the great movements of men in which he delighted to merge, and of the death which he allured him as into the arms of love, he was a true poet. But to mankind struggling in the grip of consciousness and feeling itself impotent in the conflict of its higher and lower nature he has no clear message to give, and even at times seems to invite it to evade what must be lived through at any cost.

They cannot be so foolish as to imagine that there is such a thing as mere or indulgence in politics and that by folding their hands to the Muslims or to any other people they would be able to preserve their national existence and safeguard their vital interests. They cannot afford to live in such a fool's paradise. The only remedy, therefore, is that they should not only disillusion the Muslims of the belief that like Jewish parents they would yield to their *zid*, but should also try to disillusion them of the impression that the Hindus are a soft morsel which can be swallowed without any difficulty at any time. It would be a shame for a community consisting of 250 millions to be afraid of a community consisting of about one-third of their numbers.

While not yielding too much to any particular wishes of their countrymen and thereby putting a premium on unreasonable *zid* and threats, they should always be ready to stretch their hands of friendship and brotherhood to them. They should at the same time prepare themselves for the struggle which in spite of all their friendliness and feelings may be thrust upon them.

Mr. Nirad Chaudhuri traces the cause of the estrangement between the two communities to their growing self-consciousness in recent years. This is stamped alike in their pacts and clashes.

The temporary collaboration between Hindus and Muslims, which subsisted roughly between 1916 and 1921, was due above everything else to the tagonism which the Moslems of India felt towards Great Britain on account of the latter's relations with Turkey. The estrangement between the Moslems and the British in India and the corresponding *rapprochement* between the Hindus and Moslems begun with the Turko-Italian War of 1911 and reached their climax with the Treaty of Sevres, and the whole arrangement was reversed with the settlement of the Turko-British differences at Lausanne.

But true unity can never be founded on a mere contract. "It can never be realized without a complete abandonment of the 'will-to-remain-separate' of the constituent units." Is it possible to cherish the faintest hope of such abandonment at the present hour?

Not under normal circumstances. Neither the Hindus nor the Moslems are ready for it. But perhaps at no distant future the past-facing ideologies of both the Hindus and the Moslems may crumble before the impact of the larger social and material forces which are being released by world developments. It is to these forces rather than to any event within the limits of our own society that one must look for the disinclination of the Hindus and the disinclination of the Moslems and the consequent liberation of India from the communal nightmare.

THE ROLE OF THE NEW TEACHER

Dr. D. N. Roy, in a thoughtful article in the current number of the *Prabuddha Bharata*, points out the urgent need of a change in our educational system—a change, according to him, that will put the highest emphasis and importance upon the method rather than the content of education. The new teacher should bear in mind that unlike before, education must centre in the child, that it is primarily a growth from within and not a series of accretions from without and that the method of efficient teaching depends upon an actual knowledge of the child.

The true teacher must be a real psychologist being especially interested in studying children's behaviour. He is called a teacher, but he is not to teach, he is only to inspire. There is a sense of imposition in the act called teaching and all imposition is harmful to the pupil whose physical and mental system must have a free natural development. What the teacher should do is to observe the peculiar interests and inclinations of the pupil and see how these can be cultivated and ultimately used for broader, social and national purposes. In his discussing a subject-matter he should not pose as if he is the master of it, for that will give him a special position destroying the common spirit of *camaraderie* in their self-imposed pursuit of learning. He should conduct himself in such a way that he too is just one other pupil with the same eagerness to learn. Instead of asking the pupil to tell what he knows of the subject, the question should be so framed as to discover what he thinks. This way of giving importance to the opinion of the pupil makes him think on the subject and at the same time feel the reality of his personality. The pupil's opinion may be wrong, as it is often likely to be, but the teacher should not declare it so immediately. He should give it some importance in order to understand why the pupil thinks like that and to come to an agreed decision as to why it is wrong. He should have perfect control over his tongue and should never indulge in what may be termed as mere babbling. It is not he but the pupils of his class who should be allowed to do most of the talking on any particular subject. He should always be a respectful listener to what they say in the way of discussion and intervene only when there is the need of keeping them to the point. It is in this way that any subject may become interesting in the class.

NURSERY SCHOOLS

"A nursery school should constitute a real place of nurture and not merely a place where babies are minded till they are five," thus writes Usha Biswas to the *Modern Review*. Nursery schools would go a long way towards overcoming the disadvantages of a bad home and are thus calculated to be of immense service to the poorer section of the population.

A nursery school teacher should, therefore, be fully alive to the physical and mental needs of her pupils and should try to promote the natural growth and development of their growing bodies and minds. So she must needs be something of a psychologist too. A nursery school aims at the earliest training of children's characters and laying the foundation of their future education. The older the child grows, the more stress is laid on the imparting of instruction. The medical examination of the pupils of a nursery school should take place at least once a month, and their physical defects, if any, should be promptly attended to. Each child is to be weighed every fortnight. The teachers will do well to keep a chart for every one of their pupils, in which the variations of the height and weight are to be regularly recorded. The children should remain at a nursery school from 8 o'clock in the morning until 6 o'clock in the evening. During these hours, their meals and clothing are to be supplied by the school. As far as possible, they should have regular hours of meals, sleep, work and play. They will thus be taught to form certain regular habits from early childhood and will learn the value of time. The necessity and importance of developing a few healthy and hygienic habits should also be inculcated among the pupils. Special efforts should be made to keep their bodies and garments clean. The teachers should always insist on the children keeping everything neat and tiny. The latter should always be made to speak, eat, sit and walk properly. Attempts should also be made to implant certain important moral virtues in the minds of the pupils. They should be taught to work and play in perfect harmony and co-operation with each other—to be helpful to and sympathetic with each other—to be just, truthful, courageous, straightforward, and self-reliant. A sound training of the senses should form the basis of the instruction in a nursery school, which should be conducted mainly on the Montessori lines.

The writer, in the words of Mr. Bertrand Russell, points out "the nursery school, if it became universal, could in one generation remove the profound differences in education, which at present divide the classes".

ALL ABOUT THE B B C.

The *Indian Radio Review* for October has an interesting account of the B B C. What is the B B C?

The B B C is neither a Government Department nor a commercial company. It is a public corporation created by Royal Charter and not working for profit. Its legal powers to maintain broadcasting stations are derived from an agreement made between the Postmaster-General and the B B C, which also contains certain general provisions as to the manner in which the broadcasting service shall be operated.

The B B C has no share capital. Both its capital and its current expenditure are met out of revenue. This revenue is derived from two sources—most of it from wireless licences, but an important part of it is from the B B C's printed publications.

The B B C's income is considerable; in 1938 it was £3,800,051; but it is not always realized that this income has to provide the whole cost of all its services, which include not only the main service of sound broadcasting in this country but also Television and the Empire and Foreign Language Services. As already noted, the B B C has no share capital; in addition to the very heavy current expenses, it has to pay for the fixed assets required for these services and renew or replace them out of income as they wear out or become obsolete. Freeholds or long leaseholds of land and buildings have to be acquired; transmitting stations, studios, offices, etc. have to be built and equipped and large quantities of musical instruments, music and books are required. In 1938, £490,105 was spent on such additions to fixed assets.

Who controls the B B C? While an ultimate control of the broadcasting service is reserved through Parliament and the Government to the nation, the B B C enjoys a wide constitutional independence and a yet wider independence in practice. Parliament has regular opportunities for discussing B B C affairs, for example, when the annual estimate for broadcasting is presented by the Postmaster-General, the Postmaster-General has the right "in case of emergency" to take over the B B C stations. The Board of Governors, to whom the Director-General is immediately responsible, controls B B C policy. For administrative purposes the work of the B B C is organized under the Director-General and his Deputy in four Divisions:

Engineering, Programmes, Public Relations and Administration, each under its own controller.

There are about 9,000,000 wireless receiving licences in Great Britain and Northern Ireland and, therefore, probably about 32,000,000 listeners.

The B B C has by international agreement one long and eleven medium wavelengths available for its home programme service.

The total number of studios in different parts of the country is 91. The transmitters and studios were linked by over 6,000 miles of special Post Office telephone lines.

TURKEY AND GREAT BRITAIN

Barbara Ward, writing in the *Contemporary Review*, opines that the action of Russia has not weakened the loyalty of Turkey to the Peace Powers Pact and she is not at all sure that Great Britain is doing enough to help Turkey's trade and thus strengthen her economic position.

Germany's aim in her *Lebensraum* is to create a ring of primary producing states feeding the vast industrial machine of the Reich with raw materials and receiving manufactured goods in return. In fact, her attitude towards her smaller neighbours is that of Great Britain to her colonial empire in the age of Mercantilism.

But Turkey has no desire for colonial status. The political motive underlying industrialisation is her determination to achieve full national independence. Her real need is for trade with highly industrialised countries which are prepared to foster, not retard, her own industrialisation, which have capital to spare to help her with the installation of new plant and whose markets and currencies are uncontrolled so that she is allowed complete freedom in her choice of imports. In other words, Turkey wants to increase her commerce with the West. . . .

Few countries could give greater assistance in building up a strong modernised Turkey than we. We have the experience, the technical skill, the capital. We have no territorial ambitions or predatory tendencies. Turkey is not part of our *Lebensraum*. And in return for our help a young, vigorous and expanding Power would make its weight felt on the side of peace in Eastern Europe and the Mediterranean.

THE BRITISH WAY OF LIFE

Once again, as in the Great War of 1914, two clear cut ideologies are before the world. Britain and France claim to fight for freedom and democracy while Hitler had made short work of the decencies of civilised life. By threat of force, Germany has made new conquests and the smaller states of Europe have been kept under a perpetual spell of fear and insecurity. There is thus a sharp contrast between the British and the German way of life, according to a writer in the *Round Table*. The essentials of the British way of life are threefold.

The first is the rule of law: freedom from arbitrary arrest and punishment, from privileged castes and uniforms that are above the ordinary laws, from concentration camps and firing squads, and from all the other sneaking, cruel machinery of the secret police system. With this essential of freedom based on law may be associated the fair and equitable treatment of minorities, the recognition that men of all creeds, races and colours have their rights as fellow-men and fellow-citizens.

The second essential is freedom of conscience and of utterance. Within the wide limits set by public morals, the law of defamation and the prevention of incitement to violence, we uphold in the British Commonwealth freedom of religion, freedom of organisation, freedom of speech, freedom of the press. Attacks upon these, however earnestly excused, are attacks upon one of the things that make the British Commonwealth worth while.

The third essential is economic freedom within the scope of man's present mastery of nature. Here as elsewhere, freedom is founded on a balance of rights and duties and it is not always certain, especially in international economic affairs and in the relations between classes when the balance is fairly poised. There are, indeed, many differences of opinion over the best way to secure economic freedom, some praising individual liberty of choice in labour or business, others praising trade union solidarity and social control. But we have established firmly and now regard as necessary to our way of life in the Commonwealth a minimum standard that includes the freedom of men to combine and agitate for their economic ends, especially in trade unions, the freedom of

men from forced labour and their freedom, if they are poor, from the worst consequences of social insecurity. This is a field where, as wealth grows and social organisation develops, freedom can expand once its roots have taken hold.

In the maintenance of this threefold standard of the free life, we in the British Commonwealth, says the writer, have found parliamentary institutions valuable beyond price. Parliament won for the people most of their freedom and is their most vigilant watch-dog in guarding it.

THE SARASWATHI POOJA DAY

The 21st October is an important day being the Saraswathi Pooja Day when Hindus worship Saraswathi, the Goddess of Learning. Prof. V. N. Bhushan, writing in the *Triveni* on the Hindu conception of the Goddess of Learning, avers that it is not a dogmatic creed but a significant practical suggestion to help the Godward endeavour of the human spirit in the eternal light of the ever-increasing activity of knowledge.

The science and craft and technique of things are Maharsaraswati's province. Always she holds in her nature and can give to those whom she has chosen the intimate and precise knowledge, the subtlety and patience, the accuracy of intuitive mind and conscious hand and discerning eye of the perfect worker.

This Power is the strong, the tireless, the careful and efficient builder, organiser, administrator, technician, artisan and classifier of the worlds. The will in her works is scrupulous, unsleeping, indefatigable; leaning over us she notes and touches every little detail, finds out every minute defect, gap, twist or incompleteness; considers and weighs accurately all that has been done and all that is still to be done.

Nothing that is too small or apparently disguised or latent can escape her. Nothing short of a perfect perfection satisfies her and she is ready to force an eternity of toil if that is needed for the fullness of her creation. Therefore of all the Mother's Powers, she is the most long-suffering with man and his thousand imperfections.

Kind, smiling, close and helpful, not easily turned away or discouraged, insistent even after repeated failure, her hand sustains our every step on condition that we are single in our will and straightforward and sincere.

LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT

Mr. S. R. Balasubrahmanyam writes to the *Journal of the Oriental Research Quarterly, Madras*, on how the government was carried on in ancient India.

At the beginning of historical times there were three Tamil kingdoms—Cera, Cola and Pandya. Each was called a Mandalam. To this must be added a fourth Tondaimandalam—the land of the Pallavas. Under the Imperial Colas, the other regions were brought under their sway. Then the Mandalam became the biggest province in the Empire. A Mandalam consisted of many Valanadus, and a Valanadu of a number of Urs and Mangalams. The lowest unit of administration was the Ur, which was a village inhabited originally by non-Brahmans; and villages chiefly inhabited or settled in by Brahmans were known as Mangalams or Caturvedamangalams. The local affairs of the Ur were managed by a local assembly called the Urom (or Urar) and of a Mangalam by the Sabha.

When the common purposes so demanded the Urar and the Sabha met together and decided their common affairs. In addition to these local bodies there were the Nagoram, craft or merchant guilds, which enjoyed great privileges. Among the hundreds of inscriptions found in South India, the writer refers only to four of the most important ones, which contain detailed information about the working of the Sabhas in Brahmadya villages.

The Manur inscription (a place in Tinnevely district of the 36th year (35th year 469th day) of the Pandya king Maranjadaiyan who lived in the 9th century A.D. records a resolution of the Sabha of Monanilainallur (modern Manur) which lays down certain qualifications, a minimum of landed property, a certain standard of education and good character for the members of the Sabha and the committees thereof.

The famous inscription of Parantaka I. from Jtaramerur in the Chingleput district—10th century A.D. (923 A.D.)—prescribes the qualifications of the voter's-age, learning, property, ability, character and experience—and elaborate rules for the election by lot of candidates for the membership of the Sabha and the sub-committees—called Samvatara-ravariyam (annual committee), Tottavariyam (garden), Eri variyam (lakes and tanks), Pancavara (?) variyam, Pon-variya (gold).

The inscription from Songanur (Tanjore district) of the 30th year of the Cola King Rajaraja III. (1246 A.D.) refers also to the arrangement made by

the Sabha of this place according to the practice which obtained there from time immemorial. It says that if any member disobeyed the rules and became a member of any of the bodies in collusion with the King's officers (Mullis) should be declared an enemy to the village; that the assembly should be held every year; that it should keep distinct the central and local finances; that only the prescribed and sanctioned amount be levied and collected; that the expenditure of the Assembly should be made according to the budget prepared and lodged after deliberation with the accountant (Kanakkam), that in respect of items of expenditure exceeding 2,000 Kasus, the previous written consent of the Mahasabha should be obtained, and that those who disobeyed these rules were liable to punishment, and that the fines thus collected were to be used for the expenses of the local body. The personnel of the accountant, the members of the administrative committees are to change every year.

Most of these particulars are confirmed from another record from Mannargudi (Tanjore district) of the 23rd year of Rajaraja III. (1239 A.D.) All these regulations described in these four records deal with the Brahmadya villages.

THE GERMAN ARMY

Dr. Fritz Kurz deals in the *Contemporary Review* with the special privileges which the German people grant to their young soldiers. He says that every soldier is well fed and looked after and hence his loyalty to Hitler.

From end to end of Germany the huge, imposing barracks are to be seen which, apart from the *Reichsautobahnen*, are the most striking monuments to the Third Reich's building efficiency. Compared with pre-war barracks, the new buildings are more cheerful to look at. No more useless ornaments and towers that seemed like great fortresses, but buildings with a simple exterior admirably fitted for the purpose they are to serve and with innumerable windows through which light, air and sun can pass freely.

Admirable roads lead across the vast grounds, past garages, engine halls and workshops round to the gigantic kitchens and comfortably furnished dining-halls and canteens, where chairs in bright colours suggest a pleasant restaurant rather than barracks.

The equipment of the barrack kitchens has been carefully attended to, and the most extravagant kitchens and refrigerator stores are to be found everywhere. The problem of catering is taken so seriously that a special department of the War Office was created to deal with it from a scientific point of view. The original idea was to change the rather monotonous bill of fare to one based on the modern food theories; vitamins, calories, etc.

THE MODERN WOMAN

Mrs. Kameswaramma, in the course of an article in the *Twentieth Century* on the Role of Woman, says that throughout the ages there has been a conflict between the sexes. Thus in the history of humanity, we find that either the sex or the other has been dominating. But to-day we find new glimmerings in the progress of human race.

A great disparity in culture between man and woman has always brought disaster and social degeneration in its wake. In the Grecian society, men were very cultured but women backward; so we find that as the women could not be their intellectual companions, society degenerated. A disparity of culture between a man and his wife will inevitably lead to discontentment for both.

In our society, though woman has been honoured and respected, yet she was reckoned only in terms of wifehood or motherhood. For a number of years now, woman has not been thought of as a companion, hence the restrictions placed on women.

But to-day we are breaking away from the tradition, and the respect shown to a woman on the strength of her sex is certainly no respect at all. There is the feeling that value of a girl lies in her womanhood and not in her individuality. This is not equality but trading upon sex.

Sometimes it is thought that modern woman with her centre of interest shifted from home to social service, political work or profession cannot be as good a companion to man as the woman who lives within the four walls looking after the home and children.

The social fabric of the day is changing. Woman is free from many of her duties.

Women are now in a position to play their legitimate part in building up the society and the nation. Such a life, full of varied and constant interests, eminently fits her to be an excellent companion for man. Outside the home she will help men in social and political work, and in the home she will be an intelligent mother and wife less exacting and boresome.

In the end, the writer observes:

So the woman who is devoting herself to social work or professional work is a better companion to her husband than the woman who sits idling away her time in her home and self-expression.

INDIA: THE TEST QUESTION

In the course of a leading article under the above caption, the *New Statesman and Nation* writes:

Britain cannot bluntly reject the Congress demand nor delay her answer, and equally mere verbal promises will be unavailing. Fortunately, the unacceptance of a scheme of federation has been postponed. What then can we do? Among our war aims after consulting recognized leaders, we must include in words acceptable to them, an understanding to establish their democratic freedom as a nation controlling her own destinies. This must carry a pledge admitting her like the Dominions an equal partner in the building of a new world order.

Meanwhile it is easy without any constitutional changes to realise responsible self-government at the Centre immediately. It is unnecessary to bind the Viceroy to bow to the opinion of India's elected representatives; in fact let him do so. It is unnecessary to define the status of India's responsible ministers; in fact it would suffice to appoint some to the Viceroy's Council; when they are appointed, let him accept their advice. It might be advisable to dissolve the present Assembly and conduct new elections under the existing provincial franchise. The briefest amending Act will be sufficient.

But if we are brave enough to face the act of faith, let us not spoil it by a timid choice of second rate men. There is only one man who could lead India in the new path. Second only to Mr. Gandhi, Mr. Nehru enjoys India's trust and respect. The Congress has named him its leader in the present emergency. By making him Premier in fact if not in name, we should not only win India; we should startle the world into belief in our sincerity.

From Washington to Moscow, every neutral is asking the question that India has posed: is this war for the Imperial *status quo* or a new democratic world order? Not to-day, but months and years hence, our answer may decide the issue of this war. If we give India liberty, we shall win the leadership of all the free peoples; but if we must meet a rebel India with coercion, will any one in Europe and America mistake us for champions of democracy?

INDIA IN PERIODICALS

A NEGLECTED ASPECT OF MUGHAL HISTORY. By Sri Ram Sharma. [The New Review, October 1939].

MADRAS—THEN AND NOW. By Dr. B. Pattabhi Sitaramayya. [Triveni, August-September 1939].

THE JUDGES OF THE SUPREME COURT AT MADRAS (1801-1862). By G. S. White, [Journal of Indian History, August 1939].

THE WAR AND INDIAN ECONOMY. By K. J. Cleetus. [Current Thought, October-December 1939].

GREEN SPACES FOR CONGESTED INDIAN CITIES. [Indian Home, September 1939].

MULTUM IN PARVO

NEWS * DEPARTMENTAL * NOTES

Questions of Importance

THE VICEROY'S STATEMENT

Two important announcements were made by H. E. the Viceroy in a statement issued on the 17th October:

His Excellency stated that he is authorised by His Majesty's Government to say that at the end of the war they will be very willing to enter into consultation with representatives of the several communities, parties and interests in India and with the Indian Princes with a view to securing their aid and co-operation in the framing of such constitutional modifications as may seem desirable.

His Excellency announces the immediate establishment of a consultative group representative of all major political parties in British India and of the Indian Princes which would have as its object the association of public opinion in India with the conduct of the war and with questions relating to war activities.

Replying to the question: what are the intentions and aims of His Majesty's Government in relation to India, His Excellency refers to the statement made on behalf of His Majesty's Government in the House of Commons on February 6, 1935.

That statement, says His Excellency, makes the position clear beyond a shadow of doubt. It refers to the pledge given in the preamble of the Act of 1919 and it makes it clear that it was no part of the plan of His Majesty's Government to repeal that pledge. The words of the statement are clear and positive and stand as a definite and categorical exposition of the policy of His Majesty's Government to-day and of their intentions to-day in this end, the future constitutional development and position of India.

"It is my earnest hope," concludes His Excellency,

that the explanations I have given will have contributed materially to the removal of misunderstandings. Even if on certain points I have not to my knowledge been able to give assurances so comprehensive as those which would, I know, have been welcomed in certain political quarters in India, I would urge insistently that this is not a moment at which to risk the splitting of the unity of India on the rock of particular phrases and I would press that we should continue to aim at the unity of India even if differences of greater or less significance continue to exist.

Rightly understood, the Preamble of 1919 which, I repeat, will stand unrepealed, is a clear statement of the British people, and this Bill is a definite step—indeed, a great stride forward—towards the achievement of that purpose. It is by acts and not by words that we claim to be judged. It is clear, then, that we can only reach the end we have plainly set before ourselves when India has succeeded in establishing the conditions upon which self-government rests nor will its attainment be delayed by any reluctance on our part to recognize these conditions when they actually exist. There are difficulties which she has to surmount, but they are difficulties inherent in the Indian problem and not of our creation.

INDIA IN THE COMMONS

The Indian question was mentioned incidentally by one or two Labour Members in the course of a debate on October 14th in the House of Commons following Mr. Chamberlain's pronouncement.

Sir Stafford Cripps said:

We cannot for one moment accept Hitler's offer but it is folly to turn it down without putting forward our own objective. If we are fighting for democracy, freedom and a new world, our care for India must be as great as for Poland.

Mr. Campbell Stephen, supporting Sir Stafford Cripps, said:

If we are believers in democracy, we should believe in democracy in India as much as in Germany.

Mr. Sorensen said:

We should try to reach the minds of the German people and must put our own house in order. If we could say to the Indian people at the present that we were prepared to implement democracy in India, that would do more to establish democracy than all the arms.

LORD ZETLAND ON INDIA

Lord Zetland, during the debate on the Indian situation *vis-a-vis* the declaration of war, said in the House of Lords with reference to the Viceroy's statement:

Responsible self-government for India is the goal set forth by Parliament in the Preamble of the Act of 1919; and it was with the full authority of the Government of the day that my noble friend Lord Halifax, Foreign Secretary, stated ten years later (when he was Viceroy of India) that the natural issue of India's progress as there contemplated—that is to say in the Preamble of the Act of 1919—was the attainment of Dominion Status.

From that objective we never have had and have not now the smallest intention of departing. The purpose of the Government of India Act of 1935 was to provide the machinery by which the people of India might acquire that measure of political unity which surely is the prerequisite to the attainment by them of their eventual goal.

Much has been said in disparagement of the measure, yet it should not be forgotten that it was the outcome of immense labour on the part of Indians and Britons alike and was based on the greatest measure of common agreement which was then obtainable. I will add this: that even in the case of a written Constitution the provisions of the Statute are no more than the bony skeleton of a structure.

Over and above these, there were the leaders of other communities and interests such as the Hindu Maha Sabha, the Scheduled Castes, Sikhs and Parsis, to mention only some of them, who instantly made it clear that their views and interests should not be left out of account in the discussions that were in progress. . . .

Can we not, standing shoulder to shoulder for a common purpose, banded together in a comradeship of arms, learn to view in truer perspective against the background of the supreme and imminent peril—for what would it profit India if the forces of aggression and of evil emerged victorious from this war?—those internal and domestic differences which have hitherto raised such formidable obstacles along the road to that goal towards which the peoples of both countries have determined to travel.

This, then, is my appeal to the peoples of India—that in comradeship with us, while presenting a united front to the forces ranged against us, they strive after that agreement among themselves without which they will surely fail to achieve that unity which is an essential of nationhood, of which those with vision among her leaders have long dreamed and which must surely be the crowning achievement of the long and intimate political relationship between the peoples of Great Britain and India.

MR. CHURCHILL ON WAR IDEALS

Concluding his broadcast talk on October 1, Mr. Winston Churchill, the First Lord of the Admiralty, said:

I do not underrate what lies before us, but I must say this—I cannot doubt that we have the strength to carry the good cause forward and to break down the barriers which stand between the wage-earning masses of every land and a free and more abundant daily life. Of all the wars which men have fought in their hard pilgrimage none was more noble than the great civil war in America nearly eighty years ago. Both sides fought with high conviction and the war was long and hard. All the heroism of the South could not redeem their cause from the stain of slavery just as all the courage and skill which the Germans always show in war will not free them from the reproach of Nazism with its intolerance and brutality. We may take good heart from what happened in America in those famous days of the nineteenth century. We may be sure that the world will roll forward into broader destinies. We may remember the words of old John Bright about the American civil war when he said to an audience of British working folk: "At last, after the smoke of the battlefield has cleared away, the horrid shape which had cast its shadow over the whole continent had vanished and was gone for ever."

U. P. SPEAKER'S APPEAL TO BRITAIN

In the U. P. Legislative Assembly recently, the Speaker, Mr. Purshottamdas Tandon, in a statement drew attention to two important events which had occurred since they last met. He said:

Britain is at war with a European Power and our country, not yet having an independent constitution and a controlling voice in shaping its own destiny, it is assumed that we are also at war with that power.

By the changes introduced by the British Parliament in regard to the Government of India Act, practically all the powers of the Government in this province have been taken away and laid in the hands of the Central executive.

He asked the British Government seriously to consider whether it was wise and justifiable, even in the name of war, to keep back the fundamental constitutional question affecting a number of human beings in this country when the war itself was being waged to preserve democratic principles.

CONGRESS AND THE WAR

The Congress Working Committee, which met at Wardha on October 22, passed a resolution calling upon the Congress Ministries to resign and appealing to the nation to sink all internal differences in this hour of great crisis. The resolution says:

The Working Committee is of opinion that the Viceroy's statement in answer to the invitation of the Congress for a clear declaration of British war aims, particularly in their application to India, is wholly unsatisfactory and calculated to arouse resentment among all those who were anxious to gain and are intent upon gaining India's independence.

The Viceroy's statement is an unequivocal reiteration of the old imperialist policy. The Committee regards the mention of the differences amongst the several parties as a screen to hide the true intentions of Great Britain.

What the Committee had asked for was a declaration of the war aims as a test of Britain's bonafides regarding India, irrespective of the attitude of the opposing parties and groups. The Congress has always stood for amplest guarantee of the rights of minorities. The freedom which the Congress asks for is not for the Congress or any particular group or community but for the nation and all communities in India that go to build that nation. The only way to establish this freedom and to ascertain the will of the nation as a whole is through a democratic process which gives full opportunities to all.

The Committee must, therefore, regard the Viceroy's statement as in every way unfortunate.

In the circumstances it cannot possibly give any support to Great Britain, for it would amount to an endorsement of the Imperialist policy which the Congress has always sought to end. As a first step in this direction, the Committee calls upon the Congress Ministries to tender their resignations. The Committee earnestly appeals to the nation to end all internal controversies in this hour of grave crisis and to act unitedly in the cause of India's freedom.

The Committee warns Congressmen against any hasty action in the shape of civil disobedience, political strike and the like. The Committee will watch the situation and the activities of the British Government in India and will not hesitate to guide the country to take further steps whenever the necessity for this arises.

The Committee calls upon all Congress Committees and Congressmen generally to be prepared for all developments and eventualities and to show restraint of word and deed so that nothing may be said or done which is not in keeping with India's honour of the principles for which the Congress stands.

LIBERAL FEDERATION'S RESOLUTION

The Council of the All-India Liberal Federation, which met at Bombay on October 22nd, adopted the following resolution:—

The Council, having given careful consideration to the statement issued by His Excellency the Governor-General, is of opinion that it cannot but be deemed unsatisfactory inasmuch as

(1) It does not make clear that Dominion Status to be attained by India is to be of the same character as is enjoyed by the Self-governing Dominions and as is contemplated by the Statute of Westminster;

(2) It contemplates the advent of Dominion Status at some indefinite future period and fails to envisage the attainment of such status by India within a definite period;

(3) It ignores the urgent need for taking immediate measures for the Indianisation of the defence forces in all their branches within a fixed period, the development of an Indian Air Force and its substitution for the Royal Air Force; it also ignores the demand for the organisation of the man power for the defence of the country on a broader basis and the need of widening the basis of recruitment so as to give greater opportunity to all classes for serving in the defence forces;

(4) It leaves at least during the period of the war and for some indefinite period thereafter the Central Government entirely irresponsible as at present;

(5) The mere consultative committee without any power of any sort mentioned in His Excellency's statement is no substitute for responsibility at the Centre and will not satisfy any one the creation of such a body for war purposes being no sufficient and effective association of India in the prosecution of the war. . . .

The Council recognises that there are differences amongst the people of this country and that sometimes those differences are acute. But though such differences will always exist, they should not be permitted to stand in the way of the establishment of a free constitution.

MUSLIM LEAGUE AND THE WAR

The Muslim League passed on October 22 a lengthy resolution expressing satisfaction with certain parts of the Viceroy's statement but asking for further clarification and authorising the President, Mr. Jinnah, to take steps to get this clarification and if he is satisfied with the clarification, he is empowered to give assurance of co-operation with the British Government in the prosecution of the war.

ANDHRA UNIVERSITY CONVOCATION

"If India expects to be treated on a footing of equality by the progressive countries of the world, the first thing needed is that the educational backwardness of her people should be removed within the shortest possible time," observed Sir Nilratan Sircar in his convocation address at the Andhra University last month. Sir Nilratan appealed to the young graduates of the University to throw themselves heart and soul into this noble work and to do their bit by helping in various ways the diffusion of enlightenment among the vast masses.

Sir Nilratan devoted a large portion of his address to the teaching of medicine. He said: "The time has come when we should give a public health orientation to medical teaching and this should be in consonance with the needs and the environment which a student or a medical practitioner or a public health worker will have to deal with."

UNIVERSITY AND WAR

The court of the Benares Hindu University has passed the following resolution on the question of the present war:—

"The Benares Hindu University realize the gravity of the issues involved in the war and earnestly prays for the victory of the principles of freedom and democracy with which Great Britain has identified itself in the certain hope that their effective application to India by the British Government will make for a prosperous India and a world safe for peace. While doing so, the University Council requests the Government to provide adequate facilities for military training to its students in all its forms."

ANNAMALAI UNIVERSITY
CONVOCATION

"What an incalculable and lasting service it would be to all mankind if the universities of the world could liberate that goodwill which is latent amongst the peoples of the world," said Mr. H. C. Papworth, Principal of Presidency College, Madras, addressing the new graduates at the convocation of Annamalai University.

Mr. Papworth pointed out to the graduates how they might use the equipment the University had given them and what the society in which they would live for the rest of their lives expected and had a right to expect from men and women endowed with such privileges.

HINDI AS MEDIUM

The U. P. Government have resolved to make Hindusthani the medium of instruction in schools and gradually it will be adopted in the Universities also, declared Acharya Narendra Deo speaking on Hindustani at a meeting under the auspices of the Lucknow University. The University students, he urged, should contribute their mite to the development of Hindustani by studying both Urdu and Hindi and placing before the masses a common language.

ACHARYA RAY'S GIFT

Acharya Ray offered a sum of Rs. 10,000 for founding an annual prize to be awarded to a graduate of the University working in the College of Science, who will have offered the best piece of research work in Zoology or Botany in alternate years. The prize is to consist of a gold medal, and according to the wish of the donor, it is to be associated with the name of the late Sir Asutosh Mookerjee.

THE INDEPENDENCE OF THE
JUDICIARY

"To no one will we sell, to no one will we refuse or delay right or justice." This epigrammatic saying found in the famous charter of liberties "the Magna Carta" was quoted by His Lordship the Chief Justice of Madras on September 26 when unveiling the portrait of Mr. S. Srinivasa Ayyangar, a former president of the Madras Advocates' Association, at the Association premises in the High Court.

His Lordship stressed the necessity for the establishment of an independent judiciary and said:

"A judge has no part to play in politics. If he lets political considerations weigh with him, he is not worthy of his office. The maintenance of a strong and independent judiciary is not, however, a question of politics. It is a matter of maintenance of what is fundamentally right.

"There never was a greater need," the Chief Justice added, "than there is now for the existence of a strong and independent judiciary and for the maintenance of the powers and prestige of the courts."

The Chief Justice also paid glowing tributes to the noble qualities of Mr. S. Srinivasa Ayyangar.

NO HIGH COURT FOR ASSAM

The Government of Assam, it is understood, have been informed by the Secretary of State for India that the proposal for establishment of a High Court in Assam has not been entertained.

The Assam legislature last year presented an address to H. E. the Governor for submission to H. I. M. the King Emperor asking for constitution of a High Court in Assam by letters patent.

JUNIOR I. C. S. JUDGES

Opposition to the "practice recently started of appointing junior I. C. S. officers working in the Executive line as judges of civil courts" is expressed in a resolution passed by the Bar Association, Bareilly. The resolution states that if it be found necessary to appoint I. C. S. officers as civil judges, such officers should be required to pass a Law examination equivalent to the L. L. B. The Association holds the view that experienced lawyers who have put in several years' practice at the Bar should be elevated to the Bench. The resolution has been forwarded to the Chief Justice, Allahabad High Court, the Minister for Justice, United Provinces, and other Bar Associations in the United Provinces.

GERMAN JUDGES

The status of judges has been subjected to certain modifications and some of their privileges have been cancelled for the duration of the war, according to Herr Freissler, Under-Secretary in the Ministry of Justice.

The Court of Assizes will not sit and special courts will be set up by the Nazi regime as ordinary courts of Justice which may be entrusted with the passing of judgment in court martial cases.

Nine special courts, apart from military courts, have been established in the German occupied territory in Poland.

THE DEFENCE ACT

H. E. the Viceroy has given his assent to nineteen Acts of the Indian Legislature passed during the last Simla Session including the Defence of India Act and the India Air Force Volunteer Reserve (Discipline) Act.

INSURANCE AND PRIVATE INVESTMENT

Will private investment always beat the insurance? "I agree to a certain extent," writes a correspondent to the *Statesman*, "If a man is given an iron will to invest at specified dates; given a safe private investment yielding $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. compound interest free of income tax and given also survivance for a long term of years, then such a private investment would beat insurance. Now let us consider other factors. One can never rely upon one's own invincible strength of mind nor upon the command of such an investment nor upon long life. Life insurance supplies the place of will and it compensates one magnificently if death occurs early--advantages very cheaply purchased at the cost of some small loss in return in the worst event, namely, the event of survivance to the end of a long term of years. The main object of insuring is to provide for dependants in the event of death but it must not be forgotten that insurance is still one of the finest forms of saving. Not one person in twenty is able to invest money every year with the regularity of clockwork except by means of life insurance. Every premium paid for a policy insuring a capital sum at death carries with it the right to claim an income-tax abatement, the effect of which at present rates is to reduce the cost of insurance considerably for those subject to Indian income-tax."

INSURANCE MAN'S MUNIFICENCE

Sir Frederick William Pascoe Rutter has made a magnificent gift of £5,000 to the Chartered Insurance Institute for the benefit, in equal shares, of the Insurance Clerks' Orphanage and the Insurance Benevolent Fund.

SICKNESS INSURANCE FOR INDIA

Dr. Benoy Kumar Sarkar, writing in *India Tomorrow* on compulsory Sickness Insurance for India, observes:

It is in the interest of the country to make the healing art economically more worth while and attractive. It should be the look-out of the community to enable the medical practitioner of all denominations to carry on even if it be on a modest level. From the standpoint of the community, the essential problem consists in rendering the medical service as cheap as possible. We encounter here the problem of organized welfare.

One method would consist in the establishment of clinics by educational institutions in the districts under the auspices of the University, Colleges, District Boards and Municipalities. The patient may be required to pay a part of the fees, the rest being paid by the institutions. The practitioner's fees must, of course, be very modest by all means.

Secondly, free or semi-free health services may be offered by employers to their employees. The example already set by one or two business establishments ought to be followed up by others. Some of the Government offices have been doing pioneering work in this line. About thirty per cent. of the coal mines in the Jharia section as well as a number of tea plantations belong likewise to this group of pioneers. The Maternity Benefit Acts of Bombay and C. P. deserve also to be mentioned. This sort of voluntary philanthropic social service will have to be expanded all along the line.

INDIAN TRADE TRENDS

No startling changes in Indian trade trends are revealed in the survey for the fiscal year 1938-39 prepared by Sir Thomas Ainscough. The *Capital* says that 1938-39 was notable chiefly for the renewed emphasis it afforded, on the one hand, to the over-riding importance of commodity price-levels as the determining factor in India's ability to buy essential imports and, on the other, the diminishing extent to which gold shipments are helping to compensate the loss of purchasing power occasioned by the low world valuations of primary products in recent years. The value of Indian merchandise exports has now declined for three years in succession, viz., from 196 crores in 1936-37 to 181 crores in 1937-38 and to under 163 crores in 1938-39. At 152 crores last year, imports of merchandise were substantially lower than the high level of 173 crores recorded in 1937-38, but were still substantially above the total of 125 crores achieved in 1936-37 and *prima facie* imports should show a further drop in the current year. A decline in the total visible balance of trade from 92 crores, three years ago, to 30 crores in 1937-38 and to 29 crores last year hardly warrants a more optimistic forecast unless, of course, export values show a sharp upward trend of which here is no immediate sign.

INDIAN SUGAR

Compared to the average, before the great War, of 633,500 tons of sugar, India exported only 14,400 tons in 1937-38. Even out of this small quantity, a portion was re-exported by land to neighbouring territories such as Iran and Iraq.

This almost complete independence of foreign sugar imports has been due to lack of protection.

ENEMY PROPERTY IN BRITISH INDIA

All dividends, interest or share of profits payable to an enemy shall be paid to the Custodian of Enemy Property for British India, according to the Enemy Property (Custody and Registration) Order issued recently.

The powers of the Custodian under this order are to carry on the business of the enemy, to take action to recover any money due to the enemy, to make contracts and execute documents in the name and on behalf of the enemy and to incur expenditure including the repayment of any debts by the enemy to persons other than enemies and dispose of such property in any manner.

All enemy property vesting in the Custodian shall be exempt from attachment, seizure or sale in execution of a civil court decree. Every bank in British India, which has any balances or deposits standing to the credit of an enemy, shall, within two months from the date of the order, communicate to the Custodian full particulars of such balances or deposits. The Custodian is also empowered to require any person to give information concerning any enemy property.

INDO-JAPANESE TRADE TALKS

The members of the Japanese Trade delegation consists of Mr. K. Toyoshima, representative of the Japan Textile Exporters' Association, Mr. R. Abe of the Japan Cotton Spinners' Association, Mr. S. Kawa, Mr. S. Shibata and Mr. T. Matsuo, Secretary of the Department of Commerce and Industry, Japanese Government.

While in Calcutta, the members of the delegation visited the Japanese firms in the city and had discussions with representatives of Japanese commercial interests regarding the Delhi negotiations.

Women's Page

WOMEN'S EDUCATION

the reign of Asoka about 60 per cent. of the inhabitants of this land were illiterate. To-day, however, only 10 per cent. of the people are literate of whom constitute only 3 per cent. women," writes Mr. K. M. Panikkar in the *Hindustan Review* pointing out that the need for adult education is as great for women as for men.

For a literacy, he continues, should not be the main object. Women should also be educated. They must be trained for domestic life, for wifehood and motherhood. Cooking, weaving, sewing, needlework and embroidery should be taught. Lessons and instruction on morals, domestic science, domestic economy, cookery, etc., should be given through the medium of the vernacular.

In this connection, the film, the magic lantern and the radio can be pressed into service. This will ensure interest and participation. In Germany, the Federal Department of Visual Instruction has secured the co-operation of German teachers to prepare educational films. In America 20,000 institutions make use of the film as a means for propagating useful knowledge to the young and the old.

5-YEAR PLAN FOR RURAL WOMEN

In pursuance of a six-year programme of the Punjab Government for the uplift of rural women in rural areas, thirty stipendiary women welfare workers trained in all branches of domestic science, agriculture and cottage industry will launch a drive against ignorance and ill-health in the coming year.

A Woman's Voluntary Committee, including prominent women of all shades of opinion, has been set up at Lahore to advise the Government on matters regarding women's welfare work in the Province.

CONJUGAL RIGHTS

An interesting decision on this subject is given by the Judicial Commissioner's Court, Sind, wherein the wife sued the husband for restitution of conjugal rights. There was no matrimonial offence alleged or proved against her. It was said that she was guilty of unwifely conduct. She left her husband's house without his permission and stayed with her father for nearly 3 years, rejected all attempts at reconciliation and insulted and outraged her husband's house. Their Lordships held that it was a gross failure on the part of a Hindu wife to perform the obligations imposed on her for the benefit of the husband, and something less than what might be called a matrimonial offence for the purpose of a divorce or judicial separation may be sufficient to refuse help to the wife and her suit was accordingly dismissed.

PT. GURTU'S ADVICE TO WOMEN

"The child is the basic craft of the woman and I hope that you women students of the university to-day, to whatever vocation in life you might be called to-morrow, will strive to make ideal mothers of the future generation," said Pandit Iqbal Narain Gurtu, ex-Vice-Chancellor of the Allahabad University, in formal declaration opening the women's hostel of Allahabad University, on September 17.

COMPULSORY SERVICE FOR GIRLS

To ease the labour shortage in Germany, says the Berlin correspondent of the *Times*, all girls under 25 years of age have to perform a compulsory year of service in domestic or farm work, whether or not they wish to take up such occupations.

A MOGHUL NEWSPAPER

A discovery of first-rate importance, which shows how Emperor Aurangzeb was kept informed of the affairs of his State by an official daily newspaper, has been made according to the proceedings of the Historical Records Commission, Volume XV.

These court bulletins consist of small slips of brown paper, each briefly recording one day's occurrences at Court, viz., movements and doings of the Emperor, time of holding court, appointments made, persons presented or given congee, presents offered to the Emperor and the gifts bestowed by him, summaries of the dispatches received and orders passed on them, etc.

The discovery was made when in 1923 the Jaipur Government decided for the first time to get their old Persian records examined by an expert and invited Sir Jadunath Sarkar to undertake the task.

PEACE LITERATURE FUND

A Peace Literature Fund, which has our fervent good wishes, has been started in England sponsored by many well-known writers and thinkers. It aims at combating the forces which are fostering the war spirit in the world. It proposes to assist peace organisations in the production of peace literature, to subsidise books and pamphlets and to commission authors to write for peace. It will also provide for the free distribution of such literature, give it publicity in the press and institute awards for peace essays by the young. Among those who have given the project active support are: C. E. M. Joad, Dr. Maude Royden, Vernon Bartlett and G. P. Gooch.

"THE COCHIN ARGUS"

The *Cochin Argus* is perhaps the oldest English Weekly in Southern India having first made its appearance in 1869. A special number has been issued commemorating its seventieth birthday. We are told that in future particular attention will be devoted to Indian States and other problems. We welcome the improvement in the scope of this old journal and wish it continued success.

SIR MAHOMED ZAFRULLAH KHAN

The following announcement has been made by His Majesty's Government:—

"In connection with the forthcoming discussions with Dominion Ministers in London, His Majesty's Government have invited the Government of India to send a representative at the same time and for the same purpose, namely, to have discussions with Ministers in this country with a view to exchanging up-to-date information on the progress of activities in connection with the War.

The Government of India have replied that they are glad to accept this invitation and have nominated as their representative Sir Mahomed Zafullah Khan, Member of the Governor-General's Executive Council."

The Governor-General-in-Council has decided that the temporary vacancy which will be created by the absence on deputation in England of Sir Mahomed Zafullah Khan will be filled, when it arises, by the appointment of Sir Abdul Qadir to be a temporary member of the Governor-General's Executive Council.

GUNTHER ON GANDHI

Mahatma Gandhi is pictured in Gunther's *Inside Asia* as "an incredible combination of Jesus Christ, Tammany Hall, and your father—the greatest Indian since Buddha. No more difficult or enigmatic character can easily be conceived. He is a slippery fellow. I mean no disrespect. But consider some of the contradictions"

"He fasted purely for moral reasons, but his fasts served a considerable practical convenience, because if he began to fast in jail, the British had to let him out . . . Gandhi who fought the British Empire to a standstill in 1939 is almost the best friend the British have in India Modern science is anathema to him, but he uses a thermometer and wears eyeglasses."

SIR GEORGE CAMPBELL

The Government of India have appointed Sir George Campbell, late of Messrs. Mackinnon, Mackenzie and Company of Calcutta, as Shipping Controller of India.

He has also been appointed as the representative in India of the United Kingdom Ministry of Shipping.

WASTE IN HOSPITAL BUILDINGS

Dr. Rajan, Minister for Health, Madras, has been denouncing costly hospital buildings with particular reference to the Medical Council's attitude towards the equipment of the Andhra University Medical College. He said that the buildings for the Government Hospital at Madura started 13 years ago were already out of date, although the estimate had increased from Rs. 10 lakhs originally to Rs. 16 lakhs.

VITAMIN TABLOIDS

It is understood that the Director of Nutrition Research Laboratories, Coonoor, has recommended to Government the manufacture of Vitamin Tabloids in his laboratories for the use of troops in the firing line. The proposal has set up a stir amongst the Governing Body of the Indian Medical Research Fund Association and it is likely that the Nutrition Research Department at Coonoor might soon develop into a vitamin manufactory.

T. B. SANATORIUM FOR MALABAR

Contributions amounting to Rs. 46,000 have been received by the Society recently registered at Calicut for establishing a tuberculosis sanatorium for Malabar. The British Cochin Municipality has undertaken to provide a ward in the sanatorium at a cost of Rs. 23,000 for the treatment of patients from Cochin.

NUFFIELD'S GIFT TO RED CROSS

A cheque for hundred thousand pounds, probably the largest sum ever paid for a Flag Day emblem, was placed in the collecting box of two nurses by Lord Nuffield at Mansion House. It was his contribution to the Lord Mayor's Red Cross and St. John Fund.

INDIAN MEDICINES

It is notified that the U. P. Indian Medicine Bill has received the assent of the Governor.

The Bill aims at checking quackery in the province giving a fillip to Indian systems of medicine.

EWE'S MILK FOR INFANTS

German investigators have found that ewe's milk is excellent for infant-feeding. According to a foreign correspondent of the *Journal of the American Medical Association*, the milk of ewes found more easily digestible and more nutritious than that of either cows or goats.

Ewe's milk is far superior to the milk of goats and cows in fat, protein and mineral content. It gives better results with nurslings than does cow's milk. Even when the babies were suddenly taken off cow's milk and placed on ewe's milk, the substitution was always satisfactorily accomplished. Nurslings who had gastro-enteric catarrh when fed on cow's milk were cured when placed on the milk of ewes.

LATEST ABOUT VITAMINS

Scurvy and rickets, it has long been established, result from a lack of certain vitamins in the diet. Scientists now believe that many other diseases are affected, if not caused, by a similar deficiency.

An American expert, Dr. Youmans of the Vanderbilt University School of Medicine, who had made a special study of the part played by vitamins in health and disease, declared his belief recently that chronic tuberculosis tightened its hold on the sufferer, that diphtheria and whooping cough were more severe and that rheumatic fever was more likely to recur when vitamin C was lacking.

GRAPES AS TONIC

Black grapes contain traces of iron and are tonic to the nerves. A wine-glassful of grape juice before a meal is excellent for the digestion. Due to their excellent energy-value, grapes are very good fruit foods for the athlete or sedentary worker who wants a high return from his food with a minimum expenditure of digestive energy.

CURE FOR HICCUPS

Take an ordinary paper bag, place it over the nose and mouth and breathe in and out several times. In one case this treatment cured in six minutes a little girl who had been hiccuping for nearly two days.

BANKING PROFESSION

Presiding over a meeting under the auspices of the Co-operative Central Institute, Mylapore, Madras, on October 11, Dr. P. S. Lokanathan, Reader in Economics, Madras University, expressed the opinion that no person who had not undergone a course of training or apprenticeship in a bank should be employed in any joint stock bank. It was desirable, he added, that a profession of banking was developed in the same way as the profession of auditors.

Dr. Lokanathan pleaded for a proper appreciation of the relationship between the joint stock bank and the Reserve Bank. Important and stringent regulations were required to protect the interests of depositors and the public.

Mr. T. R. Nagaraja Rao, Agent of a local bank, suggested that a limit on the borrowings by banks should be imposed and a maximum rate of interest fixed. The balance-sheets of banks should provide more information than they did at present.

T. N. & Q. BANK CREDITORS

Mr. Justice Venkataramana Rao of the Madras High Court has passed orders on an application filed by the Official Liquidators of the Travancore National and Quilon Bank to sanction an arrangement approved at a meeting of the creditors of the Bank held on June 20, in pursuance of an order passed by His Lordship on April 28. The arrangement is to pay a final dividend of As. 8 in the rupee to the creditors of the Bank whose claims are of the value of Rs. 50 and under.

U. P. CAPITAL PROGRAMME

It is understood that as the U. P. Government are not going to raise the loan of Rs. 2 crores in the near future sanctioned in the current year's budget, the major items in the capital programme, which were intended to be undertaken, have been postponed for the time being. Only such capital programme as can be financed out of the funds already at the disposal of the Government will be carried out.

REAL RAILWAYS FOR CHILDREN

Eleven children's railways have been built in various cities of the Soviet Union during the last two or three years and three more are now under construction. Last year the Soviet Government made a grant of three million rubles for the construction and maintenance of these railways.

Malaya Stalinskaya is the name the children have given the railway. The idea of constructing it originated with the children themselves. One evening, children in the Pioneer's room of the railwaymen's club began to talk of building their own children's railway and of operating it themselves. Adults overheard the talk and soon there was much enthusiasm about it.

And so the dream became reality. The trade union and railway administration granted funds for building the miniature railway. A track was chosen in the Central Park and work began to hum. Professors and railway engineers offered their services and in their free time worked out the plans. Many projects were submitted by the children themselves, the pupils of higher classes. Engineers verified these projects, made suggestions and gave advice. Part of the construction work was done by the children.

At the same time courses were opened to train the children in operating the railway. There were hundreds of them anxious to join the courses, but only those were accepted who received marks of "good" or "excellent" in school. This prerequisite influenced many to improve their school work.

RAILWAYMEN'S LOYALTY

Mr. C. Gidney, President of the National Union of Railwaymen of India and Burma, has urged all railwaymen to be loyal in the present crisis, pledge their word and honour to stand by Government and work the trains with regularity and efficiency, eschewing bargaining and bartering with Government.

The President says that the railwayman is no backwater in the current of present world affairs and is not to be exploited by irresponsible labour leaders and political wire-pullers.

THE MUSICIAN IN EINSTEIN

A great deal of the publicity given to Professor Einstein has been devoted to his violin. To this great scientist, music is more than a pastime. In the course of a paper contributed to a recent issue of *Jewish Frontier* dedicated to Albert Einstein, who has completed this year the 60th year of his life, Emil Hilb writes:

Einstein does not need to be retiring about his violin-playing. In his violin-playing one can detect an excellent musical training supported by a musicianship that is most unusual for a non-professional.

It is not known by many people that Professor Einstein plays also the piano. Unobserved by him, I listened a number of times while he improvised. I felt that these hours at the piano gave him the greatest delight.

The inventive spirit in the scientist Einstein found in this instrument a relaxing outlet. An unusual clarity, a fine musical inspiration and an outstanding naturalness of form characterized his improvisations. Although his developments clashed occasionally with his lack of technical equipment, he never lost control over form and beauty of harmony. This was an artist expressing himself.

THE ART OF AHIVASI

His Excellency the Viceroy purchased, from the Simla Fine Art Society's recent exhibition "Departure of Mira" by Mr. J. M. Ahivasi, an eminent artist of Bombay.

The art of Mr. Ahivasi has originality, variety and vitality. He has captured the true spirit of the traditional art of India and has exhibited his Indian paintings in India as well as in England. Mr. Ahivasi eschews publicity but not production of art. He is not obtrusive and therefore does not enjoy the recognition of Bombay that he deserves, but the movement for the revival of Indian painting in Western India cannot disclaim the contribution by the painter of "Departure of Mira".

INDIAN GLOBE TROTTER

After emerging from the jaws of death twice in Africa—had his throat cut in Belgian Congo and was shot at on the abdomen by an Arab bandit in the Sahara—Tom Juan Herschell, a Jamaica-born Indian (100,000 miles world walker) returned to India recently. He has toured all the continents and in Europe, particularly, walked through several towns and villages in France, Belgium, Germany, Denmark and England. He started his world tour on the 20th June 1925 and completed it on the 20th June 1938. In India he has twice attempted to climb the Himalayas.

SWIMMING FOR HEALTH

Swimming can be adapted to every need, for the wide variety of available strokes bring into use many differing sets of muscles and limbs. The breast-crawl is for the athlete; the breast-stroke is for the more leisurely swimmer; the various types of back-stroke with all limbs in the water are the most restful of all. Yet any stroke can be swum in vigorous or quiet fashion.

Along with swimming should come diving. Here, too, is scope for athletic and acrobatic ability. Both courage and steady nerves are developed and self-confidence also. These are secured from swimming.

AUSTRALIA WINS THE DAVIS CUP

Australia has won the Davis Cup by beating America, the holders, in the challenge round by 3 matches to 2.

In the previous matches, Parker had beaten Quist and Bromwich lost to Riggs, while in Doubles Australia won the match. Australia won both Singles matches and thus after being down by 2 matches, won the cup.

BAKEWELL'S RETIREMENT

Bakewell of Northants, who has not played since the car crash in which he was involved in 1936 but who hoped to return to cricket, has announced his retirement from the game.

MYSTERY OF MATTER

Presiding over the meeting of the Indian Academy of Sciences, Bangalore, on September 23, Sir C. V. Raman described a new method he has devised for the investigation of the structure of matter which promises to yield results of far-reaching importance for Physics and Chemistry. The principle of the method consists in using a beam of polarised light which passes through the substance through a cabinet compensator followed by a polarising prism. The latter combination is capable of revealing the presence in the diffused light of even faint traces of polarised radiation and enables the character of the matter to be determined. Examination by this method of several common liquids and solids has revealed wholly unexpected results. The study of these effects promises to open a new pathway for elucidating the constitution of matter.

PETROL FROM PETROLEUM

On an average only about half of a barrel of crude petroleum can be turned into petrol; the rest is wasted. A French inventor, Eugene Houdry, has perfected a process by means of which useful oil can be extracted from this residue so that half or more of it will be utilised.

The invention, which has taken 11 years of research and the expenditure of more than £2,000,000 to produce, is expected to revolutionise the motor industry. It is claimed that the product will be the highest grade petrol ever made and the price will be lower than that of the recognized good brands to-day.

THE CAUSE OF THUNDER

Thunder results from the violent vibrations of the air caused by the lightning ashes, which in breaking down the resistance of the air create a vacuum of an extent depending upon the intensity of the flash. The air rushes to fill the void thus caused creating violent vibrations which travel long distances. They do not differ in character from other sound waves but are of greater amplitude than ordinary, because of the greater forces causing them.

FILM INDUSTRY AND FILM BOARD

Led by Mr. S. Satyamurthi, M.L.A., Central, a deputation of the South Indian Film Chamber of Commerce waited on the Minister for Law, the Hon. Dr. P. Subbarayan, on September 25.

In a memorandum submitted to the Minister, the deputationists stressed the necessity to democratise the Board of Film Censors and for closer collaboration between the film industry and the Board.

They also pleaded for representation of the industry and trade on the Board and suggested the nomination of representatives who are members of the Film Chamber.

It was further suggested that cinema operators and touring cinemas should be licensed.

Government should lessen its economic burden besides offering it fresh facilities, so that an industry of national importance like the cinema might grow in stature and dignity.

The Minister promised to consider their representations.

GRAMOPHONE PLAYS SOUND FILM RECORDS

A gramophone that reproduces musical selections recorded on a sound film is now being manufactured in Japan.

The thirty-five millimetre sound film used with the device accommodates ninety separate sound tracks with a total length of almost three-quarters of a mile and provides continuous playing for thirty-six minutes in contrast with an average of four minutes for ordinary twelve-inch disc records.

THEATRES AND PICTURE HOUSES

In a letter to the *Times*, Lady Oxford and Asquith associates herself with Mr. Bernard Shaw's protest against the order for the closing of theatres and picture houses.

It is not, she says, because her son is a film producer but because her experience of 1914-1918 was that war was not only dangerous but dull. Besides it is as important to keep civilians amused as to keep them occupied.

BRITISH MOTOR EXPORTS

Exports of British cars and chassis during the seven months ended 31st July, 1939, reached a record total of 49,234 vehicles. There were 8,368 trucks, buses and tractors also exported.

The Empire was the best customer, with Australia taking 14,329 cars, New Zealand 10,124, South Africa 3,014, and India 2,025.

Foreign countries increased their purchases by over 3,000 units to a total of 10,873, of which Denmark took 3,470. The total value of the motor export trade during the period was over £9,000,000.

HOW LONG A CAR LASTS

According to the latest researches of the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders—the governing body of the British motor industry—the average life of a car is 8.22 years. But lest it be assumed too readily by motorists that if they spend £200 on a car it is bound to last them for eight years, it ought to be emphasized that this is a statistical concept. The chances are that any mass-produced car will last eight years if great care is taken of it, if the annual mileage is not big and if various parts are replaced from time to time as required. A correspondent to the *Statesman* writes: "I happen to have personal knowledge of a car that was in the service of the same owner for eight years. He had paid £260 for it and for the first three years the expenditure for replacements was fairly reasonable."

CLEAR AND TIMELY SIGNALS

Signals must be carefully and clearly given and in plenty of time. Slovenly signals are almost worse than none at all.

The fact that you have made a signal does not end your responsibilities. Before you turn right it is as well to be sure that you will not be rammed amidships.

When you are going to be overtaken, the proper response is not to wave the other on (declare the W. I. A. A.) but to pull in still closer to the left and reduce speed or at any rate not increase it.

Make sure periodically that your mechanical signals including the rear "stop" light are functioning properly.

AIR SERVICES IN INDIA

Contrary to general expectations, the European War has had very little effect on the internal air services of India. Whereas the majority of transcontinental air services linking the Empire both foreign and British have considerably increased their rates, the Tata Air Lines announce that for the present their passenger fares remain unchanged.

At the moment only the monsoon schedule is being maintained, linking Karachi with Colombo through Bhuj, Ahmedabad, Poona, Hyderabad, Madras and Trichinopoly four times a week in both directions.

Bombay has been re-established in this service since October 15 in favour of Poona, as Juhu is free of monsoon troubles.

By the beginning of this month, the regular cold weather services will be resumed to Delhi as well as down to the Malabar Coast to Trivandrum.

The repeal of the 'all up' mail service has made it possible for Tatas to place more accommodation at the disposal of passengers and freight than has hitherto been the case.

WEAKNESS OF GERMAN AIR FORCE

Aviation experts express the opinion that Germany's losses of aeroplanes in Poland, which are reported to be over 400, are a poor tribute to the quality of the planes and the efficiency of the pilots considering Germany's vast superiority in numbers, writes a military correspondent.

INDIANS FOR R. A. F. UNITS

Recruits from India are for the first time to fill vacancies in the R. A. F. units.

Flying Clubs in India have been urged to supply Air Force with growing stream of volunteers. These Clubs during their ten years of operation have trained 1,000 pilots for civil aviation.

SIR R. B. POPHAM

Air Chief Marshal Sir Robert Brooke Popham has relinquished his appointment as Governor and Commander-in-Chief of Kenya to take up duty with the R. A. F.

MYSORE PAPER MILL

Among the most promising of industrial ventures sponsored by the Government of Mysore is the Mysore Paper Mill Limited which has its factory in Bhadravati.

The Mysore Paper Mill started trial operation in September 1938 and regular working on commercial basis began in March this year. The Mills mainly consume bamboo pulp made from bamboos brought in from the State forests in the malnad districts. Rags are used to a limited extent for the manufacture of higher grades of paper.

The plant at Bhadravati is capable of a sustained production of 15 tons of finished paper per day. It is essentially a fine paper mill for the manufacture of higher grades of printing, writing and typewriting papers.

GRAMOPHONE RECORDS WITHOUT A HISS

Gramophone lovers will be interested in a Japanese invention which is claimed to eliminate the hiss made by the needle on the record—a noise which always detracts from the purity of the recording.

This is done by greasing the grooves in which the needle runs. Records made of aluminium are given a porous surface by an electro-chemical treatment. A special varnish made from linseed oil, copal and lead soap is then applied to the pores which acts as a grease when the sound grooves are cut.

MANUFACTURE OF POWER ALCOHOL

The Provincial Government have decided to proceed with the arrangement for the production of power alcohol and for its compulsory mixing with petrol in the United Provinces. Distilleries interested in the manufacture of power alcohol are requested to apply for particulars regarding tender notice to the Excise Commissioner, United Provinces, Allahabad.

CLAY FOR POTTERY

A preliminary investigation conducted by the Director of Industries, Bombay, has revealed that the clay which is to be found at Jalgaon, Dapoli Taluka, Satnagiri District, can be used for pottery, specially for the manufacture of roofing tiles, garden pots, terra-cotta, red flooring tiles and glazed ware such as tea pots, etc.

IRRIGATION IN INDIA

Crops worth over Rs. 114 crores are being raised in areas receiving State irrigation, says the latest Report on Indian Irrigation.

From about 10.1/2 million acres in 1878-79, the area annually irrigated by State works alone has now risen to about 32.1/4 million acres. Over one-eighth of the total cultivated area is in British India.

The total capital outlay on irrigation and navigation works amounts to over Rs. 154 crores, the working expenses to about Rs. 5 crores and gross annual revenue to about Rs. 14.1/2 crores with a net return of 6.09 per cent.

These are some of the facts revealed in the annual review of irrigation in India for 1936-37 just published.

There are some 275 irrigation schemes in operation in British India of which 70 are of a major description. Nearly a third are classified as productive and the rest as unproductive, i.e., as works constructed primarily for the protection of tracts with precarious rainfall.

AN AGRICULTURAL MONTHLY

Mr. F. M. De Mello, formerly Editor of the *Indian Listener*, has been appointed to edit the publications of the Imperial Council of Agricultural Research. Among other things, he has been asked to reorganise the *Agriculture and Livestock in India*, the present bi-monthly journal of the Council and convert it into a popular monthly magazine.

AGRICULTURAL MACHINERY

A Press *communiqué* issued from Simla says that one of the two silver medals announced as prizes for improvements in machinery for preparing crops for the market, for food or for storage has been decided to be awarded by the Imperial Council of Agricultural Research to Mr. T. K. Thangavelu.

CULTIVATION OF LINSEED

Germany is planning intensified cultivation of linseed. In 1878, Germany produced 67 per cent. of her linseed supplies while to-day the production is only eight per cent.

THE I. L. O. AND WEEKLY REST

According to information received from Geneva, several important points are raised in the Questionnaire which the I. L. O. will shortly address to Governments of Member States on the subject of weekly rest in commerce and offices, an item on the agenda of the 1940 Session of the L. L. Conference.

The Questionnaire seeks to ascertain first, whether commercial establishments, offices, hotels, restaurants and boarding houses, establishments for the treatment and care of sick and destitute persons, theatres and places of public amusement, sports establishments, museums, libraries, etc., are to be covered by the proposed regulations.

As to the scope of persons to be covered, Governments are asked whether manual and non-manual workers including apprentices employed in commercial establishments and offices are to be brought in.

The proposed minimum weekly rest is 24 consecutive hours, and Governments are being asked whether this rest should, wherever possible, be granted simultaneously to the whole of the staff of each establishment and whether it should not be fixed to coincide with the weekly day of rest prescribed by custom.

WORKERS OF WORLD, SUPPORT BRITAIN

An extraordinary session of the International Federation of Trade Unions unanimously adopted a resolution proclaiming unity of view with the French and British workers who are defending human liberties against the aggression of the totalitarian states, and adding that peace could be contemplated only on the basis of the restoration of guarantees of the rights of nations and peoples. The cynical proposals of Herr Hitler offer no guarantee and open no prospects in this sense.

BRITISH LABOUR PROBLEM

Representatives of British Employers' Confederation and Trades Union Congress General Council met at the Ministry of Labour on October 19, to consider the establishment of a machinery for joint discussion of problems which confront the Government and industry in war time.

MYSORE DASARA EXHIBITION GUIDE

The visitor to the Mysore Dasara Exhibition will find it hard to resist the temptation, when he peruses this attractive Official Handbook and Guide, to visit every nook and corner of the State. Past and present are exquisitely blended in Mysore with its architectural monuments recalling to us the State's ancient glory and with the latest industrial and hydro-electric undertakings reflecting the modern outlook of Ruler and subjects alike. Contributors include Sir T. Vijayaragavacharya, Dr. S. Sachidananda Sinha of Bihar, Dr. S. Krishnaswami Ayyangar and others. The Guide is profusely illustrated and handsomely got up.

BIRTH-PLACE OF BHAVABHUTI

Old remains, dating back to the early medieval times of a village now identified as the birth-place of Bhavabhuti, the celebrated Sanskrit dramatist and the court-poet of Yasovarman, king of Kanauj in the eighth century A.D., have been brought under protection under the Ancient Monuments Preservation Act.

According to his own statement in his dramas, Bhavabhuti was born in a learned Brahmana family of Padmapura in ancient Vidarbha. This Padmapura has now been identified with the village of Padmapur, three miles from Amgaon in the Central Provinces.

ARREST OF GERMANS IN INDIA

Out of 1,500 Germans in India, 850 have been arrested for internment, according to an official announcement. The total includes Germans, Austrians and a few suspect Czecho-Slovaks.

Although Nazi propaganda was widespread and a number of persons were known to be engaged in it, there was no hint of resistance and only one succeeded in escaping.

COST OF ARMED FORCES

The amounts spent on armed forces by the various Powers are: Britain £700,000,000; France £360,000,000; Russia £1,080,000,000; U. S. A. £218,000,000; Germany £900,000,000; Japan £360,000,000; and Italy £110,000,000.

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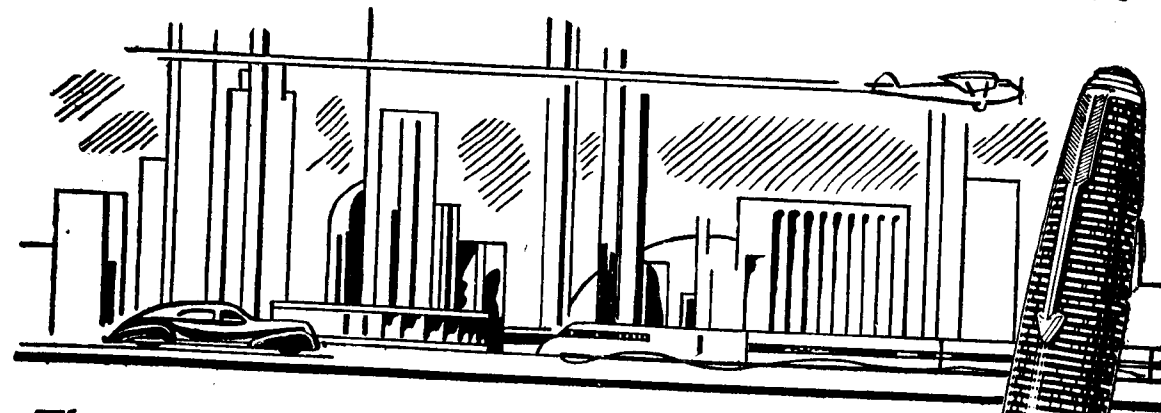
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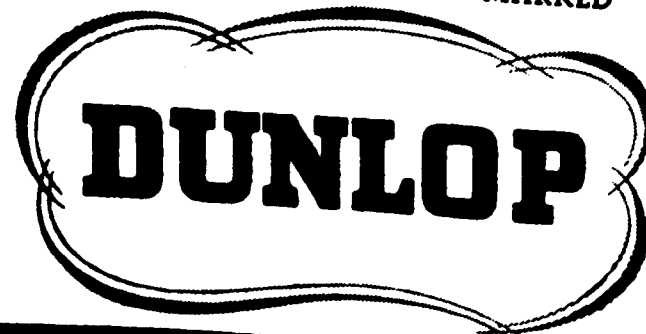
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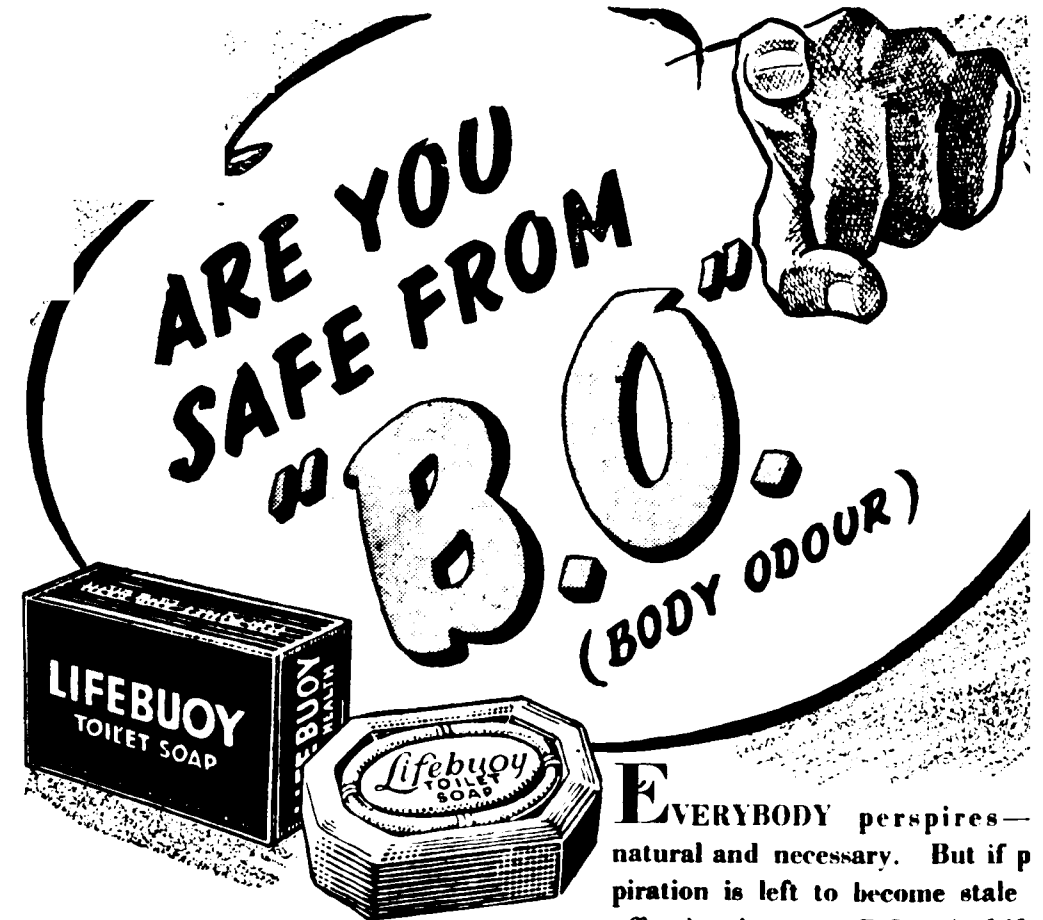
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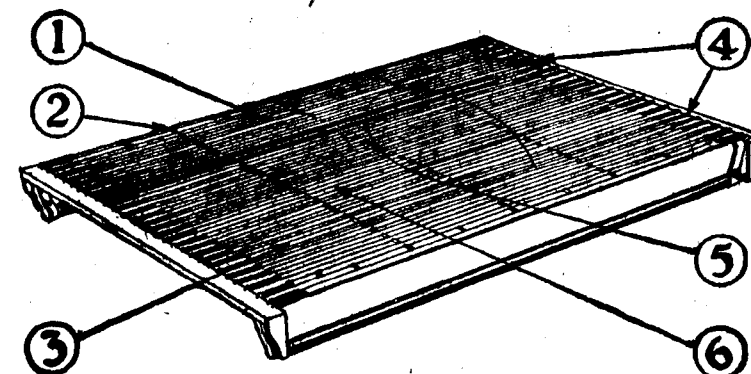
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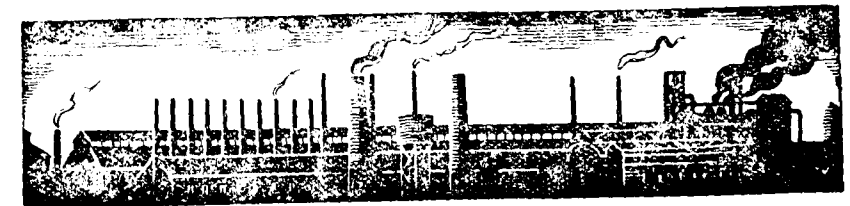
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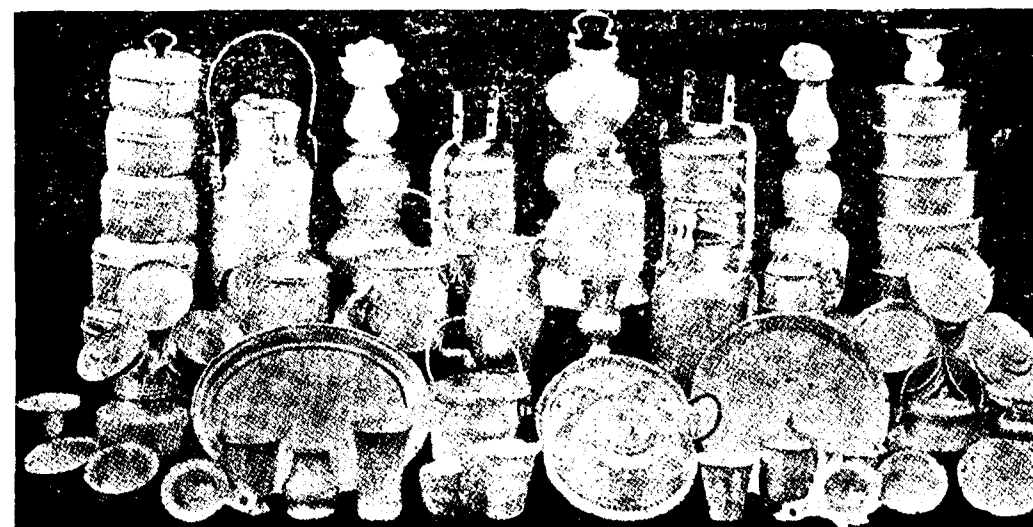
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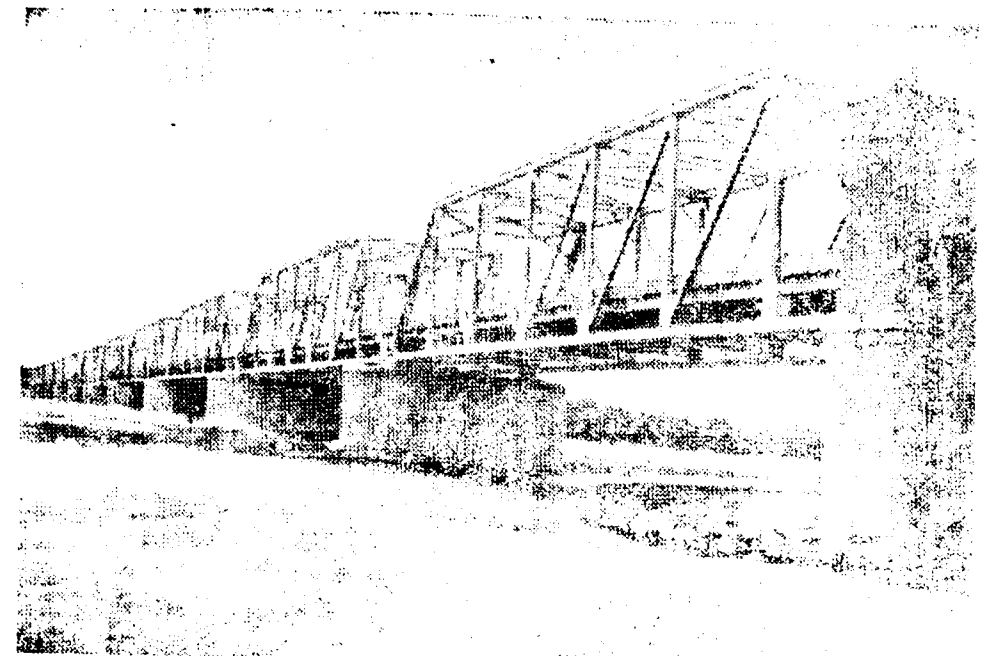
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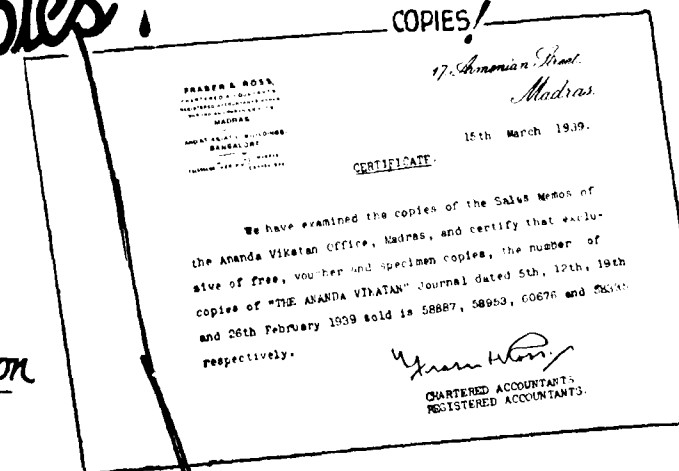

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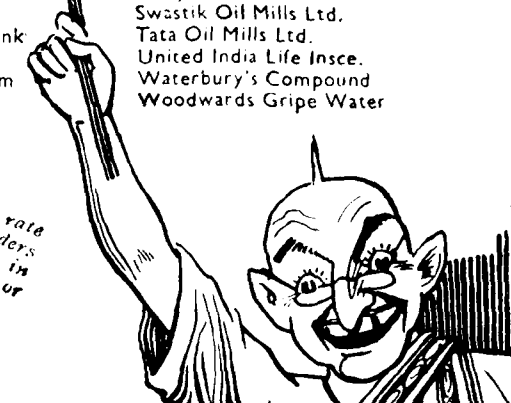
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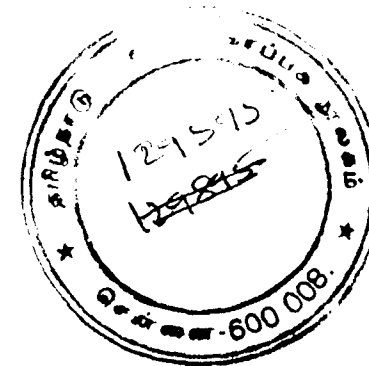
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Edited By Mr. G. A. NATESAN

Vol. XL.]

DECEMBER 1939

[No. 12.

DOMINION STATUS, THE WAR AND INDIA

By Mr. V. S. RAMASWAMY SASTRI

—:O:—

WHEN the war started at the beginning of September last, German statesmen, the whole of the Nazi propaganda machine and German Wireless availed themselves of every opportunity to emphasise the supposed disruption of the British Commonwealth of Nations and the failure of the dominions to support Great Britain in its war against Germany. As in 1914, so in 1939, the hopes entertained by Germany had been dashed to the ground. During this quarter of a century, however, the relations between Great Britain and the Dominions have undergone such striking transformation and so many startling changes that it would be well to review in retrospect the great events that have happened, principally in order to emphasise what the attainment of Dominion Status would mean for India. In this period, side by side with the progress made by convention and law as regards the inter-Imperial relations, there have been violent fluctuations of opinion in regard to the manner in which the Dominions should view such relations and the attitude which they should adopt on such subjects as neutrality and secession.

THE STATUTE OF WESTMINSTER

It was in 1926 that the Conference on Inter-Imperial Relations adopted under the chairmanship of Lord Balfour the definition which has now passed into history as a great and momentous declaration that the Dominions "are autonomous free units within the British Empire, equivalent in

status, in no way subordinate one to another in any aspect of their domestic or external affairs, though united by a common allegiance to the Crown and freely associated as members of the British Commonwealth of Nations". After protracted negotiations with the Dominions and at their urgent request, the British Parliament adopted in 1931 what is known as the Statute of Westminster which removed certain inequalities of status under the rules of strict law and non-legal rules which were inconsistent with the Balfour Declaration. That Statute stipulated that any change in the law touching the succession to the throne of the royal status and title should require the assent of all the Parliaments of the Commonwealth and that no law made in the United Kingdom should be applicable to the Dominions unless at the request and with the consent of that dominion. The operative portion of the Act declared that the Colonial Laws Validity Act of 1865 shall not apply to any law made after the commencement of that Act by the Parliament of the Dominion and that no law and no provision of any law made after this Act by the Parliament of a Dominion shall be void or inoperative on the ground of its being repugnant to the law of England. Further, each dominion had full power to make laws for any extra-territorial purposes. In Australia, where the States enjoy residuary powers, the latter were unwilling that the Federal Government should have power to change the constitution. Similarly in Canada where, however, the Federal

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Parliament had residuary powers, the provinces were quite opposed to the grant of power to the Central Government to change the constitution because that power might conceivably be used to reduce their own powers and rights. New Zealand is not anxious that it should exercise the right of changing its own constitution in any way it liked without reference to the British Parliament. So it was enacted that the passing of the Statute of Westminster in no way increased the powers possessed by the Dominion of Canada to make laws on any matter at present within its Dominion. And so far as Australia and New Zealand were concerned, it was specially enacted that nothing in the Act shall be deemed to confer any power to repeal or alter the constitutions of those countries, otherwise than in accordance with the law existing before the commencement of the Act. It will be seen, therefore, these three dominions have not yet chosen to exercise the power to change their own constitutions. That power vests in the British Parliament, but that Parliament can change the constitutions only at the request and with the consent of the dominions concerned. On this point the interpretation placed upon the Statute by a Joint Committee of the two Houses of Parliament in 1935, when the petition of the State of Western Australia for secession from the Commonwealth of Australia was under consideration, may be cited:

It is true that, as things stand, Parliament has in law full competence to do so, even against the wish and without the consent of the Commonwealth. To do so indeed would not be outside its competence in the strict legal sense. But it would be outside its competence if the established constitutional conventions of the Empire are to be observed, as observed they must be. Only by observance of this principle can the legal competence of the Parliament of the United Kingdom to legislate for the internal affairs of any Dominion or self-governing State or Colony be reconciled with the fundamental conception of them as autonomous communities. And apart from theory, it would be easy to state the practical difficulties which would follow from any departure from this principle. Hence what the petition prays for is, in that sense, something which is beyond the jurisdiction claimed by the Parliament of the United Kingdom.

PRESENT POSITION OF THE DOMINIONS

In Canada there is a growing demand that that Dominion should lose no time

in exercising the power granted to it by the Statute of Westminster of changing the constitution and a Commission is about to report as to how this could be done so as not to impinge upon the powers now possessed by the provinces. The three matters on which Canada does not yet possess full sovereign power are: (1) the change of the Constitution; (2) abolition of appeals to the Privy Council; and (3) distinctive Canadian flag. But this is so because, owing to the jealousy of the provinces and other causes she has not yet chosen to exercise the power. The situation in South Africa is somewhat different. General Hertzog when he was Prime Minister, had stated on many occasions that Great Britain had been very generous in regard to the grant of sovereign independence to South Africa and it is notorious that he has been claiming the power to South Africa to be neutral in any war in which Great Britain might be engaged and to secede from the British Commonwealth of Nations. Upon the nature of the independence which South Africans feel they now possess, it will suffice to refer to the statement made in England at the end of October 1939 by Mr. Reitz, South African Minister for Native Affairs, who has gone to England to attend the conference of representatives of Dominions and India. He said:

In the past we fought two bitter wars against the British; I myself, who am speaking to you this afternoon, served three years under arms against the British Empire and I went into exile in a strange land rather than serve under the British flag. I mention these things to show you the difference between our own past and that of other Dominions. But Great Britain after defeating us in war, treated us with a generosity unknown in history and conferred on us even a greater measure of liberty than we enjoyed under our own former republics. To-day as a voluntary partner in the British Commonwealth, we are not only free but far safer than we could hope to be if we were on our own with the smash and grab policy which is now trying to dominate the world.

The position of the Irish Free State is peculiar, though somewhat analogous to that of South Africa. Even before the new Constitution of 1937 was adopted, the Privy Council had held that the Statute of Westminster gave power to the Irish Parliament to repeal or amend the Constitution Act and that Acts of that

Parliament passed since the enactment of that Statute which contained amendments of the Constitution which were not within the terms of the Treaty of 1922 were in virtue of that Statute valid enactments. But the 1937 Constitution has virtually severed all its connections with Great Britain. Ireland has been declared to be a sovereign, independent and democratic state. The only reference to Great Britain is where it says that "for the purpose of the exercise of any executive function of the State in or in connection with its external relations, the Government may, to such extent and subject to such condition, if any, as may be determined by law avail of or adopt any organ, instrument, or method of procedure, used or adopted for the like purpose by the members of a common group or the League of Nations with which the State is or becomes associated for the purpose of international co-operation in matters of common concern". There was a good deal of discussion in Great Britain as to whether the new Constitution of Ireland which cut right across the Treaty of 1922 could be recognised. Legal advisers to the Crown, however, would appear to have held that the Statute of Westminster gave power to Ireland to enact such a Constitution and the following official *communiqué* was issued in December 1937 in recognising the Constitution:

His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom considered the position created by the new Constitution which the Irish Free State Parliament approved in June 1937 and came into force on 29th December. They are prepared to view the Constitution as not affecting any fundamental alteration in the position of the Irish Free State, which henceforth will be described under the new Constitution as "Eire" or Ireland, as a member of the British Commonwealth of Nations. His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom have ascertained that His Majesty's Government in Canada, Australia, New Zealand and South Africa are also prepared so to treat the new Constitution.

NEUTRALITY AND SECESSION

It is interesting to note the interpretation placed by the statesmen of the Dominions themselves by the Statute of Westminster and as regards their policy to remain neutral. A third of Canada was isolationist before the war and in an important

debate held in March last, the Ministers emphasised the fact that it is Canada that must alone decide as to what it should do when a contingency arose. "I cannot accept the view," Mr. McKenzie King said, "that regardless of what government or party may be in power, regardless of what its policy may be, this country should say here and now that Canada is prepared to follow whatever may be proposed by the Government at Westminster. The Parliament of Canada was supreme and it must decide as to what it should do." So meticulous is Canada about its sovereign powers that in July 1938 when the government were accused of refusing Great Britain of withholding permission for the establishment of R.A.F. training schools in Canada, Mr. McKenzie King said that the Canadian Government cannot permit any military to be stationed in the country under the control of any other government. He challenged the Leader of the Opposition to test public opinion in a general election upon this point and declared that the course Mr. Bennett suggested of automatic consent to everything proposed by Westminster implied the reversal of the trend on the part of the British Dominions towards complete autonomy and sovereignty. About a month after that statement, the President of the United States virtually extended the Monroe doctrine to Canada by saying that if Canada was threatened by any other power, the United States will not stand by idly.

While holding that the Statute recognises the sovereign independence of the Dominions and clearly contemplated nothing else but a renunciation of all the rights and powers that the British Government and British Parliament had with regard to that country, General Hertzog added in 1935 that the sovereign independent status implied again expressly that South Africa had the right and the fullest right of neutrality. It was, he declared, for the South African Parliament to decide what it should do in any particular circumstances which might arise. As a matter of fact in 1937, South Africa felt sore as regards Great Britain's failure to press sanctions against Mussolini. In March of this year, pressed to make

a declaration of policy by Dr. D. F. Malan, General Hertzog said that the questions of Central Europe, Czechoslovakia and others had nothing to do directly with South Africa. The position of the Union was this: where and when the activities of a European country are of such a nature and scope that it may be inferred from them that its purpose and aim is the domination of other free countries and peoples and that the safety and interest of the Union are also threatened thereby, then it is time for the Government to warn the people of the Union and to ask this House to take steps to interfere and even otherwise the Union has no interest and it takes no interest.

DOMINIONS' OFFER OF HELP

It will be clear from the foregoing that every Dominion in law as well as in convention feels and acts upon that feeling that it enjoys virtual sovereign independence. It is further unambiguously clear that Great Britain fully and unreservedly accepts this position. This statement of the case has been elucidated further by the events that have happened after Great Britain declared war against Germany on the 3rd of September. Mr. MacKenzie King announced immediately after that Great Britain had no alternative other than the resort to the arbitration by armaments because of the aggressive policy followed by Hitler and his truculent rejection of Great Britain's advice regarding peaceful methods of settlement of the dispute between Germany and Poland. The whole of Canada felt that if Germany was not checked in its mad course, the safety and interests of Canada, nay of the whole world, would be jeopardised, and taking this view, the Canadian Parliament voted the King's address in the second week of September, only emphasising the fact that Canada would never consent to conscription. The recent elections in Quebec where there is a strong isolationist party have, much to the chagrin of Germany, supported Mr. King. The views of General Smuts in regard to Germany ever since the Great War are well known. He has consistently refused to discuss the theoretical questions of neutrality and secession and when he found General

Hertzog striving for neutrality, he brought the matter to an issue resulting in the defeat of General Hertzog. The elections for the Union Senate held in the second week of November have resulted in the support of a majority favourable to General Smuts. Australia and New Zealand, though they had not always seen eye to eye with the foreign policy of Great Britain, have always held steadfastly to the view that if Great Britain was involved in war, they were also likewise involved and especially because of the ideological grounds upon which Great Britain entered into the conflict, there was absolutely no whisper of any kind in these countries against their participation in the war. It is necessary to refer here to the fact that each one of these Dominions has promised to place all its resources at the disposal of the Allies. Canada will soon become the greatest centre in the Commonwealth for the training of aviators and that country has promised unlimited supplies of war materials and food supplies. South Africa will contribute a warship and one million sterling to Great Britain, and General Smuts has solemnly declared, besides, that the Union would rush to the help of Great Britain if any part of its possession in the Continent of Africa was threatened or invaded. The attitude which Ireland is taking is again peculiar. Mr. De Valera has a grievance. He thinks that Great Britain should coerce Ulster to end the partition. He sincerely believes that Great Britain has the power to persuade the Northern Counties to come to terms with Eire. If they are unwilling for closer union, they may at least agree, according to Mr. De Valera, to set up a Federal Parliament and a Federal Government conferring upon the new authority such powers as Great Britain now possesses *vis-a-vis* Belfast Government. And so Ireland remains neutral. It must be noted that Great Britain has not so far, to the knowledge of the public, attempted in any way to argue out the matter with Eire, in the same way as it has scrupulously refrained from persuading the Dominions to come to the help of Great Britain in the prosecution of the war. When it was suggested the other day that perhaps German naval craft were receiving supplies

in Irish ports, the British Minister concerned discreetly refused to be drawn into a controversy and said the matter was one for Ireland to decide. Great Britain has chosen to rely upon the influence which the high moral issue she has raised might be able to have upon the Dominions and the sequel has proved that her dignified position and her confidence were quite justified.

A word may be said of the relations between Great Britain and the Dominions after the war. The spontaneous offer of help, and the intimate touch now established, have naturally revived proposals involving closer organic relationship. A federation of the Dominions, the latter agreeing to part some of their sovereign powers to a federal authority, with a representative executive and a representative legislature, would, it is argued, be a bulwark against the wanton assaults on Democracy on the part of any totalitarian state and a great and formidable power for ensuring the peace of the world. That idea has not so far had any considerable support in the majority of the Dominions, and geography, natural affinities, national aspirations and passionate love of independence are likely, even after the war, to operate as obstacles to the attainment of this ambitious project. The statesmen of the Commonwealth would, of course, be confronted with the problem after the downfall of Hitlerism. Where should we go to find a guiding principle, asks Stephen King-Hall and the answer, he adds, is to be found in the third chapter of the second Epistle to the Corinthians where it is said:

Not of the letter, but of the spirit; for the letter killeth, but the spirit giveth life.

THE POSITION OF INDIA

What about India? The Congress Working Committee, which agrees with every shade of public opinion in India that Hitlerism must be destroyed and that the world should be made safe against the perpetual menace of aggression, naturally asks what position India would occupy in such new order that might be created after the conclusion of the present struggle. Mahatma Gandhi has made it clear that the Congress demands no constitutional change during the war. He demands,

however, that Great Britain should declare her war aims to include India's independence according to a scheme prepared by her elected representatives after the war, this declaration being acted up to as far as possible during the duration of the war. Great Britain's answer is that such declaration cannot be made in view of the long standing British connection with India which has left the Government with obligations which it is impossible for her to shed by disinteresting themselves wholly in the shaping of her future government. Further, she was trustee of the interests of minorities which must be safeguarded. In these two matters, British and minority interests, it may be recalled that Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman felt absolutely no hesitation whatsoever thirty years ago to grant virtual Dominion Status to South Africa in spite of the fact that Great Britain had her special responsibilities in that country and there were racial and communal conflicts of the bitterest kind between the white and the black, between the Indian and the European, between the Boer and the English. Why then should not a generous gesture of that kind be held out to India, which is inspired by the same lofty motives as England in regard to this war? England should remember that the Congress does not arrogate to itself the right to determine what Constitution India should have. It only pleads that this question may be decided by the electorate—by the Indians themselves and Gandhiji has unequivocally declared that the interests of minorities must be safeguarded. After all, it is an arrogant assumption for which there is no moral justification that Great Britain has greater interest in the settlement of the communal question than the Indians themselves. There are questions relating to British commercial interests, foreign policy and defence which must be solved but when once Great Britain agrees to grant Dominion Status to India, she would find that these difficulties, which may now appear to be formidable, would disappear as mist before the sun by reason of the sense of gratitude and the spirit of give-and-take which would be evoked by an unequivocal, unambiguous and unreserved declaration of policy such as is demanded by India.

Undue stress need not be placed upon the suggestion regarding the Constituent Assembly. A considerable body of influential Indian opinion feels that if India is promised Dominion Status after the war, the Congress would at once realise the necessity to end the present impasse involved by the resignation of the Congress Ministries. It is well to remember in this connection the statement made by Mahatma Gandhi early in 1937 when he said: "I said then at the Round Table Conference in 1931 and repeat now that

so far as I am concerned, if Dominion Status were offered in terms of the Statute of Westminster with the right to secede at will, I would unhesitatingly accept it." One comforting feature in the situation is that the Secretary of State Lord Zetland, has assured India that Dominion Status for India means the status as envisaged by the Statute of Westminster and, we may add, as interpreted by the various Dominions, an idea of which it is the purpose of the preceding paragraphs to afford.

TEMPLE ENTRY IN TAMIL NAD

BY MRS. RAMESHWARI NEHRU

It was a great experience in touring in Tamil Nad in the months of May and June last on Temple Entry Campaign. If some one had suggested before the tour actually started that the temples would open at the end of the tour, I would never have believed it. It seemed such a difficult task. Much spade work had yet to be done before such a consummation could be achieved, argued those of us who were engaged in this work. We did not know that the fateful hour had come and temple doors were soon destined to open to the Harijans. I will never forget the first pleasant surprise I had when I witnessed the tremendous crowds listening intently to the speeches on temple entry, which were being delivered inside the town hall on the 18th of the May on the day of the inauguration of the temple entry campaign in Madura. I had the honour of presiding over that conference. It was opened by the Hon'ble Shri Munuswami Pillay and was attended and addressed by the Hon'ble Shri Rajagopalacharya, the Hon'ble Dr. Rajan and several other Ministers and leaders of the Province. They all pledged their word to work for the campaign and exhorted the people to make it a success. A spontaneous procession in the afternoon and a public meeting later in the evening were as great a success. I doubted my own eyes. I wondered whether all that was happening in the same South where even the shadow of a Harijan contaminated a caste Hindu. It was the habit of the

crowds to collect together to have the darshan of the leaders they loved and revered. And had not Shri Rajagopalacharya come there? So disregarding the object of the meeting, the crowds had come just to pay their homage to their beloved leader. Thus I argued in my own mind. I felt tempted to ask them if they were prepared to allow the Harijans to enter the Shri Meenakshi temple. My heart trembled as I put them this question. I was not sure what the answer was going to be. But as I waited with bated breath for an answer, I witnessed the pleasing spectacle of a forest of hands going up in support of the proposal. A thrill of joy went all over me. But I still doubted. It was so difficult to believe. These were the very men who a few years back had created a riot at a remote suggestion of allowing the Nadars into the same Shri Meenakshi temple. How could this tremendous change have come over the people within such a short time? But the spirit of the age was working imperceptibly and had already worked the miracle. All that was left to be done was only a matter of little mobilization and a little leadership. The ground was prepared. These scenes of enthusiasm were repeated everywhere. I went and there were hardly two or three districts which were left out of my tour itinerary. Evidently the whole of Tamil Nad from Madras right down to Rameswaram was ready for the reform. I orthodox Madura led the way.

prepared to follow suit. And so Tanjore, Trichinopoly, Srirangam, and Salem all vied with each other in their readiness to welcome their Harijan brethren into the temples. Often our meetings were held in the vicinity of ancient temples. Under the shadow of the sacred rock temple at Trichinopoly with the shining pure white light burning high up at the top, masses of men and women assembled in their thousands at the public meeting and gave their word of honour in support of the cause. I could not help remarking that the Goddess in the temple above must be rejoicing at that wonderful sight of so many of her worshippers coming together to help to restore the lost right of worship to her Harijan devotees.

The momentum of the campaign gathered as the tour proceeded. That great veteran reformer, the redoubtable Vaidyanatha Aiyer, set himself to work in Madura. He made concentrated efforts. With the display of huge posters, the distribution of leaflets, the holding of many meetings a day, he forced the urgency of the reform on the attention of every individual in the city of old Madura. With the dexterity of an experienced leader, he converted the majority of the worshippers of the Goddess Shri Meenakshi and led the first batch of the Harijans into the temple on the 8th of June 1939. It was done in broad daylight in the hours of the morning with hundreds of worshippers witnessing the happy spectacle. At last the closed gates of the sacred temple were opened and for the first time in history, the Harijans worshipped at the lotus feet of the Goddess. For weeks beforehand the atmosphere was tense, people were waiting in expectant suspense. The news of the great event spread like wild fire into the town. There were rejoicings. People were happy that at last this belated deed of redemption was done. But a handful of recalcitrant orthodox opposed. They could not reconcile themselves to the reform. They started their own campaign. They fretted and fumed. They are still continuing their activities. They are harassing the reformers and trying to prevent people from performing worship at the temple. But with the grace of God, right has triumphed and the worshippers are continuing their worship

in ever larger numbers. Madura was not the only town where temples were opened to the Harijans. The big temple at Tanjore with 80 others was opened. The news of the opening of temples in various parts came in as I proceeded along with the tour.

There was no opposition anywhere. All welcomed the movement with open arms. The first and only signs of opposition were exhibited at Chidambaram where our meeting was disturbed more than once and our speakers were not allowed to speak. It was reserved for the sacred birth-place of Saint Nandanar whose great love forced the God to give him darshan which was refused him by the Brahmans. In spite of the whole area being reminiscent of that great event, the truth apparently had not yet gone home with the orthodox who still insisted on refusing the Harijans their birthright of worship at the temples. It seemed they were waiting still for another miracle to happen.

One small insignificant temple was opened right out in a village, situated in the midst of a Brahmin Agrahar. For me it was the most significant indication of the changes of the spirit. If unlettered villagers allowed their Harijan brethren to worship in their temple, the day was not far off when each and every temple would be opened and when there will not exist a single dissident. That will, indeed, be a day of triumph for the Hindu religion. With untouchability dead, it was destined to live.

I must say a word about what I saw of the immense joy with which the Harijans received this charter of their rights. Tears flowed down their cheeks. They hardly found words to express their feelings. They were filled with the spirit of Nandanar the devotee and they worshipped their God with the same devotion. The unexpected had happened and they actually stood face to face with the object of their worship whose darshan they were denied for centuries. And the Brahmin and caste Hindu men and women rejoiced with them and worshipped along with them.

A great wrong of centuries was righted. Who can say that it was forced, uncalled for or untimely?

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DOMINIONS' OFFER OF HELP

It will be clear from the foregoing that every Dominion in law as well as in convention feels and acts upon that feeling that it enjoys virtual sovereign independence. It is further unambiguously clear that Great Britain fully and unreservedly accepts this position. This statement of the case has been elucidated further by the events that have happened after Great Britain declared war against Germany on the 3rd of September. Mr. MacKenzie King announced immediately after that Great Britain had no alternative other than the resort to the arbitration by armaments because of the aggressive policy followed by Hitler and his truculent rejection of Great Britain's advice regarding peaceful methods of settlement of the dispute between Germany and Poland. The whole of Canada felt that if Germany was not checked in its mad course, the safety and interests of Canada, nay of the whole world, would be jeopardised, and taking this view, the Canadian Parliament voted the King's address in the second week of September, only emphasising the fact that Canada would never consent to conscription. The recent elections in Quebec where there is a strong isolationist party have, much to the chagrin of Germany, supported Mr. King. The views of General Smuts in regard to Germany ever since the Great War are well known. He has consistently refused to discuss the theoretical questions of neutrality and secession and when he found General

Hertzog striving for neutrality, he brought the matter to an issue resulting in the defeat of General Hertzog. The elections for the Union Senate held in the second week of November have resulted in the support of a majority favourable to General Smuts. Australia and New Zealand, though they had not always seen eye to eye with the foreign policy of Great Britain, have always held steadfastly to the view that if Great Britain was involved in war, they were also likewise involved and especially because of the ideological grounds upon which Great Britain entered into the conflict, there was absolutely no whisper of any kind in these countries against their participation in the war. It is necessary to refer here to the fact that each one of these Dominions has promised to place all its resources at the disposal of the Allies. Canada will soon become the greatest centre in the Commonwealth for the training of aviators and that country has promised unlimited supplies of war materials and food supplies. South Africa will contribute a warship and one million sterling to Great Britain, and General Smuts has solemnly declared, besides, that the Union would rush to the help of Great Britain if any part of its possession in the Continent of Africa was threatened or invaded. The attitude which Ireland is taking is again peculiar. Mr. De Valera has a grievance. He thinks that Great Britain should coerce Ulster to end the partition. He sincerely believes that Great Britain has the power to persuade the Northern Counties to come to terms with Eire. If they are unwilling for closer union, they may at least agree, according to Mr. De Valera, to set up a Federal Parliament and a Federal Government conferring upon the new authority such powers as Great Britain now possesses *vis-a-vis* Belfast Government. And so Ireland remains neutral. It must be noted that Great Britain has not so far, to the knowledge of the public, attempted in any way to argue out the matter with Eire, in the same way as it has scrupulously refrained from persuading the Dominions to come to the help of Great Britain in the prosecution of the war. When it was suggested the other day that perhaps German naval craft were receiving supplies

in Irish ports, the British Minister concerned discreetly refused to be drawn into a controversy and said the matter was one for Ireland to decide. Great Britain has chosen to rely upon the influence which the high moral issue she has raised might be able to have upon the Dominions and the sequel has proved that her dignified position and her confidence were quite justified.

A word may be said of the relations between Great Britain and the Dominions after the war. The spontaneous offer of help, and the intimate touch now established, have naturally revived proposals involving closer organic relationship. A federation of the Dominions, the latter agreeing to part some of their sovereign powers to a federal authority, with a representative executive and a representative legislature, would, it is argued, be a bulwark against the wanton assaults on Democracy on the part of any totalitarian state and a great and formidable power for ensuring the peace of the world. That idea has not so far had any considerable support in the majority of the Dominions, and geography, natural affinities, national aspirations and passionate love of independence are likely, even after the war, to operate as obstacles to the attainment of this ambitious project. The statesmen of the Commonwealth would, of course, be confronted with the problem after the downfall of Hitlerism. Where should we go to find a guiding principle, asks Stephen King-Hall and the answer, he adds, is to be found in the third chapter of the second Epistle to the Corinthians where it is said:

Not of the letter, but of the spirit; for the letter killeth, but the spirit giveth life.

THE POSITION OF INDIA

What about India? The Congress Working Committee, which agrees with every shade of public opinion in India that Hitlerism must be destroyed and that the world should be made safe against the perpetual menace of aggression, naturally asks what position India would occupy in such new order that might be created after the conclusion of the present struggle. Mahatma Gandhi has made it clear that the Congress demands no constitutional change during the war. He demands,

however, that Great Britain should declare her war aims to include India's independence according to a scheme prepared by her elected representatives after the war, this declaration being acted up to as far as possible during the duration of the war. Great Britain's answer is that such declaration cannot be made in view of the long standing British connection with India which has left the Government with obligations which it is impossible for her to shed by disinteresting themselves wholly in the shaping of her future government. Further, she was trustee of the interests of minorities which must be safeguarded. In these two matters, British and minority interests, it may be recalled that Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman felt absolutely no hesitation whatsoever thirty years ago to grant virtual Dominion Status to South Africa in spite of the fact that Great Britain had her special responsibilities in that country and there were racial and communal conflicts of the bitterest kind between the white and the black, between the Indian and the European, between the Boer and the English. Why then should not a generous gesture of that kind be held out to India, which is inspired by the same lofty motives as England in regard to this war? England should remember that the Congress does not arrogate to itself the right to determine what Constitution India should have. It only pleads that this question may be decided by the electorate—by the Indians themselves and Gandhiji has unequivocally declared that the interests of minorities must be safeguarded. After all, it is an arrogant assumption for which there is no moral justification that Great Britain has greater interest in the settlement of the communal question than the Indians themselves. There are questions relating to British commercial interests, foreign policy and defence which must be solved but when once Great Britain agrees to grant Dominion Status to India, she would find that these difficulties, which may now appear to be formidable, would disappear as mist before the sun by reason of the sense of gratitude and the spirit of give-and-take which would be evoked by an unequivocal, unambiguous and unreserved declaration of policy such as is demanded by India.

RELIGIO

BY MR. A. GALLETTI, I.C.S. (Retired)

Our temples may fall, they are worn with age,
Our idols may break, they have stood their day
But on these old hewn stones sage after sage
Has figured the spells that endure alway.

The Vedas stand and the Upanishads,
Maha Bharatam, Lord Krishna's Gita,
The story of Rama, and what else the bards
Have sung in verse than which none is sweeter

Valmiki's slokas and Sankara's prose,
The Hinayana and Madhyamika,
What have your Scriptures to compare with those
Revelations of Vidya to the seeker?

Smritis and Srutis and Vedanta lore,
The Samkya system and Nyayamanjari,
Built up by Buddhists in days of yore,
Declared by the Germans highest *Philosophie*.

And subtlest e'er devised by the wit of man:
What have you to show with those to compare
Tiny Chosen Land, Beersheba to Dan,
Balaam's ass, Jonah's whale, Beersheba fair?

Our idols may vanish from temple and grove:
KARMA AND DHARMA, BHAKTI AND OM
Preserve a religion of Duty and Love
Established before the founding of Rome.

Your Slaughtered Innocents and other tales
Come straight from Purana Bhagavat:
'Twas Kamsa's—not Herod's—slaughter of males,
And Krishna—not Christ—the Avatar aimed at.

Devaki—not Mary—was the Mother of God,
Vasudeva—not Joseph—His father:
Earlier Asita, by a hundred years odd
Than Simeon praised the new-born Avatar.

So, Christians, we pray you, do not besmirch
An older, sublimer religion than yours:
We do not assail or bespatter your Church;
The wise man respects all spirit that soars,

POLAND WILL RISE AGAIN

BY MR. E. BANASINSKI

(Consul-General for Poland)

AFTER three weeks of heroic defence, the city of Warsaw has been forced to surrender to the enemy. With the fall of the devastated Capital, the military occupation of Poland by Nazi and Bolshevik troops appears to be completed.

question of time. How long could an army of one million defend itself against the joint onslaught of the Nazis and the Soviets? Hopelessly outnumbered and handicapped from the start, Poland fought on knowing fully well what the final outcome must be.

It might be asked, why then did Poland resist Germany at all? Would it not have been better for her to accept the German terms and yield Danzig and the road across Pomorze? In view of what has happened, these seem minor concessions indeed.

No doubt such a solution would have saved the destruction of Poland. It would have saved the lives of hundreds of thousands of the civil population—women and children and millions who now undergo the pangs of hunger and ravages of disease in the ruins of their former home. If the question at issue was Poland alone, it would have been wiser to follow the line of least resistance. But by the time the German demands on Poland were made, the civilised world already knew that the Nazi regime's objective was world domination—Danzig was merely a stepping-stone for what they called "lebensraum" for the German nation. This they hoped to achieve by two means, either by the destruction of the British Commonwealth or of Soviet Republics. Since Poland and Britain refused to join the Nazis in their adventure against Soviet Russia, they tried to "shock" the world by enlisting the aid of the Soviets against Britain and Poland!

Thus when the British Government offered Poland—and Poland accepted the guarantee against German aggression, both parties to the agreement knew that it was Poland and Poland alone that would have to bear the brunt of the onslaught. Direct help from her Allies was out of question. Poland was called upon to make a supreme sacrifice for the salvation of the world from the menace of dictatorship. The sacrifice has been made.

It was Poland's resistance that enabled the Allies to complete their mobilization



MR. E. BANASINSKI

Poland is in ruins. Her homes are destroyed. Her sons have been killed by thousands in her defence. But the spirit which for 125 years inspired three generations to work, to fight and to suffer for her freedom and independence continues to live. As far back as the 18th century it was said that Poland can be swallowed but never digested. The successors of Fredrick and Catherine will find this statement just as true today as it was at the time of the first partition of Poland.

It is necessary to review some of the events which led to the present catastrophe. The outcome of an uneven struggle against the entire German army and air force aided by Soviet troops was never in doubt. It was only a

and for the British troops to land safely in France. She has enabled the British and the French commands to gauge the power of the German army. She gave them time to co-ordinate their plans, which the big armies of modern times must necessarily require.

It is said that this Polish sacrifice is another instance of "pulling someone's chestnuts out of fire". The Polish nation had never hesitated to pull someone's chestnuts out of fire whenever the fate of civilisation was at stake. In the Middle Ages, she saved Europe from the barbarities of the Tartars. In 1683, the Poles put an end to the Turkish domination of Europe by defeating them at the gates of Vienna. And once again in 1920, she succeeded in stemming the tide of Bolshevism which threatened

to overwhelm Europe. To the coming generations, Poland's sacrifice in the present war will go down as the defence of European civilisation against the sinister forces of destruction.

It is needless to emphasise that Poland will rise again mightier than before after this hour of trial. The might of weapons can destroy cities and annihilate armies, but it cannot destroy one thing the spirit of the people. The present partition of Poland can never be "a settled fact" as boasted by her conquerors. This is guaranteed by her history. The entire Polish territory is richly endowed with the deeds and memories of countless men and women Poles who had again and again lived to see their enemies turned out of their motherland to dust and oblivion.

SHIPPING IN WAR TIME

BY MR. GAGANVIHARI L. MEHTA

(President, Indian Chamber of Commerce, Calcutta)

THE vital importance of shipping in modern war is being made evident from day to day since the outbreak of



MR. GAGANVIHARI L. MEHTA

hostilities two months ago. This importance has grown in recent times owing

to more reasons than one. During ancient and medieval times, although there was naval warfare and invasion as well as conquest by the sea, merchant shipping was not so fundamental a factor as at present. Increase in the volume of international trade for which the principal means of communication is the sea as well as the geographical position of the belligerents are responsible for this importance of sea transport. The transport of troops, supplies and munitions during war time renders necessary the mobilisation and the economic utilisation of all available tonnage. Britain, for example, is an island country dependent for its food supplies and for the export of its manufactures on maritime trade whose preservation is, therefore, a vital necessity, not only for its prosperity but for its very existence. Britain has also a far-flung Empire knit together by the sea, so that the safeguarding of the routes is as much necessary for economic as for strategic reasons. It has been calculated that for every pound of wheat

from overseas. So it is in varied proportions with other foods as also several staple commodities which are imported in the raw state, some for home consumption and others for manufacture. There is no doubt that Great Britain would, if left to its own resources, be brought to the verge of starvation in a few weeks and this is prevented only by its control over the sea. In the event of war, therefore, the enemies of England inevitably resort to a blockade of the country in order to deplete it of its resources and cripple its strength. During the last Great War, Germany endeavoured to do this through submarine warfare and is repeating these tactics in the present war by supplementing the submarine with aircraft. On the other hand, Germany being an inland country whose export trade is also dependent to some extent on sea carriage, can be blockaded by Britain owing to Britain's geographical position in relation to Germany and owing to Britain's possession of the largest navy and merchant shipping in the world. A chart published by the British Stationery Office illustrating the distribution of British shipping on a typical day in 1937 showed that 1,515 British vessels of 3,000 tons gross and above were at sea in every ocean of the world while another 705 British merchantmen were in harbour all over the navigable Globe. The vital sea communications of Britain cover nearly 85,000 miles which are not only of commercial but of strategic importance and it is the primary duty of the British Navy to ensure that these sea routes are not interrupted. A blockade of Germany through naval action and the co-operation of merchant shipping is, on the other hand, an integral part of the economic warfare now being waged by Britain. In fact, a Ministry of Economic Warfare has been established after the outbreak of the recent war to organise this blockade and impede and prevent the supply of vital commodities which are contraband to the enemy. In this mutual blockade and counter-blockade, both naval and merchant shipping play a vital part; for without them such warfare is impossible.

It was contended and felt before the recent war that the development of aircraft had rendered useless sea power as a means

of defence. But this was not true and has been disproved by recent experience. As Mr. Shakespeare, Secretary to the British Admiralty, declared last year: "Air power by itself is unlikely to win wars. The main burden falls on the Navy." In several respects, aircraft has undoubtedly tended to modify the conduct of operations at sea but it has not supplanted naval power. Aircraft, for example, has co-operated with the submarine in attacking enemy ships on the one side, as it has also aided anti-submarine measures on the other side; in neither case have they effectively substituted action on the sea. For the carriage of supplies and troops to belligerents as of world's goods, shipping still remains the principal means of communications. Sir Arthur Salter in his "Allied Shipping Control" shows how during the last war shipping became the very centre of Allied problem and shipping control the centre of its organisation. "Certainly, the Allied forces could not have been maintained without the naval protection of merchant ships, particularly without the amazingly successful system of convoy," he observes: "it is equally certain that no system of naval protection would have been sufficient without the continuous and unfailing skill and courage of the officers and men of the mercantile marine." A merchant marine is not only a training ground and a feeder of a Navy but a reserve and second line of defence. Even a well-organised navy with its battleships, cruisers, its destroyers and submarines would be seriously handicapped if it were not adequately supported by the mercantile fleet providing transport for munitions and hospital ships, auxiliary cruisers, minesweepers, submarine chasers and other vital necessities of naval warfare. It would serve to protect the flow of commerce, both coastal and overseas, from interruption as well as to prevent a blockade of ports. It is because of this vital function of merchant shipping in war, particularly for a country and a Commonwealth based on sea transport that the mercantile marine is virtually chartered by the nation when war breaks out.

The convoy system, which functioned also during the last war, was established

present one as Britain's counteraction against the submarine menace. It no doubt took some time to be organised especially for vessels coming into British ports. When the war broke out, the British mercantile fleet was scattered all over the world and a large part of it was naturally on the high seas. This would easily form the target of hostile submarine attack. Another form of attack on merchantmen is by armed raiders and pocket-battleships, but except for two or three such German vessels none seems so far to have been at large. A convoy system, although it diminishes the speed of voyages and occasions delays in ports, is undoubtedly a measure of defensive security. But even a convoy system today has to face greater dangers from the air which it did not do during the last war. Merchant vessels have, therefore, been and are being armed to defend themselves and officers of the mercantile marine trained in the technique of naval defence. As stated by Sir John Gilmour, who is in charge of the recently constituted British Ministry of Shipping since the outbreak of the war, out of 3,070 ships convoyed only 7 were lost and he mentioned this as a striking example of co-operation between the mercantile marine and as showing how the convoy system gave security.

It is interesting to consider in this connection the position of merchant shipping tonnage of the world at the outbreak of the hostilities. According to the Lloyd's Register of Shipping, the total gross tonnage of merchant vessels was 69,110,000 on 1st July 1939. More than a quarter of the mercantile marine of the world belongs to Great Britain and more than 30 per cent., i.e., 21,215,000 tons, to the British Empire. In the second place comes the United States of America with 17 per cent. while other maritime countries follow far behind them, among which are Norway and then Japan. Britain possessed at the beginning of September nearly 2,000 ships and 1,000,000 tons less than in 1911. On the other hand, the British Dominions possess more tonnage than twenty-five years ago; for, whereas they had 1,631,617 tons in 1911, they have now 3,110,791 tons, which is nearly double. In other words, the

diminution of about 5 per cent. in the British tonnage was offset by the increase of nearly 90 per cent. in Dominion tonnage.

So far as India is concerned, the Indian-owned tonnage today amounts to a little over 100,000 gross tons, while twenty-five years ago India hardly possessed any national tonnage worth the name. But whatever Indian shipping is in existence is engaged almost entirely in the coastal trade of the country. India is completely dependent on foreign shipping for the carriage of its vast overseas trade and on the British Navy for the protection of its sea routes, the coast and ports. There is no Indian shipping plying in the foreign trade of India except Burma and Ceylon which, although considered as foreign countries from the constitutional standpoint, have always formed an integral part of the Indian coasting trade. This complete reliance on non-Indian shipping has wide and serious implications, economic as well as strategic. No country wholly dependent for the transportation of its ocean commerce upon other countries can enjoy freedom or certainty of movement and reasonable expectation as to the rates it will have to pay. More seriously, the dependent country will suffer loss and inconvenience as India is suffering today, whenever emergencies or national demands of the carrying countries require the use of tonnage for national purposes. At the outbreak of the war, the tonnage of the carrying countries was restricted or withdrawn with the result that the overseas trade of India was disorganised and jeopardised. Not having its own national shipping engaged in its overseas trade, India's foreign maritime trade has had to pay the price. India has a vast export and import trade to the extent of over £200 millions, but has to rely entirely on non-Indian shipping for its carriage. The result cannot but be detrimental to Indian interests. The disorganisation of shipping through commandeering of British merchant ships and through submarine warfare have naturally led to severe shortage of shipping tonnage and an inflation of shipping freights. There is a large and growing demand for several of India's commodities, but the difficulty of transportation today prevents

India obtaining the full benefits of this increase in demand or of the rise in prices in world markets. We have to depend today at enormous cost on the shipping of neutral countries or on British shipping depleted through war exigencies.

If India had an adequate supply of tonnage of her own of all descriptions and participated fully and freely in the maritime trade of the world and had also possessed a ship-building industry within the country, not only could India have reaped the advantages of the prevailing economic conditions but such shipping would have also constituted a part of the defence system of the country. The Indian Mercantile Marine Committee stated in 1921 that it was almost the unanimous desire of all Indian witnesses who appeared before it that "the creation of an Indian Navy capable of defending the coasts, harbours and commerce of India should proceed hand in hand with the development of an Indian mercantile marine". India has not only a maritime trade of very large value and volume but it has also a long and vulnerable coast-line with several ports. At a rough estimate, there might, on a daily average, be nearly a hundred British and Indian steamers in Indian ports and the same number in the sea in Indian waters. During the last war, the cruiser, the converted merchantmen and the submarine attacked and destroyed commercial shipping and had to be countered through resolute and swift action. It is fortunate, indeed, that Japan in the Far East and Italy to the west of the Indian Ocean have hitherto remained neutral, because even the powerful British Navy might not suffice to safeguard the exposed coast and ports

and routes from occasional attacks by bombardments and raids. Even for the protection of India's sea-borne commerce, therefore, a navy and a merchant marine as an adjunct of national defence are absolutely indispensable. Only a couple of years ago, the Commander-in-Chief observed in the Council of State that in setting up an organisation such as a naval force, "most other countries depend largely on their mercantile marine and on volunteer naval reserves", but that "in India at present we have no naval reserves and our mercantile marine is still, so to speak, in its infancy". Similarly, in March last year, Mr. Ogilvie, Army Secretary, stated in the Central Assembly that "the Government of India are very well aware that the existence of an Indian mercantile marine would be a great assistance to the Defence Department" and that "the Defence Department would very much like to see a flourishing Indian mercantile marine". The merchant fleet is an element in the sea power of a nation and is essential to the security of a maritime country. Admiral Mahan, who wrote on the influence of sea power upon history, held that the fundamental need of a maritime country was a merchant navy. It is difficult, indeed, to have a fighting navy without a merchant fleet. National defence requires that the domestic merchant fleet must be maintained and expanded and improved. Sea power is vital to India's economic relationship and development no less than for its national defence. Shipping is, as Lord Essendon, the eminent British shipping magnate, observed not long ago, "a national asset, a source of national income and a national necessity".



Czechoslovakia: A Historical Reminiscence

BY MR. LADISLAV URBAN

(Consul for Czechoslovakia at Bombay)

ON the 6th July 1915, at Geneva, an impressive ceremony took place. The Czech living in Switzerland and an international audience of intellectuals have



MR. LADISLAV URBAN

gathered in the Great Hall of Reformation, in the "City of Calvin", to hear two prominent speakers: Ernest Denis, the great French historian, and Thomas G. Masaryk, Professor of the Prague University and the political and national leader of Czechs and Slovaks.

Commemorating the anniversary of the death of John Hus, who died a martyr five hundred years ago at the stake at Constance, and of the beginning of the Czech Reformation, they celebrated the victory of their national hero under the tragic circumstances of the World War. It was on this particular date that the Czechs had an exceptional opportunity to draw a moral comfort from their national history while they were actually struggling side by side with the Allies against Austria-Hungary and Germany and for the liberty of the Czech nation and the independence of their country.

On this solemn occasion, Masaryk for the first time publicly declared that the Czech and Slovaks were determined to wage war against Austria-Hungary and prepared to fight for their national existence. A philosopher and ardent defender of human ideals, he had chosen this moment to explain why it was necessary to use violence against those who were responsible for the disaster and why he, a champion of humanity, was leading the Czech Legions to battle-field.

He told the learned audience that Hus, Zizka, Chelcicky, Comenius are the four great men of the Bohemian Reformation who represent the actual programme of Czechoslovaks. The Czech reformation of the XVth century, as every other great reform, has not been completed. It did not cease to inspire the minds, it has been in the state of evolution since its beginning, requiring fresh and continuous efforts aimed at betterment, perfection and progress. This reformation, Masaryk continued, sought primarily a moral improvement of every individual. As in the Middle Ages, the Christian ideals moulded the Church and



MASARYK

the State into a theocratic union, it was natural that religious revolution—like the Bohemian Reformation—necessarily led to a political revolution. It is an axiom that

a sincere moral effort, tolerating no compromise in the matters of principle, is logically leading to a reform, eventually towards a political and social revolution.

Dwelling upon the meaning of the Czech Reformation, Masaryk further explained the humanistic idea as the basis of the Bohemian Reformation. The "Fraternity" was the name of the Czech National Church—the Church of Bohemian Brethren. In the name of humanity and fraternity, and basing his opposition on the non-resistance to evil, stood Peter Chelcicky against his distinguished contemporary John Zizka, the one-eyed hero of the Hussite armies. The whole world learned about the doctrine of non-resistance from Tolstoy who, by the way, was rather surprised when he heard from Masaryk, who many years ago called on the Russian sage at Yasnaya Polyana, that it was a Czech, Peter Chelcicky, who preached the same doctrine some three hundred years before Tolstoy.

Masaryk continued that the doctrine of non-violence may become dangerous if there are no limits to it. In his opinion the humanistic idea even in its purest form does not and cannot forbid the resistance to evil. The Hussite Army preachers were right, said Masaryk, when they argued with Chelcicky that resistance is not violence:

We condemn violence, we shall not use it, and we shall not be the first who will resort to it: but against violence we shall defend ourselves even with arms.

That was the philosophy of the XVth century which Masaryk fully endorsed at Geneva in 1915 when he launched the Czech movement for liberation of the oppressed nation. He concluded his historical speech with these words:

The intrinsic moral value of a deed depends on the motives which have determined a certain action. In every dispute, every war, it is of the utmost importance to know which is the attacking party and which party is in defence. This is exactly the reason why the responsibility for the war is closely scrutinised in all discussions on the origin of the war.

The reality of another world war is upon us. The people of the world are witnessing the holocaust brought by the assailants upon Czechoslovakia and Poland. Once again the question of aggression and war guilt becomes manifest.

Strangely enough, the German people have lost their courage and had again the misfortune to follow docilely and blindly their thoughtless and unrestrained leaders who have created suffering for the rest of the world and brought their nation into a precarious situation. In their narrow-mindedness these leaders think they can rule the world by being brutal and savage. They believe they can destroy civilisation and moral values which mankind achieved through ages by setting up their false theories and doctrines, a queer mixture of hatred, racial fallacies, envy, superiority complex, and the creed that might is right.

Thus the world has again to show its resistance to this evil challenge, coming to the rescue of all those in danger. On Czechoslovakia, the first victim of the treacherous aggressors, it was clearly demonstrated that the danger is great and not limited to the narrow frontiers of the Central Europe. It was the mean envy of the aggressors who started last year their propaganda against this island of order, prosperity and freedom, colouring their sinister and destructive designs as a sort of a "new order" in Europe. The Czechoslovaks, however, have not lost but revived their grit. They are fighting again for the higher issues as they did once upon a time during the Middle Ages and during the World War.

It is not difficult for the righteous people to decide on which side they should stand, whether on the side of the aggressors or the resisters, if they want to preserve civilisation, justice, peace, freedom and moral values which are at stake in the present struggle.

Czechoslovaks will do their duty.

NEW REFORMS IN MYSORE

IN a Proclamation issued on November 6, H. H. the Maharajah of Mysore announced the new Constitutional Reforms. The reforms embodied in the Proclamation are largely based on the



SIR MIRZA ISMAIL, DEWAN OF MYSORE

recommendations of the Committee which recently concluded its labours. In the Proclamation accompanying the Government Order, His Highness expresses the hope that the people of Mysore will utilise these larger opportunities for public service and usefulness to the State with the same sense of responsibility as in the past and in a spirit of mutual toleration and goodwill.

The main features of the scheme are an enlargement of the State Executive Council, an elected majority in the Legislative Council, extension of franchise for the Representative Assembly (Lower House) and separate electorate for Muslims. Thus the enlarged Executive Council will hereafter consist of the Dewan and four Ministers.

The Dewan will be appointed by the Maharaja. Of the four Ministers, all of whom will be nominated by the Maharaja, at least two will be drawn from among the elected members of the Representative Assembly and the Legislative Council.

The Ministers will not be removable on a vote of no-confidence. There will, therefore, be no provision for a motion of no-confidence against them.

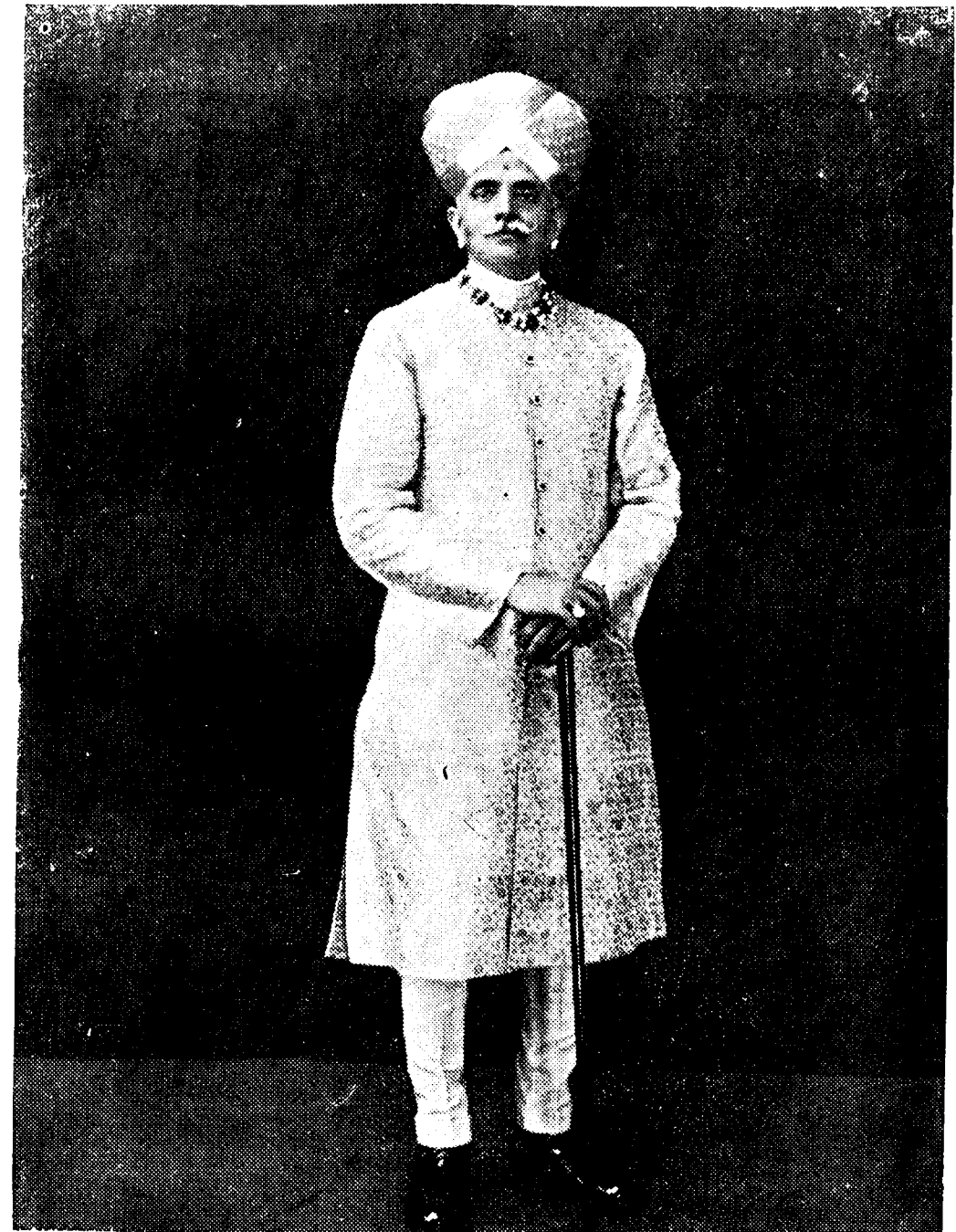
The Legislative Council will have an elected majority of 11 members as against the 21 nominated in a House of 68 members.

The franchise for the Representative Assembly in the Lower House will be so extended that the electorate will be about double its present size.

The election for the reserved seats for Moslems in both Houses will be on the separate electorate basis.

The Legislative Council will be presided over by a President elected by that House while the Representative Assembly will be presided over by the Dewan.

The scheme has many good points to recommend it for popular acceptance, such as the widening of the scope and functions of the Legislature and the increase in the elective element therein, the creation of non-official ministers and the emergence of a Public Service Commission to assist the Government in regard to recruitment to and organisation of the public services. But there is a section in the State which deplors the introduction of separate electorates for the Muslims as perpetuating an unhealthy schism in the State and is frankly critical of Government's failure to define the goal as responsible government, and the absence of an element of real responsibility in the Executive. It would be a pity, if on account of these shortcomings, the politicians of Mysore should prove obstructive and non-co-operate with the Government. The new constitution is an undoubted improvement on the existing one. In politics there could be no finality. The satisfactory working of the new constitution will of itself be the surest path to the goal which all alike have in view.



H. H. SRI KRISHNARAJENDRA WADIYAR BAHADUR, C.S.I., C.M.E., MAHARAJA OF MYSORE
WHO HAS INAUGURATED THE NEW REFORMS IN MYSORE

INDIANS IN SOUTH AFRICA

THE NEW WAR SITUATION

By Mr. C. F. ANDREWS

I

INDIAN interest has been rightly absorbed by the war situation in Europe as it develops in wider and wider circles and bids fair to menace the whole world. This article is written at Wardha after many visits to Mahatma Gandhi at Shegaon. For he understands the South African question in all its details much better than any one else in India and also realises its world-wide importance.

The evil racial prejudice which ends in the Colour Bar is, perhaps, the most sinister phenomenon of our time. It affects not only the whole of Asia and Africa with its malign influence, but has also spread its poison over the new world of America. In Europe, it has tainted the highest social life by means of pogroms against the Jews. We have witnessed, also, the lowest depths of terrorism practised against them by the unspeakably obscene-newspaper propaganda.

In a previous article, written for the *Indian Review** at the request of the Editor, earlier in the year, I tried to describe the exact point that had been reached with regard to anti-Asiatic legislation in South Africa. This new article will continue the subject in the light of the present war situation, seeking to draw the new picture from information received from many sources. At the end, it will contain Mahatma Gandhi's own judgment and advice as to the best method of dealing with this very serious menace which still hangs over our Indian civilisation; for the struggle is by no means over though for a time in abeyance.

At every point, in what follows, it must be remembered with special care that the Indian struggle is not a selfish one, as if it were on behalf of India alone. Rather, it is true to say that India is in the forefront of the battle which is being waged for all the non-European races that have come under the unbearable stigma of the Colour Bar. If India wins, all win: if India loses, all lose. This fact becomes self-evident in

every country that faces this problem: but it is luminously clear in South Africa. There, the large body of intelligent and progressive Africans, who have an admixture of European blood and are called 'Coloured', stand to gain or lose by what happens in India. The native African population, numbering now over seven million souls in all, stands also in the long run to gain or lose by this Indian struggle. At the present moment, their largest numbers dwell away from civilisation in areas of their own choosing, such as Zululand, Basutoland, etc., where they live their own primitive life. But they are being very rapidly drawn into the vortex of the European industrial centres, especially round the gold mines and the great cities. When once they have been cut loose from their own tribal life, there is no prospect before them except to dwell on the outskirts of the European towns along with the 'Coloured' people. As they advance in education, they feel the stigma of the Colour Bar no less acutely and bitterly than the rest. Their fate is, therefore, bound up with the Indians, and any Indian victory over the Colour Bar menace is a victory for them: any reverse is a reverse for them.

The aim of the Europeans in power, who represent a very powerful minority,—continually tending to become smaller in proportion as the African population advances—is to secure their power if possible for all time to come, by keeping every other people outside the political boundaries set up by the white man for his own advantage. They hope also to keep the economic power, in the same manner, in their own hands. The chief weapon which they are now using is to close down every possible avenue to social and political equality of status. Along with this they desire to stop, once and for all, and for all time to come, every form of racial intermixture. Marriage between the different races must be strictly prohibited by law. We have read how these same ideas were carried out in ancient India by means of religious sanctions whose penalties of excommunication have been far more terrible

* June 1939.

than those of any man-made law: nevertheless they have not succeeded. Wherever any so-called 'success' has actually been achieved, it has led to the abomination of 'untouchability' with all its countless evils. Yet, thousands of years after history has shown completely the failure of the white Aryan experiment in India, the Europeans in South Africa are determined to follow the same futile course: and they will fail in their turn. Truly 'there is nothing new under the sun'! And there is no end also to unwisdom!

II

The different races in South Africa are now about to be compelled by law to live more and more apart. That is the purpose of all the legislation, against which India has already fought so many battles. The same principle of segregation underlay the 'Class Areas' Bills which were brought forward time after time soon after the European War. I was asked by the Congress to go out, again and again, to South Africa in order to fight against their menace. On similar occasions I had to go to East Africa for what was virtually the same issue.

This new anti-Asiatic measure recently brought forward by Mr. Stuttaford is only a slight variation of the old subject. In the new Bill which he has proposed, not only are Indians to be prevented from living side by side with the Europeans, but also of trading side by side with them! Even the shops are to be segregated!

It is, then, against this whole racial system, with its evil heritage of the Colour Bar, that the new struggle has to be fought and won. The Hon. J. Hofmeyr has rightly pointed out that the object of Mr. Stuttaford's Bill is to drive the Indians into 'ghettos'. It is the old 'untouchable' system of ancient India over again applied to the modern civilisation of South Africa. The whole of India has rightly protested against this in quite unmistakable terms and will continue to protest until the menace is removed.

The Government of India has also echoed the same protest, and has been trying

to postpone the matter by entering into negotiations. They have suggested that another Round Table Conference should be held at Capetown, where the whole issue might be discussed. This request has been curtly rejected by Mr. Stuttaford, the late Minister of the Interior, and there the subject was left at the time when Nazi troops invaded Poland, and thus brought about a European War. Such is the chronicle of events for the current year.

It has been necessary thus to repeat the outline of what has happened and bring it back to memory before going on to describe the encouraging change which has come over the South African situation since the outbreak of war. For everything that follows in this article is only intelligible to Indian readers in the light of the facts, which I have mentioned. Above all, perhaps, it is necessary to emphasise at the present moment that this 'colour bar' itself is a world issue, no less than the war crisis in modern Europe. Nothing could excuse India, if in her preoccupation with war events happening elsewhere, she neglected this vital principle which so closely touches her own people and other non-European races.

III

News from South Africa itself, during these war days, has been very meagre, because whole columns of the daily press are taken up with nothing but telegrams about the War. Nevertheless certain outstanding facts have been reported in South Africa in connection with the war: and these have made it fairly easy to surmise what is likely to happen with regard to Mr. Stuttaford's threatened anti-Asiatic measure. If these facts are correct, then this sudden change in the Union Government caused by the war, together with the advent of General Smuts as Prime Minister instead of General Hertzog, may tell much in our favour. Let us examine the new situation in detail and see what it represents.

(a) General Smuts has obtained a small majority on the War Question and has agreed to take office without any dissolution of the present Union Parliament. General Hertzog has resigned. Some of his Cabinet, including Mr. Stuttaford, have gone over

to General Smuts. The working majority with General Smuts is a very narrow one. It represents the proportion of 8 to 6 in his favour. But this was regarded by him as sufficient to break off relations with Germany and stand on the side of the Allies. Mr. Stuttaford, who voted with General Smuts on the war issue, has now ceased to be Minister of the Interior in the new Cabinet. This appears to mean only one thing, namely, that General Smuts has already determined to stop the anti-Asiatic Bill next Session, and to seek the friendship rather than the hostility of India. For if Mr. Stuttaford's anti-Asiatic policy were intended to be carried on by the new Ministry, there would obviously have been no change in the portfolio of the 'Interior'. Mr. Stuttaford, who had already taken immense pains in preparing the Bill, would have been kept in office.

With regard to General Smuts's own position, it may be said very briefly that though in times past he has not seldom adopted a line of action which has been detrimental to Indian interests, he has, while doing so, been more swayed by the interests of his own party than by his inner convictions. It must always be remembered that he is a philosopher, who stands among his contemporaries for a world-view of philosophy called 'Holism'. He is only by accident, as it were, a politician. He has often told me how irksome it has been to him to be obliged to spend the greater part of his life in the secondary subjects of war and politics. He would much rather have devoted all his time to Science and Philosophy in order to explore the Riddle of the Universe. He certainly preferred being made President of the British Association, which contains among its members the greatest men of science in the world, to being made Prime Minister in his own country, or General of the Imperial forces in the East African campaign during the great war.

Once General Smuts said to me in conversation, and I have never forgotten it: "Though I am a South African, I have no 'colour' feeling at all." Even if this only implied that he was not conscious of it, yet from many talks with him, both in South Africa and London, I can say without hesitation that in a general

sense what he then said was correct. To give a single incident only (at which I was present), he did not stand for 'prestige' in the least or assume superior airs at the time when he met Mahatma Gandhi almost daily in 1914, while the Smuts-Gandhi Agreement was being prepared. Indeed, it was in a very great measure his generous feeling and freedom from colour prejudice which made that settlement possible. All this is now a matter of history: and it happened more than twenty-five years ago. But General Smuts has retained ever since a true affection for Mahatma Gandhi and he has constantly written to him on important occasions. He is entirely in favour of India gaining her full freedom.

The most recent instance of this attitude has been his contribution to the Birthday Book, which Sir S. Radhakrishnan has edited, to be presented to Mahatma Gandhi on his seventieth birthday. In his article the General has paid a noble tribute to the great Indian Leader and has referred to the moral struggle in South Africa wherein he himself was Mahatma Gandhi's opponent. Strangely enough, at the end of the article, he links him up with Marshal Chiang Kai Shek—not realising the enormous difference between them. For Chiang Kai Shek, with all his greatness, has been a man of 'blood and iron' in ruling over the destinies of his country, while Mahatma Gandhi has been essentially a man of peace, whose two watch-words are *Satya* and *Ahimsa*. In this respect, General Smuts's article on Mahatma Gandhi seemed to me to reach an anticlimax: but in other respects the tribute which he paid to one whose friendship he has always valued, was noble and added to the value of the book.

All these indications of a lack of colour prejudice on the General's part may seem small in themselves, but they are by no means insignificant as coming from a Boer in South Africa. Indeed, the General himself has often fallen seriously into disrepute with his own party because of what are called in South Africa his liberal views. Yet he has never toned them down, or failed to make them public. His greatest test came when I

spoke them out fearlessly before a whole gathering of back-veldt Boers, to whom they were highly unpalatable.

It may be regarded, therefore, as practically assured that General Smuts will desire at this most critical time in world politics to leave the Indian position unmodified. For he knows better than any one else the value of India's support in the world war, which has now broken out. Besides being a liberal by temperament, he is a very shrewd and calculating elderly statesman, of the same age as Mahatmaji himself. He has had a very much wider experience of world affairs than any other leading statesman in South Africa; he instinctively takes a world view. Even from a purely practical standpoint with regard to his own country, he knows well the great advantage of having a friendly India across the sea, on South Africa's eastern border, instead of an India driven, against her will, to bitter hostility owing to contempt and injustice.

In writing thus, I do not wish to underrate the fact that for party reasons, in the past, General Smuts himself has always accepted the working theory of the Colour Bar as necessary under South African conditions. Indeed, he very cleverly defended this thesis in a famous 'Rhodes Lecture' which he delivered at Oxford. He also quite definitely voted for the Interim Asiatic Bill last April at Cape-town, and made no protest against it, similar to that made by Mr. Jan Hofmeyr. Nevertheless, as we have seen, the General is in no sense intolerant on this question, as most South Africans are. The 'colour' feeling is not in his blood; and he fully appreciates the fact that it is a matter of life and death to India to be set entirely free, all over the world, from this hateful "Colour Bar Sinister".

For all these and other reasons, General Smuts would be the last man in the world to force the pace against India at this most difficult hour of all. Indeed, he might be found to be willing to take part in a new Capetown Conference next year, if the Government of India pressed for it. Whether any Round Table Conference would help matters forward

between the two countries at this crisis is a different matter altogether. My own considered opinion would still be against our asking for such a Conference. For it would appear to me likely not only to stir up the most bitter anti-Asiatic feelings against the domiciled Indians, but also to provoke just those irrational colour prejudices which ought at all costs to be kept in abeyance. Thus it would add to the difficulties already experienced of keeping the Boer sentiment clearly on the side of the Allies in the present war, as General Smuts's whole policy aims at doing. It might side-track this into another channel.

General Smuts has obviously to do all he can to win the next election. Everything must be subordinated to this. He will not want, at such a time, to divide the country on other issues or give opportunities to his opponents of stirring up racial passions. For he will rightly regard the interests of the whole civilised world as at stake in the war itself and make that the main issue. If this world war is won and the Nazi principles, which include the inculcation of racial hatred, are defeated, then it is possible that a new liberal civilisation may supersede them, in which these ancient colour prejudices will be abandoned. But if Nazi principles were once to gain the victory, then racialism of every kind would become more rampant even than before.

While, therefore, the General has to sacrifice everything else in order to defeat Hitlerism, he will do his very utmost to avoid raising this Asiatic issue, whereon South African prejudice is well known. Perhaps, even for India itself, this will be the best policy. Who can tell?

To sum up the General's policy very briefly: he is likely to avoid any re-opening of the 'Asiatic Question' in South Africa, and in taking this course he may be serving India's interests as well as those of South Africa.

(b) The very fact that the Hon. Jan Hofmeyr, who is one of the best known statesmen in South Africa, has been called upon by General Smuts at this juncture to take up the responsible portfolio

of finance, corroborates from another point of view what I have said above. For Mr. Hofmeyr not only resigned from General Hertzog's cabinet, where he was Minister of the Interior, on this racial issue, but, still further, he was one of the very few members of the South African Union Parliament, who protested against Mr. Stuttaford's action when he recently brought in his Interim Asiatic Bill as a preparation for a much more drastic measure in 1940. Though Mr. Hofmeyr voted under protest for this measure on the Third Reading, in order to obtain certain advantages from it for the Transvaal Indians, he very strongly objected both in the Press and in Parliament to that part of it which pointed forward to segregation of Indians in the near future. For he declared rightly that any such segregation would be a betrayal of the promises of 'Uplift' which had been made by previous Union Governments in different agreements with the Government of India. It was certain to lead, in the end, to open hostility between the two countries. For expressing these sentiments, he was vehemently attacked as a pro-Asiatic, but he stuck to his own principles throughout, even though he was almost alone in making them public. In this way he showed a rare courage, which the Indians in South Africa are not likely to forget.

When, therefore, General Smuts, as Prime Minister, deliberately selected the Hon. Jan Hofmeyr as his Finance Minister—the second place in the Cabinet—we may be sure that he would never have done so, and that Mr. Hofmeyr himself would never have consented, unless it had been fully agreed beforehand that no anti-Asiatic legislation would be brought forward in the immediate future. For, quite obviously, Mr. Hofmeyr, after his recent resignation, could not remain in the Cabinet, if any anti-Indian measure was contemplated.

It should be noted that one thing has already very deeply impressed the new Finance Minister in India's favour. He visited India, at the invitation of the Indian Government, only a short time ago, and on his return he spoke openly not only about the generous treatment which he had received on all hands, but also concerning the very favourable impression which India

had left upon his own mind during his visit. He also urged in South Africa, wherever he went, that it was of the utmost importance to establish friendly relations with India. Since Mr. Jan Hofmeyr is known throughout South Africa to be a man of very high religious principles, his words have carried great weight, because they evidently came from his heart. Among the younger leaders in South Africa, he is by far the ablest and the most respected. He is known everywhere to be a man of his word.

(c) The rest of the Cabinet chosen by General Smuts points in the same direction, as not in any way likely to stir up the Asiatic Question in order to gain any popular applause. Mr. Lawrence has been chosen to take Mr. Stuttaford's place in the Cabinet, as Minister of the Interior. The name is unfamiliar to me. Mr. Sturrock is chosen for a place in the Cabinet, who had stood out along with Mr. Hofmeyr against the new Asiatic Bill, which aimed at Indian segregation. This is all to the good and points once more to the new Bill being dropped. Colonel Stallard is a very well known leader of what is called the Dominion Party, whose one aim is to keep South Africa closely united to Great Britain. He commands a considerable following in Natal, and is not at all likely at the present war crisis to wish to offend India. Other names have not been sent over to India, owing to the shortage of news. One of our difficulties has been to find out what has actually happened and how far the new Government will get support in South Africa itself.

IV

We are able, therefore, to surmise on all accounts that have reached us, that owing to the war with Poland breaking out in Europe, and Britain and France challenging Germany, the Indian situation, which had before looked so dark, has unexpectedly become lighter in South Africa.

Yet, at the same time, there is no cause for elation. For it is equally certain that constant vigilance will still be needed. The bare majority, by which General Smuts came back into office, is

very precarious. Even a slight turn-over, from one side to the other, might bring him defeat. Though, in this recess time, which lasts up to the end of January, everything is plain sailing for General Smuts as Prime Minister, and no defeat is possible, yet when the new Parliament opens in 1940, both he and his Cabinet will be remarkably fortunate, if they escape without a defeat through the long session which lasts on to July.

Of course, if General Smuts is defeated he will resign; and then a new appeal will be made to the electorate. Evidently General Hertzog was of the opinion that such an appeal would be all in his favour: for he asked Sir Patrick Duncan, the Governor-General, to dissolve the Union Parliament directly, over the war issue, when his own policy was voted down in the House. But Sir Patrick, using his discretion, decided not to do so and called on General Smuts to form a Cabinet instead.

It seems to me very doubtful whether General Smuts will be able to retain his majority, *when the appeal is at last made to the electorate*. The Boer element in South Africa, which is strongest of all, is isolationist and very narrowly national. The Boers are not at all anxious to see South Africa involved in another European War. General Hertzog himself, at the election, will take advantage of their isolationist sentiment. The only foreign issue, on which South Africa feels very strongly, is that of South-West Africa, which used to belong to the Germans. No South African would lightly give this back to Germany! The Nazi propaganda on that point has roused great bitterness among the Boers.

Returning to the Indian question, it would follow almost automatically that if General Smuts were defeated, the anti-Asiatic Bill of Mr. Stuttaford would be revived in a more drastic form than ever. Some one, far more narrowly racial in policy than Mr. Stuttaford, would take office: and the lines of the Bill would be far more rigid than those proposed during the present year. Both Mr. Hofmeyr and Mr. Lawrence would have all their work cut out to uphold the Indian cause.

We must not deceive ourselves, therefore, by any false optimism—as though the present favourable situation would continue for long. The anti-Asiatic element in South Africa is very strong indeed, and on the slightest provocation it is ready to take action.

If the question be asked: "How long then, do you suppose that the present Ministry, under General Smuts, is likely to remain in office?"—it is impossible to give an answer. For all will depend on the parliamentary skill of General Smuts and the way in which the War in Europe is conducted. He knows the temper of the South African electorate better than any man living, and he is not likely to make any bad political blunder. At the same time, if a favourable opportunity occurs and a passionate determination arises among the Boers to hold fast to South-West Africa, he may go to the electorate on that issue and come back to power with an increased majority. For, as I have stated, South-West Africa is the one 'foreign' issue on which Boer sentiment is practically united.

V

It had been already decided in September that I should go out to South Africa on the R. M. S. *Tairea* starting on October 1 from Bombay when two things happened to prevent it. On the one hand, I had hardly yet sufficiently recovered from illness to undertake the voyage and, on the other hand, the war had intervened and (as I have shown) had changed the whole situation. I came instead to Shegaon to talk over the question with Mahatma Gandhi, and also to meet the Executive of the All-India National Christian Council in order to get them to communicate with the Christian Council in South Africa. For the Christian Churches may have the future the greatest influence of all on questions of this kind; and if their leaders could be brought to understand how deeply India felt in the matter, it might be quite possible that the Bill would be altogether abandoned and not merely postponed.

The Secretary of the National Christian Council gave me every assistance in making the situation in South Africa

understood clearly by their Executive. They were also prepared to send a Deputation. But on the advice of Mahatma Gandhi, they have delayed taking such a drastic step for the present. They have communicated instead by letter, and told the leaders of the Churches in South Africa how deeply India felt on the whole subject. In the talks which I had with Mahatma Gandhi, he advised very simply that every effort should be made both by Europeans individually and by the Christian Churches in India to make fully known in South Africa the extreme importance of this issue of the 'Colour Bar' as it affected the whole of India. For this racial segregation, on the sole ground of 'colour', is regarded by all in India as a national insult; and it is impossible to have friendly relations with any people and insult them at the same time. It would, therefore, be impossible to remain on friendly terms with India, if the white people of South Africa

continued to legislate on a racial and colour basis.

The All-India National Christian Council decided through its Executive to communicate with the Churches in South Africa in time to reach them at Christmas, the season of peace and goodwill, explaining these facts lucidly to them. On the advice of Mahatma Gandhi, it was decided not immediately to send a Deputation, but to delay doing so till the first excitement of the War had died down and things were more normal. Probably, early in 1940, such a Deputation might be sent.

It seems quite certain to me that these letters to the Churches will carry great weight. They will be read out in a large number of Churches at Christmas. I hope that the Oxford Group, through its strong movement for 'Moral Rearmament' will also help in the same direction. Meanwhile, the subject is not being lost sight of by Congress, the Muslim League, the National Liberal Federation, and other bodies.

G A N D H I S M

UNLIKE most writers who profess to have plucked the heart of the Gandhian mystery, Mr. Spratt, with creditable modesty disclaims any such triumphant possession of any master-key thereto. He is well aware that no account can be really adequate of the greatness of a great man. However much we might try to comprehend him in terms of this or that standpoint, Gandhiji is, like most truly great men, in the etymological sense, incomprehensible. He is too large, he contains multitudes.

Mr. Spratt throughout his book addresses himself earnestly to the task of disentangling from Gandhiji's words and deeds, their philosophical roots in the mind of the man, omitting no relevant detail. The resultant cumulative impression conveyed is that of a soul in travail, singularly noble, not infallible by any means, but completely out-topping normal human stature. The hypertrophy of the religious

and ethical conscience from which Gandhiji seems always to have suffered the severe, sensitive self-criticism, the painful, meticulous conscientiousness in word and conduct, the magnanimity, the astuteness and shrewdness in negotiation, the humour and the child-like simplicity of the man are all portrayed with a sober pen, utterly unemotionally but with profound respect and sensitiveness to their significance. Here and there one might differ from Mr. Spratt—as for, e.g., when he suggests that Gandhiji is an exponent and attributes to this fact the numerous inconsistencies and contradictions with which critics have charged him. It is a pity that Mr. Spratt has allowed himself to be deceived by the superficial plausibility of this criticism. Gandhiji works on the basis of imperious, dynamic institutions, and like Wordsworth, he himself perceives but can hardly explain the central harmony at the heart of the many seeming contradictions and inconsistencies of his attitude. Feeling seems more important than thought with him and it accounts for many, like Gilbert Murray, regarding him as intellectually feeble.

* GANDHISM: AN ANALYSIS. By P. Spratt. Huxley Press. (Available of G. A. Natesan & Co., Madras. Rs. 2-8.)

He takes a superlogical and psychological account rather than a logical one of a political as of a moral situation and responds with his entire being and is magnificently successful thus even where others predict for him absolute and certain failure. He seems to possess some, to us invisible antennae with which he is able to avoid pitfalls into which his critics hopefully predict his



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disappearance. There is a dynamic, vital simplicity in his speech, a compelling homeliness, a potential energy held subdued which make an irresistible appeal to the common man in India. Out of the plain, homely stuff of their common speech, he works wonders in words which entitle him to rank with the great prophets of the Old Testaments, with our own Upanishadic seers. The words are often utterly simple but they are yet of power to touch the spirit to the finest issues and have actually wrought miracles in India.

By far the most important subject of Mr. Spratt's study in this book is Gandhiji's philosophy and technique of non-violent action and Satyagraha. Mr. Spratt, confirmed Marxist that he is, holds that violence is for a long, long time to come, inevitable and indispensable to social change.

Mr. Spratt regards the non-violent technique as applicable only to a limited set of conditions favourable to its operation and says that in the harsh and dangerous world into which we are plunging ever deeper, as the decades pass, there seems little chance for the survival of this noble but rare and fragile thing, Satyagraha. It is on this pessimistic note that he concludes. Indeed, he fears that in a free India, Gandhism would be used by a dictatorship of the Right against democracy and civilisation, that in the name of trusteeship, the rebellious lower orders could be righteously regimented, victimised and shot down. That Gandhism, like Christianity and every other noble doctrine, can be abused and made to social reaction and crime, is, however, not a criticism of the doctrine but an assessment of the moral progress mankind has made. But though the immediate prospect may seem gloomy, there is room for hoping that mankind will ere long choose this more excellent way indicated by Gandhiji.

In the two great movements Gandhiji has led against the British Government in India, he has inspired thousands of his fellow-countrymen to hitherto inaccessible heights of idealism and self-sacrifice. In his own personal conduct he has shown an exalted freedom from hatred of his persecutors. His followers have to a large extent been heartened to maintain a similar freedom from hatred by his magnificent personal example. At the present time, when the great nations of the world have once again embarked on a terrible and destructive war, Gandhism may be reviled as rank treason or ridiculed as wild insane nonsense. But the world had never greater need of this healing message than now. It is humanity's good fortune that the messenger is yet alive to recall humanity back to the paths of love and peace. May it be given to India yet to show that her leader's message would restore hope to humanity and peace and health to a war-torn world.

Mr. Spratt's book, despite its frequent diffuseness, is, perhaps, the most solid critical analysis of Gandhism that has yet appeared.

War and Industrial Autonomy for India

By DR. H. C. MOOKERJEE, M.A., Ph.D.

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UNDER modern conditions, all advanced countries are moving towards industrialisation whereas in India the tendency has been in the opposite direction. The following facts gathered from the different census reports will make my point clear. In 1891, the percentage of population dependent on agriculture was 59·8, twenty years later, that is in 1911 it rose to 71·3 and, after another twenty years, that is in 1931, it was 73 per cent. In other words in 1931, practically 3 out of every 4 persons had to depend for their support on the land.

The principal reason for this is that the importation of cheap machine-made goods which, we have hitherto been unable to prevent by the raising of tariff walls to protect our own industries, has ruined nearly all our cottage industries and our artisans and handicraftsmen have been compelled to fall back on agriculture in order to earn their bread. This has coincided with a great increase in the population and, the two factors combined, have greatly increased the pressure on land. This is not a phenomenon confined to India only. It has appeared in other industrially backward countries also. This is evident from what White and Shanahan in their "Industrial Revolution and the Economic World To-day" (p. 346) said in 1932: "Only in the non-industrialised, poverty-stricken countries of the East does the land hold and gain population."

The natural consequence of this undesirable state of things has been that these countries, including our own motherland, have been turned into markets where the more industrially progressive nations are competing with one another in order to push the sale of their manufactured goods. This is an economically unsound position; or we have now been reduced to the position of producers of raw materials for which we cannot always secure a fair price. In all well-regulated advanced countries there is always an equilibrium

between the production of raw materials and of manufactured articles. Such a state of things is very helpful in combating economic depression at least to some extent. Then, again, very often our raw materials purchased from us at uneconomic prices come back to us as finished products which, on account of the backward state of our industries, we are compelled to purchase at what may fairly be called high prices, taking into account the rates at which the raw materials were purchased from us.

It is a matter of concern that while the rest of the world has become rapidly industrialised, our motherland is becoming ruralised with equal rapidity. India has not become conscious of this grave peril and she is trying to industrialise herself and hence there is a clash of interest between the non-Indian manufacturing countries and India. It is, therefore, that the latter demands protection for her manufactures against non-Indian competition, as also extension of her industries.

What little industry and trade we have, is carried on in the old way. There is a regrettable lack of organisation to ensure efficiency. The few large scale industries we have in India are nearly all under Government or non-Indian control. Indian labour is generally unskilled. The higher ranks of industry and commerce are not recruited from among Indians. We thus lose all opportunity of securing any training in these important walks of life. Hence we lack men who possess the necessary experience and knowledge to start and manage profitably large scale industries.

While fairness demands that full allowance should be made for historic causes, such as the disinclination of the so-called higher classes in engaging in what was considered less respectable professions, the principal reason for our present industrial backwardness is the dependency form of Government. As a nation, we have lived as a directed nation. All or nearly all

important policies and laws have been shaped and given effect to without consulting our point of view and, not unoften, against our desires. The most recent instance is that of the arrangement with Lancashire as regards the import of cotton fabrics. The policy of the British Government, which has all along been conscious that it is a foreign Government, has, of necessity, been concerned more with political safety than anything else. It is only when we turn our eyes to the Dominions that we come to appreciate the vast difference that exists between a dependency and a self-governing unit of the British Commonwealth. Masters in their home, they have adopted constructive measures in the shape of industrial and financial policies which have increased their wealth. While it is far from my intention to try to fix the blame on any one, it cannot be denied that we, living under the British administration, have, on the other hand, steadily become poorer and poorer.

In the Montagu-Chelmsford Report on Indian Constitutional Reforms, it was stated "on all grounds, a forward policy in industrial development is urgently called for in order to satisfy the aspirations of her (India's) people in order to provide an outlet for the energies of her young men and in order that the people may be better qualified to shoulder the new responsibilities which the new constitution will lay upon them". The question of questions with India to-day is to what extent has this policy been implemented in the years which have intervened. To refer to one instance only, why is it that to-day we have to look abroad in order to provide ourselves with those things without which our army cannot be mechanised?

We are all aware that there was a time when India exported cotton fabrics to England and also that, about 35 years ago, Japan imported our cotton fabrics. Yet to-day Britain and Japan are selling their cotton fabrics in India in millions of yards and quarrelling over their respective shares in the Indian market. I have heard from more than one businessman of Western India that it is not necessary to import a single yard of cotton fabric.

Politically and economically we are so helpless that we cannot even reserve our home market for our home-made cloth.

The same causes are responsible for the lack of what the Congress calls the key industries in India. Years and years ago, Lenin said: "The salvation of Russia lies not only in a good harvest in the present farms . . . that is not enough and not only in the good state of the light industry which provides the peasantry articles of consumption . . . that too is not enough. We must have also heavy industry. Unless we have heavy industry, unless we restore it, we cannot build up any industry, and, without it, we shall perish as an independent country. Heavy industry needs state subsidies. If we are not able to find them, then we, as a civilised state, will perish."

To-day the lack of these industries compels us to import locomotives, rolling stock, engines, electric machinery, ordnance, stores, etc., to the tune of Rs. 30 to 35 crores annually. The damage inflicted on India should not be measured merely by the money spent abroad. The indirect effects are more serious; for these include unpreparedness for defence, the lack of which is such a menace for India to-day, necessary facilities for nation-building and development of the industrial outlook which is so urgently required in our motherland.

Non-Indian shipping monopolies the transport of Indian and foreign trade and nearly all Indian coastal trade. India has hitherto been unable to give any effective assistance towards the building up of Indian shipping. With the fourth largest railway mileage in the world, we have been and are still importing locomotives and railway stores mainly from Britain. The proposal to manufacture them in India has always been discouraged in the past. This advice, coming as it does from those who have hitherto profited by our economic helplessness, is naturally enough regarded with a certain amount of suspicion. The cotton mills of Bombay and the hand-loom industry could certainly be assisted materially if we could raise a high enough tariff wall. It is also believed, but with how much truth I do not know, that freight rates from

several ports are favourable for imported articles instead of being the reverse, specially in the case of State-owned railways.

National India welcomed the establishment of the Indian Stores Department, because it thought that the Government of India would purchase all or nearly all stores through this organisation. It insisted on such purchases being made through this agency, because it felt that the adoption of this policy would lead to extensive Government patronage of Indian industries.

This department has been in existence for about 12 years or so and no one will deny that there has been a gradual increase in the value of stores purchased by it on behalf of Government. But the rate of increase has not been satisfactory, for the expectation that all purchases should be made through it has remained unfulfilled.

Our army in India purchases stores of the value of about Rs. 8 crores annually, out of which about a little over Rs. 1 crore only goes to stores manufactured in India. Sir Sivaswamy Aiyer in a speech made recently by him at Bangalore is reported to have said that orders for armaments were placed with Australia 11,000 miles distant from England but not with India. This is how the money India will get, as the result of the recommendations of the Chatfield Report, is being spent and this will continue so long as our industries are not properly developed.

May not one hold that if Government found that it required a regular supply of certain stores not available in India, it was its duty to have taken steps long ago to encourage their manufacture? And has Government any right to feel aggrieved if some of its critics suggest that the failure to do so in the past has been due to its want of interest in the development of Indian industries?

In 1937-38, the state-managed railways purchased stores of the total value of Rs. 8 crores 70 lakhs and 12 thousand, but the amount they spent on their purchases through the Indian Stores Department was

a little less than Rs. 4 crores. In 1937-38, the company-managed railways spent about Rs. 4 crores in the purchase of stores, out of which they spent about Rs. 7 lakhs and 71 thousand only through the Indian Stores Department.

It is a well-known fact that the boards of these company-managed railways are composed exclusively of non-Indians. More often than not, some of them are interested in companies engaged in the manufacture of various kinds of articles used by the Railways and other equally large concerns. With their head offices in London, they are not answerable to Indian opinion and can thus make their purchases where to do so would be to their interest and the interest of their business friends and acquaintances. This neglect of Indian sentiments and Indian needs is at least partly responsible for the repeated demands made by National India for the purchase of such railways by Government.

Under the circumstances detailed above, may it not be suggested that Government has not up to the present taken sufficiently stringent steps in encouraging Indian industries seeing that it has allowed the company-managed railways running profitably in India to practically ignore the existence of the Indian Stores Department? What other explanation can there be for the fact that their expenditure through this organisation has not even come up to 2 per cent. of their expenditure on stores? And would it be fair to accuse National India of selfishness masquerading as nationalism if, when it comes into power, it insists that either these companies must change their attitude or be prepared to leave India after receipt of a fair price for their concerns? India claims that she should be permitted to enjoy her legitimate share of the benefits which accrue from industry, transport, etc. She holds that stores which are or can be produced in India have a prior claim on the attention of industries located in India and operated by her man power. She is quite willing to recognise the claims of capital and of the men responsible for their organisation, but she is not prepared to concede that

the country from which they come are entitled to a lion's share of the profits.

Up to the present, India is importing manufactured goods and exporting raw materials which is the reverse of what we find every progressive country doing. On the whole, it is not incorrect to say that "the past practice has been to buy manufactured goods chiefly from Great Britain and pay for them by selling raw materials to Great Britain and foreign countries. In the relations between Great Britain and India, the trade balance is always of necessity in favour of Great Britain". Under these circumstances, it seems desirable for Government to conduct a public enquiry with an independent majority in order to ascertain whether the statements usually made with reference to industrial development in India are substantially correct and if so, to take early steps to set matters right.

National India is not disposed to admit the correctness of the view put forward by some of its critics that, if the facilities for training and State help available in progressive Western countries are placed at the disposal of Indians, they are so utterly incapable that they cannot in time compete with the West in industry and commerce. It also maintains that this will be possible only when India enjoys complete freedom in shaping her political and economic destiny.

In every self-governing country, the State considers it its duty to assist its citizens to build up the national wealth, to seek out fresh avenues of employment for the qualified unemployed, to encourage varieties of activities in the economic sphere and to make the country as self-sufficient as possible. In our land, an opposite tendency is the rule. Great Britain has done and is still insisting on doing for India what ought to be done by her children, namely, to provide her with clothing, to supply her with machinery and all possible kinds of manufactured commodities used in daily life. This has imposed idleness on Indians with consequent impoverishment, an insufficient national income and an almost empty exchequer. Even if this was done through ignorance in the past, the true

statesman and the genuine friend of India will not only condemn the old policy but also do everything which lies in his power to change it.

I have so far dealt with the economic disabilities from which India has been suffering, mainly because of lack of that broad and liberal policy in matters economic which only can permanently bind India to Britain. I honestly believe that what critics of this policy characterise as exploitation has, on the whole, been due to our want of enterprise on the one hand and to the necessity of finding a market for the manufactures of industrialised Britain on the other. It is too much to expect that an industrially progressive nation compelled to find an outlet for its manufactures should have acted otherwise in the past.

Conditions have changed and with the recognition from our side of the necessity of industrialising ourselves, Britain, too, is coming to realise that things cannot go on in the future as they have gone on in the past. Added to this is the fact that she has come to understand that the existence of a Commonwealth of which she is the most important member if not the head, presupposes not subjection but partnership on the basis of perfect equality in the economic and political spheres. It may be that there are some Britons whose economic interests will be adversely affected by our gaining a status of equality in matters economic and political, but I am convinced that on the whole the Britons, as a nation, would prefer seeing justice done to us, specially when as practical men they are aware that to deny it would be to forfeit the sympathy of India now with the risk of her breaking away altogether from Britain when times are propitious for such a move.

By this time, every educated Indian is aware that the leaders of the Congress have realised that one of the methods to remove the various disabilities from which India is suffering is to plan her economic life on a national basis. It is, therefore, that the National Planning Committee with Pandit Jawaharlal as its Chairman was constituted.

National Planning implies the attainment of a specific objective within a specific time limit. It also involves the setting apart of specific sums and the employment of a huge army of labour for the purpose. Such a scheme is a possibility only when we have dictators of the type of a Stalin, a Hitler or a Mussolini. There is no man in India to-day to organise our 100 millions or commandeer the crores of rupees necessary to finance such schemes.

Under these circumstances, we must clearly recognise the fact that our existing circumstances will not permit us to do anything beyond the establishment of new or the extension of existing industries. Naturally enough, this carries along with it the implication of the development of banking, insurance, foreign and inland trade, transport facilities as well as the improvement of our main industry, agriculture. It also includes the encouragement of cottage, small and medium scale, as well as the heavy industries.

It is, therefore, that the national planning of industries must be considered under three heads, *viz.*, cottage, small and medium scale, and heavy industries. The encouragement of cottage industries is one of the most important duties of the State. It has to be admitted with regret that, in the past, not much has been done though many agencies and organisations had been set up.

How much can be done by organising cottage industries may be inferred from the last available report of the All-India Spinners' Association with its headquarters at Ahmedabad well known as an important centre of the cotton mill industry. This organisation registers the names of only those trained spinners, weavers, etc., who may be relied on to use Indian cotton spun into hand-spun yarn which again is woven into cotton fabrics in hand-looms. Last year, this one Association gave employment to about 3 lakhs of persons who drew as wages a very large sum of about 39 lakhs of rupees and produced 125 lakhs of square yards of khaddar of an approximate value of rupees 55 lakhs.

We have to remember in this connection that there must be at least an equally large number engaged in the production of khadi who have not secured recognition from the All-India Spinners' Association. If India could only organise all her village industries, specially those concerned with the production of unadulterated food and household necessities, we could provide remunerative work for lakhs of our semi-starving population and thus at least partially solve the problem of unemployment on a nation-wide scale in the rural areas.

Small and medium scale industries have been and will probably always be organised and controlled by private enterprise. The small scale industries may be financed by the organisers themselves and can easily utilise locally obtainable raw materials and supply the local demand for goods manufactured out of them. Medium scale industries will generally have to be organised on the limited liability basis and will work on a larger scale. Government is expected to help these in all possible ways and this is being more or less done in India to-day by the different Provincial Governments.

At present, the most prominent among large scale industries in India are cotton, jute and sugar mills. It cannot be denied that they are providing a livelihood for lakhs of our countrymen, but it should not be forgotten that appreciably large numbers among them are controlled by non-Indians. This means that the profits made in many of these industries are going outside India. But there is another aspect of the matter to which attention has to be drawn. The machinery employed in these industries has to be repaired when we have to import the parts. They have also to be replaced from time to time and then we have to look to foreign countries to supply our needs. However much we may develop our industries with the help of imported machinery, we shall, in a sense, always be at the mercy of others. We must, under these circumstances, aim at economic self-sufficiency as far as practicable.

No country can ever hope to be prosperous unless it has heavy industries

of its own, specially those relating to the manufacture of machinery and heavy chemicals. To-day we have in India less than half a dozen such concerns. Sir M. Visvesvaraya holds that the large scale industries, which ought to be introduced in India, are not more than a dozen or so in number and that they can be established within a comparatively short time if only each Provincial Government takes up one or two of them keeping in mind its special advantages in the shape of the labour and raw materials at its disposal.

While India with her age-old traditions of peace deplores the outbreak of war in the West and would welcome any opportunity to keep out of it, she nevertheless feels that there is a great likelihood of her being dragged into it. The first reason that suggests itself for holding this view is that she has no voice in shaping her external policy. Linked as she is to Britain as a dependency, she is already one of the belligerents. Added to this there is the fact that Hindu, Moslem, Christian and Sikh India, if it is permissible to think of India in compartments which, of course, is contrary to our nationalistic ideas, is united in its condemnation of power politics as embodied in Hitlerism.

But there is a third factor the importance of which I contend has not yet been fully appreciated. The partition of Poland between Germany and Russia has opened up the possibility of the establishment of socialistic republics of the Soviet type in White Russia, Ukraine and Poland. Then, again, it is equally likely that Czecho-Slovakia scething with discontent against aggressive Germany may choose to throw in her lot with the U. S. S. R. which must inevitably lead to the formation of two more Soviet republics, one Czech and the other Slovak. The pressure on Hitlerian Germany exerted on the east by communism and the west by democracy must sooner or later lead to its downfall. We do not yet know whether under these circumstances Germany will unite with the Western democracies or whether she will turn communist.

The one silver lining in the dark cloud is that the Soviet Russia of to-day is no longer guided by the communist theories of the extreme type. She is gradually adjusting herself to prevailing world conditions and trying to fit herself in with them. It is, therefore, possible that in the world of the future there will be an understanding between the Western democracies on the one hand and the United Socialistic Soviet Republics on the other. But there is also the chance that owing to some unforeseen event, Germany may become the scene of a titanic struggle between the democracies on the one hand and the Soviet republics on the other.

If this unfortunate state of things supervenes, it is within the bounds of possibility that Russia will advance eastwards with a view to embarrassing Britain by cutting off her supplies of men and materials from India and the Far East. The eastern part of Central Asia will be the fighting zone and whether India likes or not, she will be drawn into the world-conflagration which would be a tragedy for us and for the whole of Asia. Let no one dismiss what has been said as an utter impossibility; for many things are happening in the present war which were regarded as outside the range of probability.

The reasons which have led me to assume the role of a political prophet are that Asia, especially India, is now enjoying peace. The conflict is still far off. Up to the present, our contributions to the war have consisted in some soldiers, some money, and some quantity of raw materials. But as the struggle continues, we shall have to give much more than we are doing now. India will have to put forth her best efforts to increase her agricultural products and her industries. It is likely that we shall at last be called upon to maintain internal peace and probably that even the so-called non-martial Indian will have to fight in defence of his motherland.

In spite of the tragedy of it all, I would welcome it; for I am convinced that standing shoulder to shoulder and

fighting for our country would weld together into a united nation Indian Princes, Hindus, Muslims, Christians, Sikhs and Parsis. Britain, too, must clearly recognise the fact that the presence of a few thousand British soldiers backed by a lakh or a lakh and half of Indian soldiers drawn from the so-called martial races can no longer guarantee the safety of India. England will either have to withdraw quietly leaving us helpless as Rome left Britain in the old days, or she will have not only to allow but encourage Indians to carry arms and learn how to use them. If even now, Britain cannot trust us, we must conclude that it is an indirect admission on her part that her administration lasting for nearly two centuries has, in her own opinion, been of such questionable value that she feels that we would prefer an unknown foreign power rather than her rule.

Whatever some of the British may think about us, we, however, do not entertain feelings of this type. Even from the selfish point of view, the defeat of Britain would mean our political ruin. National India has fought and struggled against the almost autocratic powers enjoyed by officialdom. Some of the fruits of victory are being enjoyed to-day. Whatever the impediments placed in the way, the rest will and must come in course of time. The passing of India into new hands would mean a retracing of the steps we have already trodden, a renewal of the struggle for freedom *ab initio*. This, if nothing else, will impel India to assist Britain.

But in order that India's help may be effective, it is necessary that she should be encouraged to develop her heavy industries. She must be taught how to manufacture aeroplanes, motor engines, artillery, tanks and guns in their thousands. Indians to handle them must also be trained in their thousands.

There was not the slightest whisper of war when the Indian National Congress called the National Planning Committee into being. It has already started functioning. It ought to be a matter of

gratification that all the provincial governments have formally joined the National Industrial Committee and are sending their representatives and making their contributions. Our hope is that once the different Committees have come to an agreement regarding the industries to be started, the kind of assistance to be given to existing ones and the policy to be followed in encouraging cottage industries, we shall be in a position to plan for economic improvement on an All-India basis. But will the British shake off their distrust and co-operate with us, so that with the early development of the key industries, India may be in a position to be self-sufficient, not only so far as arms and munitions are concerned but in other directions also? Let us hope that this will be so and that the war may have at least the effect of endowing us with the gift of Industrial Autonomy and Dominion Status.

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N. GOPALA IYER,

Secretary.

India's Historic Battle-field: Panipat

WHERE EMPIRES HAVE BEEN WON AND LOST

BY MR. GOPAL DAS

NO battle-field has played a more important part in the history of any country than Panipat, in the Punjab, has played in the history of India. Thermopylae, Marathon, Hastings and Waterloo are great and honoured names on the Rolls of Time, but on none of them have the fates of so many empires been decided, have so many proud diadems been rolled into dust, as on Panipat. From the hoary past to as recently as the second-half of the 18th century, the sovereignty of India has time and again been won and lost here.

Here was fought the Mahabharata, the mightiest battle of antiquity, between the Kauravas, the hundred sons of the blind Dhritarashtra, ruler of Hastinapur (ancient Delhi), led by the eldest, Duryodhana, and the Pandavas, the five sons of Pandu, brother of Dhritarashtra, led by Yudhishtira, also the eldest.

The year was 3001 B.C.

Every tribe and chief of fame assembled at Kurukshetra, 42 miles north of Panipat, and for eighteen days the battle raged fast and furious. Myriads were slain, "for the father knew not the son, nor the disciple his preceptor". In the end the Pandavas emerged victorious, but victory brought them no happiness. The almost complete destruction of the race disgusted them and they determined to withdraw from the world. They placed Parikshit, grandson of Arjuna, on the throne of Hastinapur and themselves retired with Lord Krishna to his capital, Dwaraka, whence they proceeded to the Himalayas and perished in the snows.

It was before the commencement of this battle, when Arjuna, the Pandava hero, refused to fight against his own kith and kin, that Lord Krishna expounded his great message of Duty, which is embodied in that noblest of all noble poems, Shrimad Bhagavad Gita (or "The Song Celestial" as Edwin Arnold has translated it into English).

HINDU EMPIRE ENDS

It was again a few miles to the north of Panipat, at Tarain, between Karnal and Thaneshwar, that more than four

thousand years after the Mahabharata, in 1191 A.D., Prithvi Raj, the last Hindu Emperor of India, assembled his forces to give battle to the hardy mountaineers from regions beyond the Hindu Kush, led by Shahbuddin of Ghor, who aspired to the throne of India. The Rajputs fought gloriously, with all their traditional valour, and won the day. Shahbuddin returned to Ghor but he swore vengeance on the infidels.

A year later, in 1192 A.D., he returned. Much water had flowed down the Ganges during the interval. Prithvi Raj had run away with the fair Sanyogita, from under the very nose of her father Raja Jai Chand of Kanauj, and the outraged parent invoked the aid of the Afghan Sultan, who had not for a moment forgotten his inglorious defeat; in fact, he had "never slumbered in ease nor wakened but in sorrow".

The moment was most propitious. In addition to Jai Chand, other Hindu chiefs had old scores to settle with Prithvi Raj. The Sultan agreed to come.

The rival hosts again met on the same field and a fierce battle ensued. For a time fortune seemed to smile on the Hindus, but with his back to the wall the Sultan fought magnificently. He had recourse to a very clever ruse. He ordered his army to retreat. The Rajputs failed to perceive the trap and fell easy victims. Thinking they had won, instead of pursuing the enemy they gave themselves up to revelry.

Having thus thrown the enemy off the guard, Shahbuddin charged at the head of 12,000 picked horsemen in steel armour. Panic seized the Rajputs and, in the words of the Persian chronicler, "the prodigious army, once shaken, like a great building tottered to its fall and was lost in its own ruins."

Prithvi Raj himself mounted a fleet steed and fled but he was pursued, captured near Sirsuti, and 'sent to hell'.

DELHI'S FLIGHT

This battle sounded the death-knell of the Hindu Empire of India. If Jai Chand

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INDIA'S HISTORIC BATTLE-FIELD: PANIPAT

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had not turned against Prithvi Raj (and this is one of the big ifs of Indian history), the Moslems would not have come to India for at least another couple of hundred years; for after Shahbuddin there was no serious invasion of India until 1398 A.D. when Taimur came to India to wage a 'holy war' against the 'infidels'. The visit of Genghiz Khan in 1217, in the reign of Sultan Altamash of the Slave Dynasty of Pathan Rulers of India, was just a passing episode and nothing serious. The Khan was in pursuit of the fugitive Shah of Khwarizm, and wintered on the western bank of the Indus and then returned whence he came.

Taimur was a descendant of Genghiz and as great a 'scourge of God' as his more famous ancestor. At the head of ninety-two regiments of a thousand horse each, he crossed the Indus and plundering and massacring all those who offered resistance, reached Panipat in December (1398), encamped there and prepared to fight.

But there was no one to oppose him there. A week later he was before the Capital which surrendered after a gallant fight. For three days the unhappy city was turned into shambles. "All my army," wrote Taimur in his autobiography, "no longer under control, rushed to the city, killing, plundering, making prisoners."

MOGHUL EMPIRE ESTABLISHED

Taimur returned to Samarkand without founding any Empire—a task which was reserved for his great-grandson Babar to perform.

On the field of Panipat, in the year 1526, Babar won the sovereignty of India from Ibrahim Lodi and founded that dynasty whose records and achievements fill some of the most glorious pages in the history of this country.

With the help of a large park of artillery, a new-fangled weapon, then coming into vogue in Turkey and Europe but unknown in Northern India, and making use of bold cavalry charges, Babar routed the mighty army of the Lodi Sultan in the space of half a day and ascended the throne of Delhi.

It was on the same field that thirty years later, Babar's grandson, the mighty Akbar, then just a stripling of 13, had to fight for the throne against the upstart Hemu, who had assumed royal state under the style of Raja Vikramaditya, a title borne by several renowned Hindu kings in ancient India.

The rival armies met at Panipat on November 5, 1556. At first Hemu was successful on both wings, and for a few hours the fate of the Moghul Empire in India hung in balance. But when victory seemed to be within grasp, Hemu was hit on one of the eyes by an arrow and was rendered unconscious. His army, deprived of the leader, fled in panic. Hemu was captured and brought before Akbar by his General and guardian, Bairam, who desired his royal ward to earn the coveted title of Ghazi by slaying the infidel. But Akbar, with characteristic magnanimity, declined to strike a wounded and dying enemy. Thereupon Bairam, who had no such scruples, smote the prisoner on the neck with his own scimitar and finished him off.

THE EMPIRE'S END

This battle firmly established the Moghuls in India and the country enjoyed a long spell of peace and prosperity under their benevolent rule. But, curiously enough, the battle which completely shattered their great Empire was also fought near this historic field; at Karnal, 20 miles to the north.

The forces of disruption had set in when Aurangzeb, the last of the Great Moghuls, alienated the sympathies of the Rajputs by his blind fanatic zeal, and when, in 1739, 32 years after his death, his successor Muhammad Shah, prepared to meet Nadir Shah, the greatest warrior Persia has produced, he was without the help of the people who had made the Empire what it was.

After a fight lasting barely two hours, the Imperial Forces were defeated, some 20,000 being slain, and immense booty fell into the hands of the conquerors. Nadir Shah stayed in this country for about two months and when he went away, the Mahrattas stepped in on the

empty stage and for a short spell the Hindus again enjoyed supremacy in this country.

THE HINDUS AND THEN?—

It was again on this field that the Mahrattas met their end and prepared the way for the British sovereignty of India.

When Nadir Shah died, he was succeeded in the eastern portion of his dominions by Ahmed Shah who, like his predecessor, turned his eyes India-ward for fame and glory. After a few early successes in the Punjab, towards the close of the year 1760, he made Delhi his objective and marched thither at the head of a huge army. At Panipat he met a confederacy of the Mahrattas whose power was then at its zenith. "Their frontier," says Elphinstone, "extended on the north to the Indus and the Himalayas, and on the south nearly to the extremity of the Peninsula; all the territory within those limits that was not their own paid tribute."

After several preliminary engagements, the armies met in battle on January 13,

1761. Up to noon the balance of advantage seemed to rest with the Hindus, when the Shah, with the help of most timely reinforcements, delivered a charge which produced a terrible effect. Between two and three o'clock the Peshwa's son, Vishwas Rao, was wounded and unhorsed, and about three o'clock, "all at once, as if by enchantment, the whole Mahratta army at once turned their backs and fled at full speed, leaving the field of battle covered with heaps of dead. The instant they gave way, the victors pursued them with the utmost fury; and as they gave no quarter, the slaughter is scarcely to be conceived". . . .

This battle, in which the British were not even a party, made their future Empire of India possible, by completely ruining the Mahratta power, which was its most serious rival in the race.

Who knows, the history of this field may repeat itself some day, and the British may have to defend here their Empire against the Afghan, or the Russians or the Japanese!!

INDIA AND UNEMPLOYMENT

BY DR. R. H. GRACEFIELD, H.S.L. (LOND.), F.R.D.L. (U.S.A.)

CHIEF among the topics of national reconstruction is that of unemployment which has become very grave in India. Notwithstanding the remarkable academic attainments of the age, livelihood has become a task for the metamorphosis of the university. The forces of destruction are on the seat of learning itself, but unfortunately neither the educationist nor the statesman has risen to the realisation of the truth, with the result that there is in the country to-day, an army of Bachelors and Masters of Art, Science and Law without jobs. The system of education is the root-cause of all this trouble and unless the educational curricula are revised by the Ministry of Education, the prospect of solution is very remote. The rational remedy lies in the introduction of suitable technical education in Indian High Schools and an

extemporised reform in this direction is indispensable.

No tangible purpose can be served by introducing technical training as an optional subject but on the contrary it must form a compulsory branch of the Secondary School Leaving Certificate Course, if anything is to be of practical utility in the scholar's after-school career. Subjects like Greek and Roman Histories, French and German that are being taught in the High School and college classes to-day cannot be of the least practical value to the student in his campaign for bread. The study of French and German languages in particular is more a hindrance than a help to the student and nothing practical can result from such a study in India. And the precious hours that are being wasted in mastering them could rationally

have been utilised in the grasp of other important subjects. On the contrary, if subjects like Shorthand, Typewriting, Carpentry and Tailoring had replaced the Greek and Roman Histories, things would have been different. A rudimentary course in the Technology of cotton, silk and woollen weaving and Textile Chemistry or Taxidermy is badly needed in the Indian secondary school curricula to-day; for, as far as the industrial statistics show, over three-fourths of the Textile industrialists are in Government Service and the rest under private enterprises, so that the question of non-employment is almost nil.

The importance of technical instruction as an indispensable feature of the secondary schools needs an especial emphasis, owing to the economic deficiency of the average schoolboy. The finance required to educate the student is so shy in India that it can hardly suffice to complete the Matriculation Course, so that the prospect of seeking technical training in a separate Institute is marred, as it involves further expense for about another two years. But a double-fold object is achieved by combining technical instruction with general education.

Commercial education is one of the most paying weapons that secondary schools can introduce. A study of Banking and Accounts, Book-keeping and Auditing, Commercial Economics and other subjects will bring many fruitful returns of the finance expended on the mastery of these conducive subjects, which promise prompt employment in Banks and commercial concerns. Book-keepers and Accountants enjoy a reasonable distinction in the offices of mills and factories and Co-operative Societies, and Auditors are in great demand in the Financial Branch of the Government of India and those who cannot boast of a job under Government service, can earn their livelihood in private commercial concerns where terminal auditing is essential. Commercial statistics indicate that the scholars who graduated from the Commercial Institutes in Mysore are absorbed in most of the industrial concerns owned by

the State. The expansion of the Department of Industries and Commerce in Mysore, with which are incorporated many new industries of late, has provided jobs for hundreds of unemployed technical students during the present official year. And in the absence of Government jobs the State has been granting short-timed loans to prospective industrialists who aim at private enterprises, so that, even in the absence of an independent capital, State-help supports them. Numerous commercial graduates who had a fair capital, have either started Institutes imparting instruction in Typewriting and Shorthand or opened small shops. In either case commercial education is essential for the satisfactory management and control of business, as it involves a great responsibility such as the study of the market conditions, publicity campaign and business organisation.

Technical education branches itself into all these important subjects which can be formed into groups for compulsory training in schools, and it is optional for the student to choose any one of the subjects falling under compulsory education. For instance, Textiles as a whole can form an independent group, commercial subjects can be classed in a second group and miscellaneous subjects like tailoring, and carpentry can be divided in a third, and it is left to the student to select one of these groups to which his aptitude and potentialities are strongest. And before obtaining the secondary school leaving certificate, the student should have undergone full technical training and if finance permits, he can prosecute his studies in the University course. In combination with this training, physical culture also should form a compulsory branch of the scholastic curricula, for, numerous well-qualified competitors of executive service are declined for lack of physical fitness and scientific physical culture, apart from the boring drill, which is taught in schools to-day, will solve the unemployment problem much more rapidly than any other factor can. And unless the present system of education in India, progress is impossible.

INDIAN MUSIC

By MR. MAQBOOL AZIZ ANSARI

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It was 3,000 years ago that the science of music of which our country can well be proud was consolidated. It is by far the most complicated and intricate system of music of all nations and a science hardly to be surpassed by any creation of the human mind. It is, according to tradition, attributed to divine origin. The originator of music was Brahma, Siva developed it, while Narada, the heavenly bard, taught it to mankind. There is a fascinating legend about the origin of the different Ragas in Indian music. A strange bird called 'Musikar' or 'Dipak-Lat' lived in the Caucasus mountain. Its beak had seven holes; through each he could blow a different note. It is that he combined these notes into harmony and produced different tunes congenial to the particular hour and the season. And thus the different Ragas and Raginis came to being.

Like all other branches of learning, Indian music is based upon the religious observance, legends and traditions of the country, depicting the social manners and customs of the people in the history of the tunes and words of the song.

The first musical efforts in a practical direction resulted in the composing ofedic hymns by means of which the gods were propitiated. Dundubhi (drum) and vina (lute) became very early the favourite instruments at religious rites. Local music seems to have passed beyond primitive stage, judging from the complicated mode of singing the hymns of the Sama Veda. And by the time of the Yajur Veda, lute players, drummers, wind-blowers, and other professional musicians seem to have been employed.

SENSATION OF SOUND

Describing the several parts of the human system which are connected with the sensation of sound, Hindu musicians distinguished between the Abata and the Ahata forms of sound. The former are attributed to the vibrations of the air, and

the latter, to those internal subjective vibrations of which even a deaf man is said to be conscious—meaning the sound which one hears by blocking the auricular passages with one's finger. This was probably an attempt to differentiate between vibration and sound. The sources of musical sound are further divided into three classes, viz., the human voice, and the two kinds of musical instruments, where the atmospheric vibrations are caused by blowing the instrument or by striking it.

The first requirement of music is the existence of a series of notes in a given relation to one another in respect of pitch. This was early devised a series of scales which, however, underwent successive changes before they were recognised in a perfect order for the purpose of the best musical effect. The number of musical sounds to which a difference in pitch gives rise may be theoretically infinite. Accordingly, various were the surmises made regarding the number and character of such intervals of sounds, which were called Srutis. Twenty-two such intervals were recognised, each of which is a little larger than a quarter-tone. It is a mistake to suppose, as some have supposed, that the twenty-two intervals are all equal. It has been observed that 'perhaps they were induced to make their division of the octave, by considering the minor tone as not divisible by two without a fraction; and therefore made the whole number three to represent it; for, if we divide the octave into twelve semi-tones, this will give twenty-four quarter-tones or Srutis. But by allowing three to represent each of the two minor tones, instead of four, there will remain only twenty-two, the number of Srutis admitted.

RAGAS AND RAGANIS

The art of Hindu music consists of a body of rules written and unwritten, intended for practical guidance of the composer and singer. Practical application has greatly modified the theoretical laws which were hitherto in vogue. Singing of

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Ragas has always been the distinguishing feature of Indian music. Formerly they were sung in four different styles of movement, viz., the Sthayi, the Antatra, the Sanchari and the Abhoga. In modern days, only two movements are recognised, namely, the Alapa, and the Madhyamakala, which 'answer approximately to the Adagio (perhaps rhapsody would convey a nearer meaning) and Scherzo of Sonata'. The singing of a Raga is known as Alapa. It is an extempore and extended development of a Raga, in which its graces peculiar to it are brought into full relief, while it is not confined to any given time-measure, and where the performer has extensive scope to improvise. The Madhyamakala style of singing is where a Raga is developed, being confined to a definite measure throughout, the music being more lively.

All the Ragas, Raginis and other tunes have names to distinguish them from each other so that there is no confusion. There are also seasons in which they are to be sung and played.

As Indian music is based on a close study of nature itself, a deeper mystery unveils the whole thing. The law-makers of olden days were enthusiastic and profound students of nature. They unravelled the hidden secrets of sound by untiring studies and made sure that certain sounds harmonised with certain notes in certain seasons and adjusted the notes in accordance with nature. For instance, Behag is full of sweet meanings and appealing sentiments when sung at night. If sung in the morning it falls flat on one's ears and loses its beauty. Similarly an Aasavri sung in the early hours of the day touches the soft corners of our heart but at night it is nothing more than the sounds emanating from a typewriter.

DIVISIONS OF THE DAY

The twenty-four hours of the day and night are divided into eight parts and each part lasts for three hours. The first part begins from 6 a.m. to 9 a.m., the tunes to be played during these hours being slow, dream-like and pure. During the second part from 9 a.m. to 12 noon the notes in the tunes played are

flat. From 12 noon to 3 p.m. in the afternoon all the flats change to sharps. The next period from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m., the tunes have the notes ga (c), ma (f) and ni (b) sharp and re (d) and dha (a) flat. The next two periods 6 to 9 p.m., and 9 p.m. till midnight, the notes again become sharp.

When the Ragas are sung in the proper season and time by those who have competent knowledge of the science, an absolute sense of calm and tranquillity is experienced. In such a state of mental repose, according to tradition, the Ragas have the power of curing even physical ailments.

Tala, the time measure of Indian music, has developed from the prosody and metres of Indian poetry. Until recently there was no prose in India, and everything was learnt through the medium of verse chanted according to rules. Indian grammarians have always laid great stress on giving the exact value to syllables in verse; and as there is no accent in Indian verse the time-length is very important. It is only natural that the time measure in Indian music should have evolved to the great extent that it has.

The revival of Indian music owes much to the late Pandit Vishnu Digambar, Bhatkhande and the poet Rabindranath Tagore, who believe in the orthodox theory of Indian music, but regard that it can be made to adjust itself to changing times and tastes, through a process of gradual evolution, without impairing its fundamental classical background. The latter represents, therefore, a style in himself, not merely in the great literature that he has created but in the new music he has conceived and popularised in Bengal. In his school at 'Shanti-Niketan', this new style is taught side by side with poet's own compositions.

It is gratifying to see that the theatre, cinema, radio and gramophone have all contributed much to the growth of a popular type of music, quite distinct from the classical. This is a clear proof that Indian music has responded to a great degree to the demands of the modern age.

MEMORY IN CONVERSATION

BY

MR. POTHAN JOSEPH

(Editor, "Indian Express", Madras)

IN one of his character-sketches, Mr. A. G. Gardiner recalls an incident where John Burns was pitted against Sir Leo Chiozza-Money who, but for a misfortune, could have held his place in the limelight for long as an economist. Both were soaked in the study of local self-Government in London and the dispute became a battle-royal with the aid of statistics. Journalist Gardiner was amazed at the knowledge displayed by the two specialists as they discussed water-rates measured in terms of pump-supply. Readiness to swamp the opponents with details of information is a gift with some people. The Journalist has what is called an index-mind. He is confronted with a topic and all he knows is where to garner the relevant information. His head does not carry more, as he has one moment to discuss the speeches of Mr. Chamberlain, and the next to discourse on Sir Leonard Woolley's report on Archaeology. He still knows where the authorities exist, and by the device of reference or interview with experts, he builds up the exposition which the blank mind of the public requires every day to feel itself up-to-date. The public forget the subject, so do the writers of leading articles, but in conversation the expert as oracle gets away with it.

In a recent conversation on the question of income-tax which was forced upon my unprepared mind, an interlocutor remarked: "The Income-tax Commissioner is a judicial officer whose findings can go only before a High Court Judge, don't you know that?" For the moment I had not been seized of the position, and as I am not a person given to saying "I know that, of course," I had to go drawling with the talk carefully, until the turn came to me for saying how his case stood. The manner of factual assaults in conversation makes simple people dumb, because nobody likes to look an ignoramus. But some people acquire a reputation by the art of sledge-hammer pronouncements on unexpected themes. "Take the question of

sugar-cane, tell me what is the acreage in your province?" begins a plausible authority who probably knows of nothing but sugar-cane. You are floored, though you recall after the event that in the essential inferences you could have given a good account of yourselves. The truth is that we carry very meagre information in our heads, and some heads can carry only peculiar information. If suddenly you were asked by a railway officer of the distance between Calcutta and Bombay, there would be a blundering answer as to mileage, where the expert would correct you, leaving a painful consciousness as to the vastness of ignorance in the educated world. For the moment I cannot recollect the exact variation between the tariff-duties laid on British cloth and Japanese goods, a subject that is going to loom large with the approach of Indo-Japanese trade talks. The salesman at Chellaram's Stores knows more about it than me. Then again memory has a habit of clinging to experience. I shall never go wrong beyond a ten per cent. error as to the number of francs available against the pound sterling because I have a grievous recollection of an emergent conversion of a one-pound note in Paris, though I cannot be sure of a similar approximation with regard to the valuation of the Japanese Yen, having never seen one. But your cock-sure conversationalist storms and bears down on you with information about the Yen while you scratch your head about the context. Given time, I could, perhaps, draw upon memory in such a predicament or verify it by reference to some authority, but in the major assaults of erudition from the side of hurricane-talkers, we are all helpless. At times all of a sudden, one gets perplexed over the correct spelling of a word. If quickly the word is written in a mood of equanimity on a piece of paper, the spelling comes right, but in a different mood, error is a certainty. And some people can never spell right in spite of much learning. Very often I am in difficulties about the problem

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"Always verify your quotations," said Fowler who gave the advice as a literary authority acquainted with the pitfalls of quoting. Somehow errors creep in, when you quote. You don't notice it, but for the reader it is an enormity because he knows the passage in question and any departure from the text outrages his sensibility. Quotations must sound well to be effective. Still the melody of a quotation in the mind often comes at a time when verification is impossible, especially in an occupation that is a race against time and calls for quick manuscript. Some have a cultural memory, others a statistical memory, but in both cases a reference to the primary authority is the only course of safety. The human brain has different aspects of specific responsiveness among different people. It is useless to ask for standardized accuracy, and most of us feel absolutely unlettered when an expert . . . analyses facts and figures in precise terms. It disturbs conversation like the contribution of the club-bore. One of Queen Victoria's grievances against Gladstone was that he addressed her as at a public meeting. Conversation is disastrous without a readiness to succumb

to the pedlar of statistics and the classical sage, as he for his part is not known to give way. Great men in small interviews are, I am told, briefed to be well-informed for the occasion. A friend of mine had the honour of being received by the late Pope, and I was anxious to hear of his experience since my application at Rome had failed owing to a mischance, subsequently discovered. He was overwhelmed by the Pope's knowledge of India and Indian politics. Sitting in Rome, His Holiness knew everything, but later I learnt, that before each audience, the Pope used to receive a small digest of relevant information in advance as strangers were admitted to render homage. When great dignitaries appear knowledgeable, we should not forget that they are prepared, and that after the ceremony their mind is *tabula rasa* for the next grasp of problems normally foreign to their fagged outlook. We know that Solomon built the Temple and that Shah Jehan built the Taj Mahal, but the architects who actually designed the job and the artisans who accomplished it are not known to history. Credit goes to the few.

Our minds are normally empty in respect of specialized information. The mind of great designers must not be encumbered. When Mahatma Gandhi was at the Round Table Conference, he fought for certain principles. Details? Once the principles were conceded, he would ask Mr. A. Rangaswami Iyengar to draft the necessary documents, a remarkable tribute to the readiness and resourcefulness of the man in turning conclusions into concrete shape. It is a gift to be able to divest the mind of worries and reclaim its freshness for useful service through the tonic of conversation. The expert comes to the fore after the initial formulation of principles, but in conversation it is the dilettante rather the expert who scores.



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KHUSHHAL KHAN KHATAK

FRONTIER'S WARRIOR POET

BY MR. A. KHALIQ QURESHI, M.A.

FRONTIER'S patriotic bard, Khushhal Khan Khatak, in spite of Major Raverty's and Mr. Biddulph's excellent translations, is not as well known in India as he should be. When I read these translations I acutely feel that I am missing a very vital part of his poetry. However much I try, I fail to find the nicety of the diction of the original, I feel that Khushhal is saying something more forceful or more delicate. Perhaps the fact that in these translations there is neither the native sap of passion and sentiment nor the delicacy of simple and naive racy idioms counts for the lack of his popularity among those who do not understand the Pushtu language. But this deficiency is inherent in all translations. We should not, therefore, underestimate the service that Major Raverty and Mr. Biddulph have done to enlist the interest of readers abroad for Pushtu language and literature. Even when going through these translations one is conscious of the presence of a tall, square-built virile old man, of years nearly fourscore, whose eagle-eyes and muscular arms said that he would be a warrior of warriors even to his last breath, whose heart was as bold and courageous as it was gentle and love-lorn, who took pride in his own chivalry and the power of his tribe in routing his enemies, who was a keen lover of God and His creation and was equally sensitive to the voluptuous side of this life.

Khushhal Khan Khatak, a great grandson of Akoray, the famous chief of the Khatak clan, was born in the reign of Emperor Jehangir in the early part of seventeenth century (1022 A.H.) His father Shahbaz Khan was martyred at the age of fifty. Khushhal had attained his manhood then, and had already distinguished himself with sword. Emperor Shah Jehan, recognising his ability, entrusted him with the task of road protection between Attock and the Khyber Pass and also supported him in various ways. Khushhal Khan like a true Pathan paid back in the same coin; throughout

his life there was not a single moment when he showed signs of thanklessness. These were, perhaps, his happiest days.

When Aurungzeb succeeded to the throne of Delhi, fortune turned her back upon him. The Emperor reversed the temporizing policy which had been followed by his predecessors in their relations with these mountain tribes. One day the Governor of Peshawar wrote him to attend a Durbar. Khushhal Khan reached Peshawar, three days passed, but 'that foolish ass held no Durbar; in ambush against me was he'. Khushhal was imprisoned teacherously and was sent to Delhi, wherefrom he was removed to Rantipur jail. Hence onwards he became the bitterest enemy of the Mughals. He escaped from the jail after several years of imprisonment and came back to his native land to avenge himself on his oppressors.

Emperor Aurungzeb himself led his forces against this miscreant of the border, but had to give up the campaign after several years' fruitless warfare. "Divide and Rule" was successful where force had failed. By bribes and liberal annuities, Aurungzeb was able to alienate other tribes from the Khataks. Biddulph says: "Khushhal Khan appears never to have abated from the hostility of his demeanour towards the Mughals till worn out and broken-spirited, betrayed into the hands of his enemies by his own son, he seems in his old age to have felt at times the hopelessness of contending against such influences or of inducing the other tribes in the face of it to combine with him in the defence of the national independence." He died at a ripe old age, towards the close of the century. His remains lie buried at a place five miles away from Akora in the Khatak hills, where, according to his will, the Mughal horses never dared to trot. Even in these days no road leads to the near-by village of Bala Hassorhi, and the journey from Akora is usually done on horseback through barren and rugged low hills.

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The poems of Khushhal Khan Khatak are of the most diverse nature and on thematic consideration can be easily divided into various chapters; those on wit and wisdom, bravery and pride, elegies and panegyrics, erotic poetry and religion. If they do not compare in the exhibition of imagination to that of the English romantics, their style is unmistakably simple and vigorous. Indeed, they are the creations of a man who could see a subject steadily and see it whole and who employed straight and forceful language to express his feelings about it. His first effusions were in somewhat light and amatory strain which afterwards gave way to the more dignified and earnest purpose of inculcating profound reflection or sage advice. Some observe that this was a direct result of his friendly relations with the Moghul court during the reign of Emperor Shah Jehan. The court had been famous for the cultivation of refined tastes and the encouragement of literary "stars". His rievance against Aurungzeb, however, wrought a complete change in his poetical outlook, there was the addition of a plaintive note in his poetry, sad lamentation over the 'slavery' of the Pathans and yearnings for his native land. He had realized the higher truth.

'People curse the Devil as the source of every evil,

Yet it is their own passions that rule all in their actions.'

Looking at the beauty of fair women I have found my God,

Short is the distance between metaphor and facts.'

'To bestow one's all upon one's people is wise nature.'

Sometimes in utter gloom he would say:

All that happens is by Fate, no profit in Belief or Knowledge.

But never for one moment was he oblivious of his religion. He observed all the rites of Islam; he himself says in a poem wherein he prays for forgiveness of his sins:

If in the observance of rites consists true Islam,

Happy for me for then perchance I am a good Mussalman.

There is a consistency in Khushhal's conception of the fair lady he loved. She is a cypress-statured silver-bodied and bright complexioned girl of more than twenty, with rose-coloured dimpled cheeks, arched eyebrows and gazelle eyes, 'pearly' teeth and 'musk-like' moles, with 'moon-like' forehead and 'sweet perfumed raven tresses lying like fresh shoots of the hyacinth among roses'. Her smile is 'bright as day', her glances are 'coquettish', her gait is that of the partridge, and her general carriage exceedingly provocative. She feeds on the hearts of her lovers and her only defect is that her own heart is as hard as stone. Here is one of his countless love-poems:

How deftly has she curled those two long tresses,

Forthwith all men's affections are distraught,

Her black locks are as chain, her face the Kaaba,

With both hands seize those locks if thou wouldst make the Haj;

If but once it be that chain fall in thy grasp,

Ever will it find that heart in happy state.

My fame and honour I have squandered in thy cause,

In return what will thou grant me for my pains?

Khushhal Khan had an innate love for outdoor life and among various sports hawking was the most favourite amusement of this warrior poet. Throughout his works there are innumerable similes and metaphors drawn from this game. Even in the description of the advent of winter, he is full of allusions to hunting.

From the north the wild fowl trooping

To the south their way are making,

From Swat now returns the Falcon,

Like travelled Jogis coming home.

By the radiant moonlight marching,

Scream the Herons in the skies.

Geese and ducks are all around us,

Countless are the water birds.

Leaves his hills now the rock-partridge,

On the peasant's grain to feed.

His love for carefully laid out gardens or natural beauties was no less great. Indeed, this was one of his special characteristics and in this he is comparable to European poets. But this was essentially an Afghan-cum-Mughal feature. He was a great success at didactic poetry. From open preaching he progressed to indirect sermons as the following two quotations indicate:—

"If once thou receive kindness from any one,
For that once put twenty injuries of his
behind thy back.

A traitor yet deserves no pardon,
Though forgiveness is becoming towards
the true.

The fault of a brother is no fault at all,
Mercy is begetting to the mistakes of one's
friends."

"Are there two hearts that are united, they
will part in two a mountain,

To the union of two natures how many joys
succumb?"

Perhaps, the best portion of his poetry is the one in which he sets out to kindle the fire of patriotism and national defence in this abjectly demoralised countrymen. He refers to the Mughal douceurs in the bitterest terms and describes Aurungzeb, his enemy, as a mean tyrant, who was guilty of patricide. In his later years he devoted himself to retrieve the Pathan honour and prestige. Here he resembled his Greek and Arab predecessor Sisten:

Until his vengeance he has wrought upon his foe,
Neither sleep, nor food, nor rest knows a true man.
Who has no concern for his own honour,
Little respect will be paid to such an one,
If ability and honour and pride be in him,
Consider even a slave better than his lord.

Or again:

Evil disposed are all Pathans,
From house to house they fighting go,
If one but lifts his head a bit,
Another quickly lays it low.
Thou of the Mughal's eye to-day,
O Khushhal! art the piercing thorn.

Or again:

No thought is theirs of honour, fame, or
pride;

All their talk is either of rank or gold.

Far preferable to me is the Khatak buckler
o'er my loins,

Than the golden badge of service hanging
round my neck,

The nights in the Emperor's prison are in my
mind,

When all night long I called to God in vain.
When the Pathans drew their swords on the
Mughals,

Every Pathan led a Mughal hound beside his
horse.

No thought have they for honour now,
Khushhal!

Of what stock can these Pathans then have
been sprung.

Unfortunately these sharp shafts from
his bow failed to rouse his fellow Pathans
from their despicable dormancy. Gradually
he began to lose faith in them.

Get you gone from amongst these disgraced
Pathans, Khushhal;

Go to Bannu and there collect your followers.

This resolute adhesion throughout his
life to the cause of freedom is something
unique. It indicates the manliness and
immense vitality of the poet. On each
one of his poems, there is the impress
of the natural influence of the surround-
ings. The North-West Frontier of In-
is very much like Scotland and it
therefore, that Khushhal is akin to Burns
and Scott. Space does not permit me
give ample illustrations of parallel thoug-
between these writers. I shall or
mention Burns's famous poem, "My her
is in the Highlands"; Scott's "Breath
there the man with Soul so dead" a
Khushhal Khan's poem beginning "A
household is as a garden and I t
gardener."

In the end if I were asked to assign
place to Khushhal Khan Khatak in the
history of Oriental poetry, I would safe-
choose him to represent Pushtu poetry in
all its respects. In other words, Khushhal
Khan is the most resplendent star of the
North-Frontier's literary firmament,

KATHAKALI

BY

MR. K. P. PADMANABHAN TAMPY, B.A.

KATHAKALI is a unique Dance-Drama
form peculiar to Kerala, which came
into existence in the first half of the
16th century. It is a marvellous combi-
nation of scientific dance, elaborate gesture,



MR. PADMANABHAN TAMPY

picturesque costume, make-up and music.
The Raja of the powerful principality
of Kottarakkara, a great scholar who
lived between 1575 and 1650 A.D., was
the first composer and originator of
Kathakali. It was a revolutionary
revival of the old folk dance-drama in
a new garb. This new drama liberally
borrowed both from the old and the new
but preserved the trinity of harmonies
as its most precious heirloom. It was
originally called *Ramanattam*, for the
earliest theme theatrically represented was
the story of Sri Rama, one of the
Avatars (incarnations) of Lord Vishnu.
The Raja of Kottarakkara took for all
his eight plays the incidents of the
Ramayana from the birth of Sri Rama
to his coronation after killing Ravana,
and these episodes were graphically re-
presented. The Rajah of Kottayam, who
next developed this Dance-Drama, based
his themes on the *Bharatham*. He

flourished between 1665 A.D. and 1743 A.D.
He is the author of four Kathakali
plays. He was an inspired dramatist and
an accomplished actor. He once took by
surprise the Zamorin of Calicut who was
a great connoisseur of the art of *Kathakali*.
The Raja of Kottarakkara during his visit
to the Zamorin, without the knowledge
of others, participated in a performance.
The Zamorin was pleased with the new
actor and was about to give him presents
when he recognised to his great surprise
the person of the fifty year old Kottayam
Raja as the actor. "A type of pantomime
using a stylized gesture language acted to
the accompaniment of drums and songs
sung by special singers and the whole
set in a framework of dance, the *Kathakali*
has no counterpart elsewhere except in the
shadow dances and dramas of Java."

This Kerala art form, which is both
fascinating and spectacular, has been
winning the full-volumed admiration of
art connoisseurs who are greatly impress-
ed by its originality and elaborate
technique, has had a more intimate
association with the social and secular
life of the country than any other
form of Kerala Art. In the develop-
ment of this scientific mimicry, the whole
gamut of literary expression of the flawless
type has been reduced to elementary
notions for which there are separate
finger signs. The codified hand poses
(*Mudras*) are full of significance and
meaning. They are cent per cent symbolical
and denote objects, action and even
inflection. The system of hand poses is
based on the *Bharatha Natya Sastra*. The
Mudras aim at indirect suggestion rather
than direct exposition. Greater significance
has been attached to indirect suggestion.
Kathakali plays are of supreme dramatic
and literary excellence. They are written
in mixed verse and quasi prose. The
dialogues are in songs and the intermediate
incidents between scenes are in verses.
The dialogues are invariably in Malayalam
but the verses are in a mixture of
Sanskrit and Malayalam. The verse or
Sloka as it is called introduces the actors

to the scene. The verses as a rule close with the words: "And so they spoke" and immediately behind the curtain appear the actors. The curtain-holders have to raise or lower the curtain according to the dance of the actors. The *Kathakali* literature has, as its rich background, an enormous amount of labour and research in the realms of art, literature and music. The religious devotion to the art, an impersonal participation in it and a lofty craftsmanship in the governance of the tools of the art, and the perfect understanding of the relationship between rhythm and emotion are the distinguishing features of this classical Dance-Drama which draws its vital inspiration from the colourful stories in the *Puranas*. The lyrical sublimity and epic grandeur of the *Kathakali*, are unique.

Kathakali is one of the most difficult of arts and the actors have to undergo a scientific course of severe and strenuous training for a period of three to five years under reputed masters to become proficient in the art. *Kathakali* students join a *Kalari* or gymnasium between the age of 12 and 14 years. They gain complete control over the members and muscles of the body and are experts in the control of mental and emotional processes through meditation, contemplation and concentration. The actors have to master the art thoroughly and they need not aspire to achieve in seven months what their masters only achieved in seven years of hard work and great sacrifice. The training is severe and thorough and only a visit to a *Kathakali* school will give an idea of it. With lightning speed they move their limbs, jump and dance. Their movements are acrobatic but never obtrusive. The feet, heels, ankles, toes, waist, and every part of the body and the face is used by the *Kathakali* actor. There are nine different movements of the head. The actors are tabooed from speaking while on the stage. The strides, dances, hand poses, and facial gestures are the effective substitutes for vocal expression. The actors are so clever in the art of pantomime that they with amazing ease, majestic grace and consummate ability express emotion with telling effect. The hand poses are

suggestive and recondite. There are sixty-four hand poses. The eyes of the *Kathakali* actors actually dance. The movements of the eyebrows and eyelids are sharp and full of meaning and charm. The *Kathakali* dancers are masters in eye movement. There are six different movements of the eyebrows. The reddening of the eyes of the actors lends an ethereal charm and superhuman effect to the pantomime of *par excellence*. Eight to eleven glances of the eyes are made use of by the *Kathakali* actors. The *Kathakali* actors "dissolve one into ecstasies or bring all heaven before one's eye". The histrionic art-form expressed in *Kathakali* is truly one of union—union of all aspects of the actor. The *Kathakali* actors transmute into dance both emotion and narration.

The costume and make-up though old-fashioned and queer are impressive and contribute to the dignity of the actors. Strong Malayan and Tibetan influences are discerned in the embellishments of the actors. Some critics have observed that a decided Moslem influence is noted in the costume and make-up of the female characters. Legend avers that the Raja of Kottarakkara who first conceived the character had a vision of sea nymphs and monsters from whom he copied the form. Vast improvement in the facial make-up of the actors were effected by the Kaplingot and Kallikot Nambudiries who were great scholars. It takes about three hours for this cumbersome make-up. An actor has to tie at least eighty knots in the process of dressing. Red, green, yellow, black and white are the dominant colours used for the make-up. There are different standardised make-ups for the various types of actors. The head-dress is elaborate as it is a heavy and magnificent affair. The make-up of the female characters is simple. The actors use bangles, anklet necklaces and armlets in profusion. As the characters, except sages and rishies, wear voluminous skirts which resemble the skirts worn by the ballet dancers. The characters representing Kings, Gods and Demons put on fantastic dresses and paint their faces in the most hideous fashion. The characters which represent Gods wear carved

and masks symbolically coloured and make the themselves in gorgeous and over-size ornaments. This costume and make-up make them appear superhuman. Mask designs are painted on the faces of the actors. Their eyebrows are accentuated and a white facial outline known as the *chutti* makes them look austere. Different designs of white borders (*chuttis*) are made use of to denote the nature of the characters. A paste of rice-flour and lime is used for this white chin border. The *chutti* is put on the face of the actors by a laborious process bit by bit, allowing sufficient time for the mixture to harden. It forms an attractive frame for the face extending as it does from the temples to the chin. The *Kathakali* characters are classified under three types: *Satvik* (virtuous), *Rajasik* (savage vices) and *Tamasik* (terrifying and destructive). The *Kathakali* Demon looks most formidable and fearful. He strikes terror into the minds of the youngsters. His make-up is terrifying. Some of the characters have long flowing tufts of thick black hair, long and pointed nails looking like claws, round and bulging eyes and protruding molars. The use of powerful rhythmic movements and symbolic hand-poses elevates the characters from actual life to the realm of the celestial beings.

Dance, gesture, costume and make-up are all highly stylised. There is a wealth of colour, grace and jewellery in the costumes. The ornaments worn by the

actors bear a definite resemblance to the archaic decorations found in the ancient temple sculptures. The most beautiful of all the costumes are the towering head-dresses. The magnificent looking head-dress is profusely embellished with many-coloured beads, spangles, shells and glass pieces. The head-dress triumphantly demonstrates quite a lot of intricate, elaborate and delightful carving cunningly executed by master-craftsmen. The

head-dress is after the pattern of a crown, set with gleaming glass pieces. The head-dress varies to suit the attire of the actor.

Elaborate technique, which often strikes one as annoying, is indulged in when a character makes his first appearance on the stage. This is called *purappadu* or the debut. It is all the more cumbersome and colourful if the character is a hero or heroine. The instruments are tuned to their proper pitch, the torch wicks are brightened and the royal ensigns are exhibited. The ensemble of the entry has a powerful and thrilling effect upon the audience. The actors in the *purappadu* stand



GOPINATH, THE RENOWNED KATHAKALI DANCER

with their knees bent sideways. The curtain-holders have to be extra careful to raise or lower the curtain according to the dance of the actors. The *purappadu* is an exacting time both for the musicians and the curtain-holders.

The dance and mimicry are rendered rhythmic in complete harmony with the *rasas* (sentiments) and *bhavas* (feelings) represented by the actors. The actor dances to the tune of the songster and the

drummers and every movement of the dance executed with well-defined steps. The foot rhythm is intricate and powerful and the earth trembles under the feet of the actor. Close upon the songster finishing a verse, the actor takes up the song and elaborates it all in pantomime. A general and vigorous rhythm dominates the entire performance and the sharp plastic movements of the body (*Angh Abhinaya*) and the different gestures (*Hasta Abhinaya*) enormously help the eloquent expression of the various emotions, the *Nava Rasas* (nine sentiments). The emotional effect of the *Kathakali* is superb. The music on the stage is comprised of the stentorian but melodious voice of a couple of singers accompanied by the clinking of the cymbals called *Kaimani* being a pair of small circular bell-metal pieces) and the jingling of the gong in harmony with the booming of the drums. Strokes made on the gong with a stick keep time for the actors. The drummers emphasise each gesture and keep the rhythm for the singers. The measured steps and poses of the actors are guided by the time beats on the drums. The conclusion or full stop to every conversation is marked by a *Ulasom*, i.e., measured steps and poses controlled by the time beats on the drums. Every rhythm is definitely correlated with a particular mood and produce its characteristic and thrilling effect with precise calculation. This rhythm is more than art; it is a powerful manifestation of the all-embracing rhythm of life, love, battle, romance, birth, growth and decay. The variety of sounds which the drummers produce with the aid of their hands and the sticks is marvellous. Two drums called *Madḍalam* (a long finger drum) and *Chenda* (Kettle Drum) are used. The music of the *Kathakali* is a perfect combination of *Raga* (melody), *Tala* (rhythm), *Svara* (note) and *Bhava* (feeling). The movement of the actor is exquisite and never obtrudes itself beyond the meaning of the dance delicately soft when necessary and extremely agile and tense at other times. The best and most harmonious co-operation necessary between the three artists: the dancer, the singer and the drummer render a *Kathakali* performance a

success. The colour effect of the triangular harmony between *Geetham* (singing), *Nritham* (dancing) and *Vadyam* (drumming) is supremely enchanting. The songs are long drawn. The esoteric significance of *Kathakali* songs has been extolled *ad libitum*. The voices of the songsters resound and carry far into the night.

The themes for the *Kathakali* are generally taken from the Puranic lore. The stories of the *Kathakali* are many and varied, both tragedies and comedies, the former, however, being more realistic than the latter. The native and romantic background of this indigenous art-form is the darkness of the charming Malabar night. No scenery is allowed. The *Kathakali* is always performed in the night and under the shadow of a huge brass lamp which stands five feet high with wicks all round. This lamp of exquisite workmanship is fed by coconut oil. The yellowish light adds to the grandeur and solemnity of the performance. Only high class Hindus take part in the *Kathakali* performance. Some of the best *Kathakali* dances are to be seen during the *Utsavam* (Temple Festival) season in the Sree Padmanabhaswamy Temple at Trivandrum. There are special *Kathakali* troupes attached to the leading temples in the State. The one characteristic feature of the *Kathakali* is that only men take part in the performance. A standard *Kathakali* performance will take eight to ten hours. Towards dusk, the drummers announce the performance with a special call. This effectively serves the purpose of the modern advertisements. The audience usually gather after supper to witness this pantomime which continues till day-break. The drummers stand at one side. The singers stand behind the Actors. The *Kathakali* is one of the greatest contributions of Travancore to the cultural heritage of the world. Well may it be said of the *Kathakali* dancer:

In thy dance, Divine Dancer, freedom finds
its image and dreams their forms,
Its cadence weaves the threads of things and
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Kathakali is the most important contribution of India to the dramatic art of the West. It is the only performance which combines music, acting, gesture language and dance so as to make each element an integral part of the whole. Adolph Appia, when staging the famous operas of Wagner, developed his own theory of the word-tone drama wherein the guiding, though not the paramount factor over acting and dancing, was the rhythm of music. Nearly two centuries before Appia wrote, the people of the West Coast of India delighted in spending the nights in aesthetic enjoyment of *Kathakali* performances. The word-tone drama reached a state of perfection and fullness in the absorbing *Kathakali* performances.

Kathakali has flourished long in Travancore under royal patronage. His Highness

the Maharaja of Travancore is a patron of the various troupes of *Kathakali* actors who carry on this remarkable art. His Highness Maharaja Sri Chitra Thirunal maintains a royal troupe of talented *Kathakali* actors who perform on special occasions. His Highness is an enthusiastic admirer and critic of the *Kathakali* which, in His Highness' own words, has "given one new art-form to the world". His Highness Karthiga Thirunal Maharaja (1758-98 A.D.) who was an authority on *Bharata Natya* and his gifted nephew Asvati Thirunal Rama Varma were well-known patrons of the art. They also distinguished themselves as great composers of first rate *Kathakali* plays. Two of the greatest writers of *Kathakali* plays: Kilimannur Vidwan Rajaraja Varma Koil Thampuran and Erayimman Tampi flourished under the royal patronage of His Highness Swati Thirunal (1829-1847) who was a great composer of song, an accomplished linguist and scholar. Maharaja Uthrom Thirunal Martanda Varma (1847-60 A.D.) was a renowned patron of *Kathakali* and it was he who first organised the Palace troupe to serve as a pattern for the rest of Malabar. He had quite a passion for the theatre and he wrote a number of plays. It was under the commands of this Royal master that Eswara Pillai Vicharippu that Chief Actor in the Palace *Kathakali* troupe, for the first time brought out a collection of fifty-four *Atta Kathas* (*Kathakali* plays), including the works of Maharaja Uthrom Thirunal.

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intelligentsia by modernising to a considerable extent the costume and make-up of the actors, by cutting down the duration of the plays and by fully exploiting the artistic and aesthetic phases of the art, but at the same time taking precious care to conserve the inherent and age-old greatness and individuality of this wonderful art-form. The healthy modernising influence brought to bear on this great art, and the growing recognition received at the hands of competent European savants, who

have discerned in the *Kathakali* a treasure-house, have triumphantly proclaimed that this art will never die as long as culture and civilisation continue to exist on earth.

In the words of an eminent scholar, the *Kathakali* is an exposition of the national genius from the pit to the platform, expanding the vision to the high altitudes of imagination as well as into the deep recesses of the heart.

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CHILDREN'S CASTLES

BY PROF. NICHOLAS DE ROERICH

—:o:—

On the powerful column of a temple sits
A birdling. On the street children
Build out of mud unconquerable
Castles. How much movement flutters around
This play. The rain has washed away
Their strongholds during the night and the horse
Tramped down their towers. But
Meanwhile, let the children build
A castle out of mud and let
A birdling sit on the column.
Going towards the temple, I shall not approach
The column, but pass by
The children's castles.

Some Noteworthy Temples in Baroda State

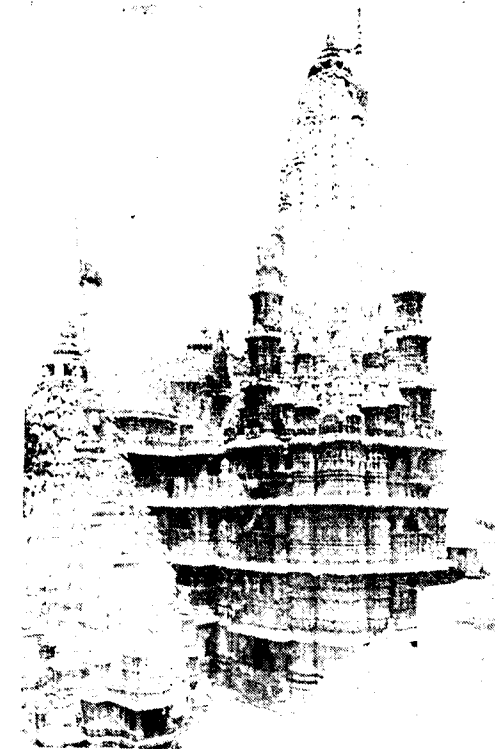
BY MR. HIRANANDA SASTRI

(Director of Archaeology, Baroda State)

BARODA State possesses temples some of which might well be termed architectural gems. They are not very old being late medieval in origin. Even the present main temple at Dvaraka, one of the four *dhamas* of the Hindus, is not

the Hindu architecture of medieval Gujarat. The mouldings and sculptures with which its outer walls are profusely ornamented are typical of the rich Hindu style of Gujarat of about the 13th century after Christ. The whole exterior is full of sculptures and various carvings. Bands of mouldings and bas-reliefs cover it from the basement and one would wonder at the patience of the sculptor with which he adorned the structure. Though it is a place of worship, yet it is not a distinct sanctuary in the ordinary sense of the word.

An account of two old sanctuaries of great architectural value is being given here though neither of them is now a living temple. One of them is the Sun temple at Modhera, a small village in the Chanasma taluk of the Mehsana District. It can be reached from Patan as well as from Chanasma. Conveyances can be had from both the places. From Patan it is more than 20 miles but from Chanasma it is only 10 miles. The Modhera temple consists of two separate blocks of buildings. The eastern block is the outer open *mandapa* or porch entirely supported upon pillars, while the western block contains the main hall and shrine or the sanctum sanctorum and is enclosed all round by walls. Both the blocks are now roofless but in other respects they are in a fairly stable condition. Measures have been taken to conserve it thoroughly and it has been protected under the Ancient Monuments Preservation Act. It was built without any

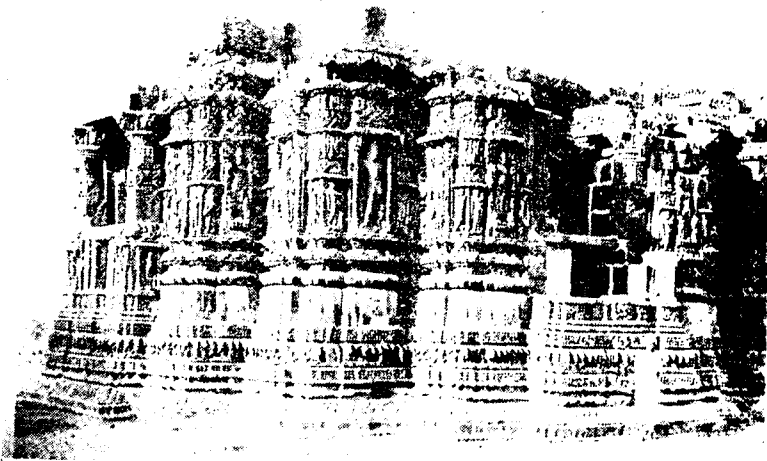


DVARKADHISA TEMPLE AT DVARAKA

a very old structure. It is doubtful if it is anterior to the Mughul rule. That it is one of the most sacred and chief temples of worship of the Hindu India is undoubted. Here is a photograph which gives an almost complete view of it. The Kalika Mata temple at Dabhoi, the ancient Darbhavati, is a magnificent structure and affords a good example of

mortar or other cementing material, though iron clamps were used here and there to secure the joints. Like many other Hindu temples it was demolished by the Mussalmans who, not content with defacing the figure sculptures, are said to have placed bags of gunpowder in the underground shrine and blown it up with the upper cell, destroying the *sikhara* of the magnificent temple.

6 inches in height, arranged in an octagon. Each side of the hall has an entrance and is decorated with two large balcony windows one on either side. The central area was covered by a splendid carved dome nearly the whole of which is now gone. The walls have niches enshrining images of Surya marked by long Persian boots. The columns are most lavishly carved from base to capital. They are



GENERAL VIEW OF THE SUN TEMPLE (MAIN TEMPLE) S. W. AT MODHERA

The whole sanctuary consists of the *garbhagriha* or adytum, a *gudha-mandapa* or hall, a *sabha* or *ranga-mandapa* or outer hall and a *kunda* or sacred tank. Its construction fulfills the main requirements of the *silpa sastras* and is typically Hindu. It is rectangular in plan, its length inside the wall is 51 feet 9 inches or almost exactly double of its width which is 25 feet 8 inches. The cell is 11 feet square inside and is enclosed by its own walls between which and the outer walls of the temple is the circum-ambulatory passage or *pradakshinapatha*.

The roof of the hall is supported mainly by eight principal columns each 13 feet

octagonal in plan changing to round near the top. The architraves are also covered with profuse carving.

The sanctum enshrined an image of Surya the Sun-god which is now missing. The seat of the image was recovered when the debris was cleared. The seven horses of the god are carved on it, their fore-quarters are projecting and prancing forward as is usually seen in the representations of this god. How this cell was entered is not quite clear. There is no entrance from the sides. Possibly it was reached by a trap-door and ladder from the floor above. This floor does not exist now except for a few projecting slabs round the

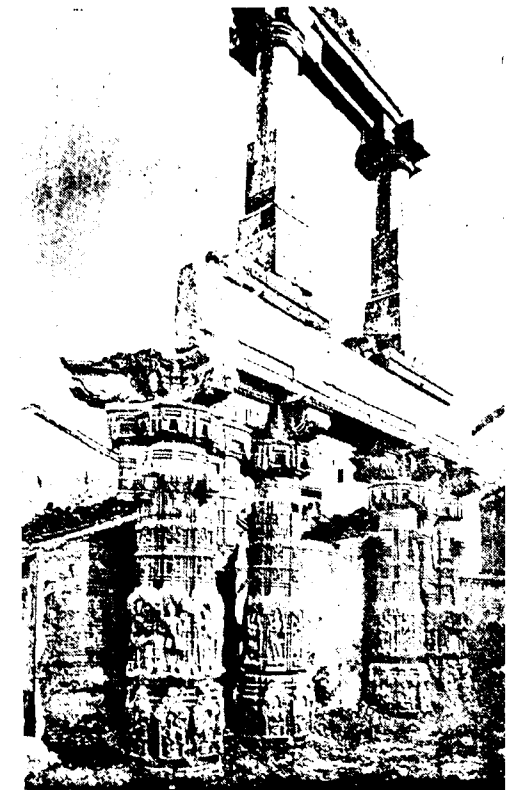
edges. Possibly this was a chamber for keeping temple jewels in safety. The door-way of the shrine is richly decorated and the figure of Surya is repeated over and over again. In the circumambulatory path there are well cut niches but the idols which they contained are all gone. The exterior of the temple is profusely carved. The mouldings and sculptures on the walls of the *mandapa* are arranged in horizontal bands, whilst on the *sikhara* they follow vertical lines. This arrangement produces a very sparkling effect, which is not easy to attain. The carving in the *mandapa*, especially on the columns, is marked with representations which are revoltingly obscene and remind us of the amorous figures in the temples of Orissa, Chhatarpur and other places. It is not impossible that the sculptor who carved these images in the Modhera temple got an inspiration from the Black Pagoda or the Sun-temple at Konarak.

The *mandapa* is the most elegant feature of this temple. In front of the eastern entrance to the *sabhamandapa* and at the head of the flight of steps leading to the beautiful adjoining pond stand two beautiful columns which are detached or free from the temple building. Probably they were *Kirtistambhas*. The adjacent tank is a complete example of its kind. It is now known as *Rama-kunda*. It is rectangular in construction and measures 176 feet by 120 feet. The recesses and miniature shrines on all of its sides and the well-engraved images seen in them decorate the pond, adding to the beautiful effect of the reflection of the temple in its clear waters. The masonry of the tank, like that of the temple, is without mortar and consists entirely of blocks of stone fitted together in the way of the

old Hindu sanctuaries. The temple of Modhera stands on a mound and faces east. It is so constructed that the rising sun at the equinoxes would shine straight through the *Sabhamandapa* door into the *garbha-graha* or shrine proper.

On the strength of an inscription on the inner wall of the cells, which is dated in the Vikrama Samvat 1083 (=1026-27), it may be safely surmised that the temple was built about the eleventh century of the Christian era.

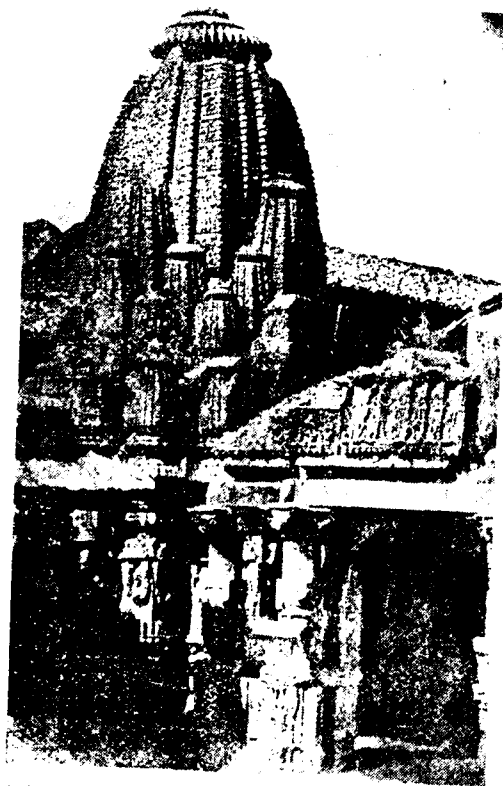
Another noteworthy temple in the State is the Rudramahalaya or the great temple



RUDRAMAHALAYA AT SIDDHPUR

of Siva at Siddhpur, a Railway station on the metre gauge section of the B. B. & C. I. which runs from Ahmedabad to Delhi.

It is the chief town of the taluk of that name in the district of Mehsana lying sixty-four miles to the north of Ahmedabad. It is known for its great Siva temple called Rudramahalaya, i.e., the great abode of Rudra or Siva. Rudramal or Rudramala is the popular name of the sanctuary. Probably Mularaja the famous Chavada (Chapotkata)



A SMALL SHRINE IN RUDRAMALA COURT

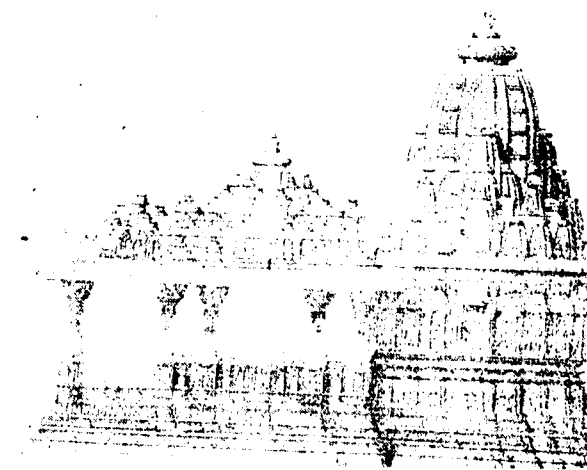
king (961-996 A.D.) commenced building it, but it was completed by Siddharaja the most celebrated and successful king of medieval Gujarat (1091-1113 A.D.) It was sacked and devastated first by Alauddin Khalji and then by the Gujarat Sultan Ahmad Shah. A large portion of it where the sanctum sanctorum stood is in the possession of Mussalmans who are using it as a mosque. The rest is

looked after by the Archaeological Department through the Public Works Department of the State. It was, perhaps one of the largest and most elaborate temples ever built in India. Originally it consisted of a great central building of two or more storeys in height, consisting of a shrine and great hall, facing the river Sarasvati on the east and having three great entrance porches, one each in the north, east and south of the hall. In the court-yard and around the main temple were several smaller or subsidiary shrines chiefly grouped around the back. There were, also, three great ornamental arches or *toranas*, one of which stood at the top of the steps leading up from the river, and before the main entrance of the temple, while upon either side, and further in, stood another. All that is now left of this once splendid structure are four great columns of the hall, which stood before the shrine door, and which still uphold one of the enormous eight stone beams which supported the great dome as seen in the accompanying illustration. An idea of what it must have looked like can be found from the accompanying photo of a miniature subsidiary shrine at the back of it. In the portion which now serves as a mosque, the old beautiful rosettes, lotuses, etc. cut in single stone blocks are still preserved. They form part of the ceiling. The artistic skill with which they are engraved cannot fail to excite admiration for the old *silpins* of Gujarat.

Out of the living temples of the State, the one at Sunak is, perhaps, the best and possibly the oldest. Sunak or Sonak is a village in the Mehsana district or the former Kadi *Prant* of the State and lies in the Siddhapur taluka. It

best be approached from Unjha, a small station on the Ahmedabad Delhi section of the B. B. & C. I. Railway. Though there is no regular road to it, buses, however, can run to it. From Unjha it is about four miles towards the west, but from Siddhapur it is nine miles to the south-south west. The old temple which is still used for worship is dedicated to Siva and

the *mandapa* and the porch are also intact. The structure thus affords an almost complete example of the temple architecture of medieval Gujarat. The construction of its dome is also typical. The interior of it is richly carved. The projecting brackets carved with various figures, human as well as conventional or fantastic, are made with great skill. The



TEMPLE OF NILAKANTHA MAHADEVA AT SUNAK

called Nilakantha Mahadeva, i.e., Siva with the blue or black throat so discoloured by his swallowing the poison produced at the churning of the milky ocean to get *amrita* or ambrosia. The temple contains the usual phallic emblem of Siva and consists of the shrine and an open hall or *mandapa* with an entrance porch before it facing east. The *sikhara* is complete and the roof of

decorative mouldings on the outside of the sculptures which are Saiva in character are all skilfully cut and would lead the spectator to remark that the older a carving is, the more artistic it seems to be. This temple appears to be older than the one described above. The construction of the roof of its hall is worth study, along with that of some Hindu temples in *Konkan*.



EVOLUTION OF THE MOTOR CAR

BY MR. W. W. LADDEN

(Managing-Director, Messrs. Simpson & Co., Madras)

MANY thousands of years have passed since man first thought of moving weights by placing the trunks of trees shorn of all branches under such weights. That thought alone when put into action saved many hours of weary labour and gave us the first move toward the Motor Car or Automobile as it is known today. From that early roller, progress was made to a wheel which over a period has multiplied many times. Now we have one automobile driven by power drawing after it one or more trailers carrying goods or persons as required.

The next step was the means of moving, first the rollers and then the wheels. Originally progress was by propulsion or dragging and even today there is still some difference of opinion as to whether the best results are obtained

1. By propelling, or
2. By dragging.

Having evolved the wheel, man's inventive mind found ample scope for experimenting with various forms of power drives. These experiments ranged from manual power to power provided by all kinds of animals and finally to mechanical power. The horse proved the most popular animal for this power purpose for many years, and still today commands a very large place in some corners of the world.

Human powers of inventiveness are fortunately never satisfied and as the years rolled on, various methods were devised to carry larger loads, over longer distance in greater comfort. The railroad displaced horse drawn and other animal drawn

vehicles for long distance travel, but only after travel by those vehicles for short distances had been made exceedingly comfortable by good springing and some regular road tracks had been provided. For many years then the railway enjoyed a monopoly which they did not fail to exploit and road traffic was confined to shorter and shorter distances. Then came the invention of the pneumatic tyre opening up new avenues for experiment and development in travel by road. First, the tricycle and then the bicycle, all gently leading up to the first mechanically propelled vehicle for the road, the steam car. This was an adaptation of the railway engine with certain modifications and was quite successful until replaced by a lighter and more efficient new-comer, the first internal combustion engined motor car. This latest comer became a practical proposition only in the last years of the nineteenth century, and even then its use was surrounded by so many restrictions that it was in danger of an early demise.

The principle of steam engine construction are clearly apparent in early motor car construction, and in fact, there can be but little doubt that both the inventors of the Diesel Engine and the Petrol Engine owe much to the inventor of the Steam Engine. The pioneer manufacturers and users of these early automobiles were both heroic and persevering; for, in addition to overcoming official displeasure expressed by numerous restrictions they had to face the ridicule of their friends and the antagonism of the railway. They had, however, some

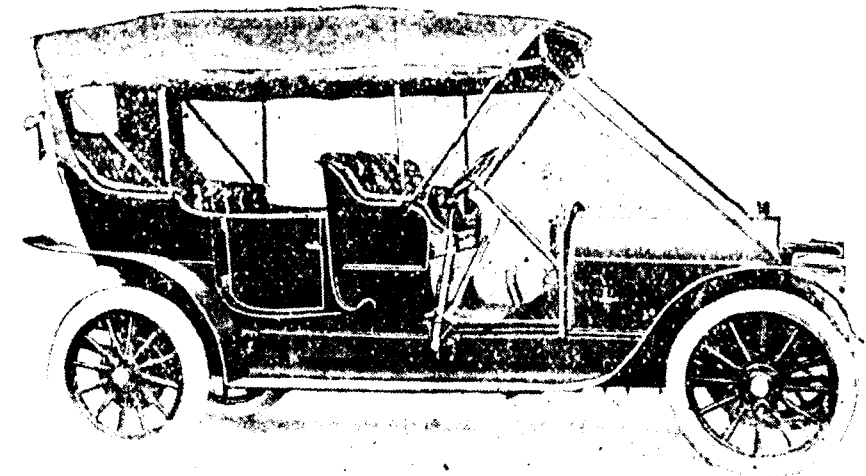
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EVOLUTION OF THE MOTOR CAR

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friends on whom they could rely and to whom they could look for assistance in the steel companies, the oil companies and the tyre companies, and many of our leading automobile manufacturers today have reason to be grateful for help received from such sources. As may be imagined the automobile, as we know it today, started with a single cylinder engine and acquired multiple cylinders as tests and experiments proved that better results could be obtained by duplication. I can well remember my first encounter with one of these early single cylinder models

manner in which this handle should be grasped and the precise position in which the handle should be inserted, a deep breath was taken and a vigorous pull upwards might result in the engine spluttering into life. Quite often, however, the result was a cipher and not infrequently a sharp backfire with a crack across the back of the knuckles to remind you to be more wary next time. Having started the engine, a short run might be essayed, first of all the clutch had to be disengaged and then a nice long wait whilst it stopped spinning to permit a



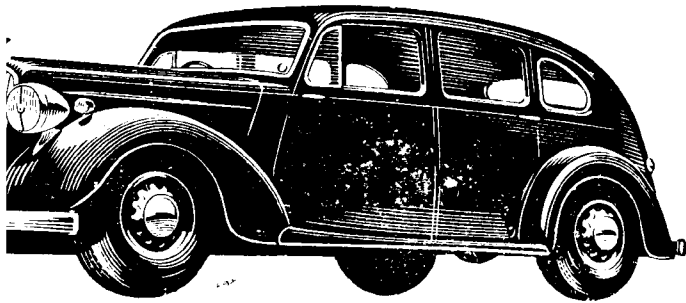
THE OLD CAR

and the elaborate precautions necessary before proceeding to start the engine. A solemn inspection of the level of petrol, oil and water seemed a much more important task than it is today. Then a careful setting of the throttle and ignition levers to a place where it was known the best starting results would obtain. Finally, a quick check to satisfy that gear lever was in neutral, brake was on and engine switched on before proceeding to the starting handle. Having received instructions on the correct

quiet change into gear. Another deep breath and an endeavour to let the clutch gently re-engage usually resulted in seat hitting one violently in the back and the car shooting forward about 3 to 4 yards whilst frantic endeavours were made to keep the engine running by manipulating a hand throttle, the only means of controlling the engine. The brakes on these early cars were very similar in design to those used on the animal drawn vehicles preceding them with an efficiency that varied with the road conditions

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THE MODERN CAR

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home. I managed to get over the last
lap by packing the tyres tightly with
grass but by the end of the journey the
outer covers were bulging in very strange
places and my speed had been reduced to
a crawl of less than four miles per hour.

The bodies which were mounted on
the earliest motor cars followed naturally
the lines of carriages and coaches, the
very earliest being designed with a canopy
or hood unless a wealthy purchaser was
prepared to pay a very heavy price
for a closed or saloon type of body,
whilst the springs to absorb the road

shocks were exact replicas of those used
on the best horse drawn vehicles. When
we compare such early motor vehicles
with our automobiles of today, we are
perhaps apt to forget the tremendous
mental and physical labour that has
been exerted and the vast amount of
money spent in reaching the present stage.

This great new industry has arisen in
less than half a century and its progress
can only be maintained by an ever
watchful eye on running costs. Manu-
facturers today spend tremendous sums of
money in testing out each year the models
they are to offer the public during the
following year. These tests are conducted
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the tester with road surfaces and condi-
tions similar to those found anywhere in
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INDIAN FILM INDUSTRY: A RETROSPECT

BY SRIMATI ENAKSHI BHAVANANI

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SO much has been said and written
during the recent film congress
about the history of the Indian Film
Industry by Producers, Distributors, Exhi-
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ENAKSHI BHAVANANI

expert facts and figures that it is a
difficult task for me, who has mainly
an idea from the artiste's point of view
to write very much. However, working
as I do with my husband, I have been
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working of the industry than if I had
merely looked at it from the outside
and so in response to the Editor's
request, I shall try to write of this
very important industry in a very general
rather than in a detailed manner.

This year 1939 completed 25 years
since the first all Indian picture was
produced. During this long period, there has
been a brave and valiant struggle amongst
the art-minded pioneers to set up an
industry against tremendous odds—odds
which have taken the shape of orthodox
prejudice, lack of finance, lack of enterprise

from people who could have helped them
and constant criticism from outside rather
than helpful co-operation. In spite of these
drawbacks it is something to be really
proud about, that the industry has not
only survived but has succeeded in
improving to such an extent that most
of these barriers have been considerably
overcome. The picture business has reached
a position of such importance in the
social and economic structure of the
country that in the interest of the
industry as well as India, all Indians are
unconsciously forced to take serious cogni-
sance of its existence and growth. Films
here today are not merely a part of an
industry in the purely technical sense
but are also a great factor in making or
marring the healthy development of social
life. In the beginning, working in pictures
in any capacity whatever was considered
degrading. From my personal experience,
being one of the first Indian girls of
good family, a few years ago, to break
with tradition and act, though it was
at first mostly in a spirit of fun,
I can say most of this prejudice
has gone. After all, earnest workers have
built up this motion picture trade and
as in every other walk of life, it has
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of character that counts. Respect is
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Besides this, in Indian films, attention
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deeply psychological dramas, those concerned
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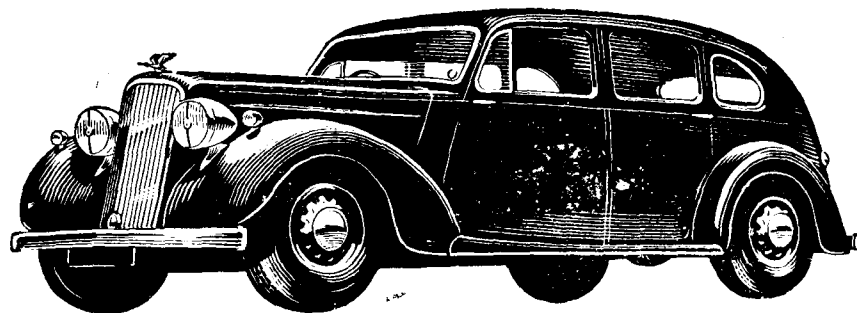
Throughout the world it has been
realised that pictures are no longer only
for entertainment but are of great

existing when they were applied. No compensating gear was fitted to the brakes and any sharp application when travelling at more than ten miles an hour inevitably resulted in the car changing direction, no matter what valiant efforts were made to keep it straight.

Tyre manufacturers had taken due advantage of the invention of the pneumatic tyre and were ready with a product which when fitted was certainly an improvement on its predecessor, the solid rubber tyre. The extra comfort of the pneumatic was, however, very seriously

bad ones at that, left me with four irreparable tubes, twenty miles from home. I managed to get over the last lap by packing the tyres tightly with grass but by the end of the journey the outer covers were bulging in very strange places and my speed had been reduced to a crawl of less than four miles per hour.

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THE MODERN CAR

counterbalanced by the extra labour involved when punctures occurred. In those days it was a matter of strength of arm that counted most when the mounting or removal of tyres from wheels had to be undertaken. The wheels themselves were made on the same principle as carriage wheels and most of them were wood with an iron rim. This type of wheel remained in use until quite recently on many heavy vehicles although much improvement has been effected in the method of securing the tyres. I well remember starting on a trip one June day in 1911; the plan was to go from London to Oxford and all went merrily for about the first two hours. Then a series of punctures and

shocks were exact replicas of those used on the best horse drawn vehicles. When we compare such early motor vehicles with our automobiles of today, we are perhaps apt to forget the tremendous mental and physical labour that has been exerted and the vast amount of money spent in reaching the present stage.

This great new industry has arisen in less than half a century and its progress can only be maintained by an ever watchful eye on running costs. Manufacturers today spend tremendous sums of money in testing out each year the models they are to offer the public during the following year. These tests are conducted over tracks specially prepared to provide the tester with road surfaces and conditions similar to those found anywhere in the world. These tests have been going on as usual in 1939 and results of those tests will be apparent in the models available in 1940.

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expert facts and figures that it is a difficult task for me, who has mainly an idea from the artiste's point of view to write very much. However, working as I do with my husband, I have been able to give a clearer view of the working of the industry than if I had merely looked at it from the outside and so in response to the Editor's request, I shall try to write of this very important industry in a very general rather than in a detailed manner.

This year 1939 completed 25 years since the first all Indian picture was produced. During this long period, there has been a brave and valiant struggle amongst the art-minded pioneers to set up an industry against tremendous odds—odds which have taken the shape of orthodox prejudice, lack of finance, lack of enterprise

from people who could have helped them and constant criticism from outside rather than helpful co-operation. In spite of these drawbacks it is something to be really proud about, that the industry has not only survived but has succeeded in improving to such an extent that most of these barriers have been considerably overcome. The picture business has reached a position of such importance in the social and economic structure of the country that in the interest of the industry as well as India, all Indians are unconsciously forced to take serious cognisance of its existence and growth. Films here today are not merely a part of an industry in the purely technical sense but are also a great factor in making or marring the healthy development of social life. In the beginning, working in pictures in any capacity whatever was considered degrading. From my personal experience, being one of the first Indian girls of good family, a few years ago, to break with tradition and act, though it was at first mostly in a spirit of fun, I can say most of this prejudice has gone. After all, earnest workers have built up this motion picture trade and as in every other walk of life, it has been proved that it's one's own strength of character that counts. Respect is always given where respect is due. The fallacy that it is in the film studios that dignity is destroyed has been proved without doubt.

Besides this, in Indian films, attention is no longer confined to mythological themes and thrillers, but stories depicting important social problems are being produced in greater numbers. For the success in the presentation and conception of these deeply psychological dramas, those concerned with them have to have a real understanding of prevalent conditions as well as a cultural knowledge of human nature. Training, deep thought, education and imagination have to be behind the building of these films.

Throughout the world it has been realised that pictures are no longer only for entertainment but are of great

instructional value. India has been rather backward in giving educational pictures, because there has been very little public response to this. It is, therefore, now become essential for producers to try to introduce this element in their feature full length films thereby giving instruction as well as a beautiful story centering about an important problem. In this way at least the public has been won over and Indian pictures today are gaining steadily in popularity amongst the educated classes, who formerly saw only foreign films.

Before writing further, I think it is necessary to touch on some more of the handicaps which prevent this industry from advancing with the speed which some of us would wish. The greatest drawback has been the language difficulty which naturally entails a limited market. Though Hindustani is practically the *lingua franca* of India, yet outside India these pictures have practically no value except in those territories where Indians happen to have settled in a fairly good number. It is really deplorable that for a population of 350 millions, there are hardly 1,100 cinema houses out of which only 650 or so show Indian pictures. The rates, too, in these cinemas, which are low enough in the big cities, are next to nothing in the smaller towns and villages. So with this limited income, it has, indeed, been a hard struggle for Producers to keep on improving their technique, give excellent stories of well known writers for which they naturally have to pay large sums, maintain highly paid, talented and trained staffs and even if certain pictures do not bring in the expected income, maintain the good standard that is expected of them with the cruel competition of foreign pictures where money is of no consequence.

Most of the film-producing concerns have been run by individual enterprise and, unlike America and England, have no banks to back them. Yet public support has been slowly and surely forthcoming, interest has been growing. They are paying for the pictures which those connected with the industry, through sheer dint of hard work and immense hope and patience, have been able

to give them. A taste has been created and is now ever on the upward scale. The demand for good Indian pictures is as great today as we can justly expect and to some measure this has repaid the tremendous risks incurred by these men and women of indomitable spirit, who have been responsible for furthering this motion picture industry. In fact, there are today even companies established by public money, so that even the lack of enterprise on the part of the outside world has been influenced. Our educated classes were the most blame-worthy and still are to a certain extent always being inclined to run down Indian films, criticise their length and their technique and compare a picture made here for Rs. 80,000 with a foreign film which has cost ten times that amount in dollars and ask why is the former not as good as the latter. It has been useless to explain to the layman all the reasons. Suffice it to say that some of the drawbacks I have mentioned amply give the answer. I honestly doubt very much if any foreign company, given the amount of money scheduled for a good Indian picture, the tremendous odds of semi-sound-proof studios, limited equipments and our same conditions here etc., would be able to turn out a picture half as good as what the Indian producers are able to offer to the public. In every country a certain amount of junk is produced along with the really good films, that holds with India too, but then it is obvious that the reason is that tastes vary so much; education has many standards and producers must try to please everybody. This is the hardest and most thankless job. The Indian social structure too, as it is, does not allow a producer to deal freely with a great many social and historical themes, because people comprising society are super-sensitive and will not have their susceptibilities hurt.

Yet with all that has been achieved, there is still a great scope for development now that the Indian film has come into its own. It has really come to stay and people in the cities, in the mofussil, and in the villages eagerly await the release of each good picture.

INDIAN AFFAIRS

By "AN INDIAN JOURNALIST"

The Resignations and After

BEGINNING with Madras, one after another, Congress Governments in the Provinces have resigned. The resignations have been accepted and the Governors have promptly assumed charge of administration as provided in the Government of India Act. Three senior officials have been appointed to assist the Governor in each Province—officials among whom the various departments have been distributed. "This is a step that I regret profoundly, but in the present circumstances it is unavoidable," said H. E. Lord Erskine, Governor of Madras, broadcasting from the Madras Station of the All-India Radio announcing his decision. It is notable that the regret is shared by all the Provincial Governors who have borne testimony to the remarkable efficiency of the Congress Governments and their personal regard for the Ministers. But the situation was inexorable as in the view of the Congress the response from Delhi or Whitehall was disappointing and unsatisfactory.

Our resignation is the inevitable consequence of the refusal of the British Government to recognise our right to determine our country's future in consonance with the will of our people,

said Mr. B. G. Kher, ex-Premier of Bombay, after tendering the resignation of his Ministry to H. E. the Governor.

If the British people are asking the people of this country to make sacrifices in this war, surely the people of this country are entitled to be assured that the cause for which the Britishers are fighting are also their cause,

declared Dr. Khan Sahib, Premier, moving the war resolution in the Frontier Assembly. This is the burden of the speeches on the War Resolution in every one of the Congress Legislatures. Examining the political situation in the light of recent events, Mr. Vernon Bartlett comes to the common sense solution that

the obvious truth about India is that she will be an eternal nuisance until she has self-Government. She is growing up as a political entity in the modern world. She has reached the stage when she would rather make a mess of things by governing herself than be better governed by others. Any people passing through that stage needs sympathy and is grateful for it.

The Delhi Talks

It is deeply to be regretted that Congress talks with the Viceroy and Mr. Jinnah have alike failed. In a statement issued on November 5, together with the correspondence on the subject between him, Mahatma Gandhi, Dr. Rajendra Prasad and Mr. M. A. Jinnah, H. E. the Viceroy says:

The discussions which have been taking place between the representatives of the Congress and the Muslim League have not ended in agreement.

The Viceroy expresses profound disappointment that the discussions between Congress and League representatives have not resulted in an agreement, and that there remains to-day entire disagreement between the representatives of the major parties on this fundamental issue.

However, His Excellency adds that he will not accept this failure and that he proposes

to try again in consultation with the leaders of these great parties and the Princes to see if even now there may still be the possibility of securing unity.

Dr. Rajendra Prasad in his reply to the Viceroy says that both he and Gandhi miss in H. E.'s proposition any reference to the main and moral issue raised by the Congress about clarification of war aims without which it is impossible for the Congress to consider any subsidiary proposal. The Congress President says:

The present crisis is entirely political and has pained us to find the communal question being dragged in, in this connection. It has clouded the main issue. It has been repeated, said on behalf of the Congress that it is our earnest desire to settle all points of communal controversy by agreement, and we propose to continue our efforts to this end. But I would point out that this question does not in any respect come in the way of declaration of Indian freedom as suggested above. Such a declaration applies to the whole of India and not to any particular community, and the Constituent Assembly, which will frame India's Constitution, will be formed on the widest possible basis of franchise and by agreement in regard to communal representation.

Mr. Jinnah, on the other hand, replied that the Congress leaders informed him that they were not prepared to discuss any questions which regard to matters referred to by the Viceroy until the British Government had complied with their demand for a declaration of war aims

While the failure of settlement with the Muslim League is deplorable, Congress leaders argue that the constitutional issue raised by the Congress Working Committee has no direct relation with the communal question. The British government, they say, have no justification for shelving the major political issue and postponing a declaration of their war aims *vis-a-vis* India on the ground of lack of settlement between the Congress and the League. In their view, the only way to settle the minority problem is to appoint a Constituent Assembly representing all classes, communities and interests and to leave them to evolve an agreed constitution. This is implied in India's right of self-determination about which no difference exists in India at all.

Whitehall's Reaction to Delhi Talks

While H. E. the Viceroy has hesitated to give a direct answer to the Congress demand and has left the door open for further negotiations if only a way could be found out of the impasse, no such qualms seem to have disturbed the equanimity of the Secretary of State for India. Replying to Lord Snell, leader of the Opposition in the House of Lords, Lord Zetland made a statement on the implications of the Congress demands and the Delhi negotiations, and said:

Congress has definitely refused to consider any concrete plans such as those outlined by the Governor-General unless His Majesty's Government should be willing first to make a declaration to the effect that India is an independent nation and that His Majesty's Government will raise no opposition to her future form of government being determined without their intervention by a Constituent Assembly called upon the widest possible basis of franchise and by agreement in regard to communal representation.

Lord Zetland added:

His Majesty's Government found it impossible to accept this position. The long standing British connection with India had left His Majesty's Government with obligations towards her which it was impossible for them to shed disinterestedly themselves wholly in the shaping of her future form of government.

That means that there could be no self-determination for India which must continue to be governed by *Isats* from

Whitehall. Lord Zetland put forward another reason for refusing to meet the demand which has been urged in India's name.

Moreover, one outstanding result of the recent discussions in which the Governor-General has been engaged with representatives of all parties and interests in India has been to establish beyond doubt the fact that a declaration in the sense proposed with the summary abandonment by His Majesty's Government of their position in India would be far from acceptable to large sections of the Indian population.

The proceedings in the House of Commons were notable for the series of questions put by Labour Members, who urged that the Government should hold further discussions with the Congress to overcome the difficulties. The gist of the official replies is that the Congress is responsible for the crisis and that the Viceroy is only too anxious to keep the door open for any discussions.

Gandhiji on the Situation

Gandhiji, however, counsels patience. He is convinced that the Viceroy is sincerely anxious for a settlement and he, therefore, warns the Congress against any precipitate action. Commenting on the Viceregal broadcast and declaration, he writes:

Believing as I do in the Viceroy's sincerity, I would urge fellow-workers not to lose patience. There can be no civil resistance so long as, first, the Viceroy is exploring the possibilities of a settlement; secondly, the Muslim League blocks the way; and thirdly, there is indiscipline and disunity in Congress ranks.

Having said this, the Mahatma goes on to add that without waiting for the Congress reaction to these two declarations and purely for the sake of assisting the common cause, he would like to suggest that

no solution is possible unless an acceptable declaration of the war aims about India is forthcoming. The pronouncements hitherto made, whether here or in Great Britain, are after the old style, suspected and discredited by freedom-loving India.

If Imperialism is dead, there must be a clear break with the past. Language suited to the new era has to be used. If the time has not yet come for acceptance of this fundamental truth, I would urge that further effort at reaching a solution should be suspended.

Constituent Assembly

The demand for a Constituent Assembly to frame a new constitution for India has come to the fore again. Only the other day, Mr. C. Rajagopalachari himself urged that in the face of the failure of all negotiations for inter-communal settlement, the Constituent Assembly is the only remedy. He asserts that such an Assembly alone can adequately ascertain and give effect to the people's will in a truly democratic way. Speaking at Bombay, he observed:

I can say from what I know that Britain is thinking of it. She is examining the question. It is not yet as if it has been rejected. We should, therefore, co-operate in that atmosphere of thorough examination.

He went on to add:

Even if a Constituent Assembly is not convened to-day, it could be convened when Britain has finished this war business. It is then open to the Muslims to say whether there is any danger in the Constituent Assembly.

What the Congress has urged is not that either the Congress or the League or both or any other political organisation should be represented, but that a duly constituted electorate should send members to the Constituent Assembly and that these should be charged with the duty and entrusted with the power to frame a final draft so that no party organisations or individuals at large may thereafter raise any objections or propose modifications.

If an electorate duly representing all the peoples of India approve of the draft constitution, no self-constituted representatives can thereafter have the right to make counter-proposals and keep the issue alive. It may be taken for granted that in sending duly elected representatives to the Constituent Assembly, the principle of separate electorates for such communities as desire it would be applied.

Mahatma Gandhi himself is steadily veering round to the belief in the efficacy and feasibility of a Constituent Assembly. 'The only way out is a Constituent Assembly,' writes the Mahatma in the *Harijan*. According to him it provides the easiest method of arriving at a just solution of the communal problem.

The Travancore Prince and His Dewan

By a happy coincidence the 27th birthday of H. H. the Maharajah of Travancore and the Sashtiabdapurti of his Dewan, Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar, were celebrated in Trivandrum in the same week of November. Trained to his exalted office with due care and attention, His Highness, though young in years, has already proved himself a wise and sagacious ruler. Even by that single act of statesmanship in throwing open the State temples to the Harijans, the Maharajah has rightly won for himself a place in the affections of his people that is not likely to be obliterated by the passage of time. We offer our respectful felicitations to him on this occasion and wish him many more returns of the day.

Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar, who has just completed his three score years, has for a decade been intimately associated with the State, first as legal and constitutional adviser to the Maharajah and latterly as Dewan of Travancore. In both capacities he has proved himself a loyal and devoted friend whose courage and wise counsel have stood the test of many trying years. Brave and generous as ever in his private life, Sir Ramaswami has shown himself steadfast in the pursuit of his one aim, *viz.*, the advancement of Travancore. We tender our cordial good wishes to him on this auspicious occasion.

Thakkar Bapa Jayanti

Shri Amritlal Thakkar, better known as Thakkar Bapa, completed the psalmist's three score years and ten on the 29th of November. Gandhiji's appeal for a purse of Rs. 71,000 has been over-subscribed to the tune of over a lakh and seventeen thousand, and C. R., in presenting the purse to Thakkar Bapa at the great public meeting in Bombay, drew pointed attention to his services not only to the Harijans but to the whole Hindu religion. The country should, indeed, be grateful to Thakkar Bapa for his missionary work which is not to be measured in terms of cash. But the purse is a symbol of the nation's gratitude to a great social worker.

In wishing the Bapa many more years of fruitful service, we can only pray: "May his tribe increase!"

FOREIGN AFFAIRS

By "CHRONICLER"

This Strange War

MR. WALTER ELLIOTT, Minister of Health, speaking at Glasgow recently reviewed the course of "this strange war".

In the east the armies of Germany marching over huge plains met the armies of Russia. Then the armies of Germany withdrew to mass, it was said, for a new and tremendous assault on the democracies of France and Britain. Out on their heels as a strange sequel to what they claimed as overpowering victory came German civilians leaving as refugees Baltic countries where they had ruled and led for 700 years. Russian Power was found marching into small States of Baltic, acquiring naval bases, aerodromes, fortifications, which by the very nature of the thing could only be directed against Germany.

The war in the west followed a still stranger course. The enormous air fleet of Germany which, we were told, was to lay this country in ruins from the outbreak of war remains inactive sending out reconnaissance machines, it is true, and even embarking on attacks such as we have met and repelled in Scotland, but never attempting the tremendous grapple which we were assured would mark the very entry of Germany into the war. The armies of Germany mark time along the western frontier but nowhere advance.

Only at sea does Germany take the offensive and there the long trail of sunken merchantmen and slaughtered civilian victims of the common fury directed against neutrals and adversaries alike, shows all too clearly they are still running true to form. As a result of all these feats, Nazis find themselves to-day in complete and appalling isolation.

The Neutrality Act

At long last the neutrality issue has been settled by both Houses of the United States Congress, the Senate and the House of Representatives. According to the new Act, the belligerent nations of Europe will be able to obtain war material from across the Atlantic, but only on the "cash-and-carry" basis. The purchasing country must pay cash for its goods and arrange for their transport to Europe in its own ships—an arrangement primarily designed to rule out war debts and to obviate diplomatic entanglements as a consequence of U-boat activities. But as Germany has no merchant ships to carry war material to her shores from the U. S. A. even if she could raise the necessary foreign credits to pay for it, the passage of the Neutrality Act must operate to the advantage of the Allied Powers.

Britain's War and Peace Aims

"We shall soon master the magnetic mine as we have already mastered the U-boat," said Mr. Neville Chamberlain in a recent broadcast.

The enemy hopes that by these barbarous weapons they will cut off our supplies from overseas, to squeeze or starve us into submission. You need have no fear that this attempt will succeed.

The Prime Minister added:

Britain had entered the war to defend freedom and establish peace: the two vital principles of the Empire. Their war aim was to defeat not merely the enemy's military forces but also his aggressive and bullying mentality.

Their peace aims, he said, would be to establish a new Europe, free from fear of aggression in which boundaries would be settled, not according to the ideas of victors, but by the help of disinterested third parties. In this Europe there would be a constant flow of trade between the nations, and armaments would be gradually dropped as useless expense except so far as they were needed to preserve internal law and order.

A War of Endurance

Mr. Leslie Hore-Belisha, Secretary of State for War, making his periodical statement in the House of Commons, opened with a reference to the value of the operations in Poland which had facilitated preparations on the Western Front. Their cause was attracting, like a magnet, their countrymen from all parts of the world. Thousands of British troops, were going weekly to France, and by Spring they would have been reinforced by no inconsiderable armament. We could not have completed our formations in France without the assistance of the Territorial Army, whose units reached France at a very much earlier stage and in greater numbers than in 1914.

Having referred to a more recent extension of the Maginot Line, Mr. Hore-Belisha said the sector now allotted to the British Army was fortunately provided in advance with field works and the task which fell to our soldiers on their arrival was to add to and improve on them.

It is a war of endurance, which is a quality for which the British people are renowned. Every day finds us stronger. The passage of time has not the same effect on the enemy's economy. To win he would have to break through the Allied defences. An assault on these is awaited with confidence.

DECEMBER 1939]

FOREIGN AFFAIRS

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Peace Aims of British Labour

"We wish the German people to know that they can now secure an honourable peace," declared Mr. Attlee, Leader of Opposition in the Commons, in a speech at London defining the Labour Party's peace aims. Mr. Attlee formulated the aims:

Firstly, while there must be restitution to the victims, all ideas of revenge and punishment must be excluded;

Secondly, all nations, great and small of whatever colour or creed, must have right to live and develop their own characteristics provided they do not infringe others' rights. The German must recognise that the Pole and the Czech and the Jew have the same right as he to a place in the world. Equally, a Briton must concede the same right to Indians and other inhabitants of the British Empire;

Thirdly, war must be outlawed and disputes, where necessary, be submitted to the decision of disinterested arbitrators;

Fourthly, recognition of rights of national, religious and racial minorities should be safeguarded by the authority of an international body;

Fifthly, there should be recognition of an international authority superior to individual States and endowed with rights and powers to make them effective in both the political and economic sphere. "Europe must federate or perish," says Mr. Attlee.

Sixthly, abandonment of imperialism and acceptance of the principle that in the government of colonies where self-government cannot yet be conceded, the interests of the natives must be paramount and there must be equal access for all nations to market for raw materials. Redistribution of colonial territories between rival imperialisms is no solution.

Mine Warfare

Herr Hitler is reported to have ordered the intensification of mine warfare. An Amsterdam message says that he made this decision after surveying the results achieved in the first week by magnetic mines, which he is said to regard as his most potent weapon at the moment. A British ship, a French trawler and a German guardship are the latest victims claimed by mines. The Swedish Government have protested to the German Government against the laying of mine-field in the Straits of Falsterbo.

Britain's answer to this new menace is the Order in Council issued on September 28 which permits Admiralty to seize German goods at sight, even in neutral vessels.

German Retreat from the Baltic

The German retreat from the Baltic constitutes the second main defeat of Nazi policy since the war began, says the *Times*.

"The first was when the Nazi plan for a protectorate of Poland extending over the Galician oil-fields miscarried, and the states of south-eastern Europe began to look for guidance to Moscow rather than to Berlin.

The second is likely to be even more damaging to Nazi prestige in Europe, for the Baltic Littoral has for centuries been closely linked with Prussia. It has always been a special sphere of German influence and, of late, has been persistently claimed by Nazi propagandists as a proper field for the expansion of the German *lebensraum*.

There is not much doubt as to whose influence will become paramount in countries which are being evacuated by Germans.

Recent agreements between Soviet Russia and Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania leave these countries a political and ideological independence, but the military might of a country nearly hundred-fold more populous than their own cannot but mean in foreign affairs that the influence of Moscow will be paramount."

Russia Invades Finland

As we go to Press, Russian troops are marching into Finland. Following M. Molotov's announcement of the denunciation of the Soviet-Finnish non-aggression pact on 28th November and the severance of diplomatic relations on the day after, Russian troops marched into Finnish territory at various sections of the frontier on the 30th afternoon and bombed several towns including Helsinki and Viborg, in some cases with loss of life.

The Finnish President has proclaimed a state of war and Helsinki has been evacuated of its women and children.

Meanwhile world-wide indignation has been roused by the invasion of Finland. The British Labour Party characterise it as an act of aggression and deplore Russia's rejection of the United States Government's offer of mediation.

1st Dec. 1939.

DIARY OF THE MONTH

- Oct. 29. Col. A. J. Muirhead, former Under-Secretary for India, is dead.
- Oct. 30. Governor of Madras accepts Ministry's resignation.
- U. P. Ministry tenders resignation.
- Oct. 31. M. Molotov indicts Western Powers.
- Bombay and Bihar Ministries resign.
- Nov. 1. Mahatma Gandhi, Babu Rajendra Prasad and Mr. M. A. Jinnah together had talks with H. E. the Viceroy.
- Nov. 2. India debate in the House of Lords.
- Nov. 3. U. P. and Bihar Ministers' resignations are accepted.
- Orissa Ministry resigns.
- Nov. 4. President Roosevelt signs the Neutrality Bill.
- Nov. 5. Viceroy's *communique* announces failure of the Delhi talks.
- H. E. Lord Erskine's term as Governor of Madras is extended for 4 months.
- Nov. 6. H. H. the Maharaja of Mysore issues Proclamation on Reforms.
- Nov. 7. Lord Zetland rejects Congress demand.
- Queen Wilhelmina and King Leopold issue a peace appeal to the belligerents.
- Nov. 8. Hitler orders a five year war.
- Nov. 9. Mr. Chamberlain welcomes American Neutrality Act.
- Nov. 10. Italo-Turko-Greek non-aggression pact is concluded.
- Nov. 11. Armistice day.
- German offensive on the Western front.
- Stalin rejects Finnish counter-proposals.
- Nov. 12. Allies' reply to Belgo-Dutch Peace proposals.
- Nov. 13. Enemy aircrafts drop bombs on Shetlands.
- British ships sunk in the Atlantic and other waters.
- Nov. 14. Statue of King George V is unveiled at Delhi by H. E. the Viceroy.
- Nov. 15. Strike in Calcutta Jute Mills.
- Assam Cabinet resigns.
- Nov. 16. Sir Muhammad Sadullah forms new Ministry in Assam.
- Nov. 17. Gandhiji cabling to *News Chronicle* asks if Britain intend to recognise India's independence or not.
- Nov. 18. Sir John Herbert takes charge as Governor of Bengal.
- Nov. 19. Mahatma Gandhi lays cornerstone of Kamala Nehru Memorial Hospital at Allahabad.
- Communal riot in Sukkur.
- Nov. 20. Mr. Chamberlain announces retaliatory measures against German submarine warfare.
- Nov. 21. Enemy planes chased off East England.
- Nov. 22. Mr. Hore-Belisha, Minister for War, reviews allied Military strength.
- Nov. 23. Hitler threatens to mine all trade routes in the sea.
- Congress Working Committee concludes its session after passing a lengthy resolution.
- Nov. 24. P. & O. ship strikes mine.
- Sweden and Italy protest against the proposed British Order in Council for the seizure of German exports.
- Nov. 25. Mr. Chamberlain defines Allies' war and peace aims.
- British naval squadron bombed by German planes.
- Nov. 26. Molotov protests against Finnish frontier incidents.
- Nov. 27. Finland denies allegations.
- 17,000 ton armed Merchant cruiser *Rawalpindi* is sunk.
- Nov. 28. The Order in Council for the seizure of German goods is issued.
- Russia denounces the Soviet-Finnish pact of non-aggression.
- Nov. 29. U. S. A. offers mediation in Soviet-Finnish dispute.
- Nov. 30. Soviet invasion of Finland by land and air.



HIS HIGHNESS THE MAHARAJA OF TRAVANCORE
THE AUTHOR OF THE FAMOUS TEMPLE ENTRY PROCLAMATION



The WORLD of BOOKS



CENTRAL ASIA. A Personal Narrative of General Josiah Harland (1823-1841). Edited by Frank E. Rose, M.A. Published by Luzac & Co., London. 8s. 6d. net.

General Josiah Harland is a character well worth reading about. At a time when America was still a young republic unable to stretch forth a rescuing hand to one of her adventurous children straying in a foreign and dangerous country, he was the first American to penetrate into those fierce mountains that hold a fiercer race, the almost unknown land of Afghanistan and to become alternately an ally or an enemy of its shortlived rulers. Whilst living there and also on his return to America, he managed to make full and copious observations of the manners and customs of the savage peoples among whom he lived, of the many wars and disputes among its rulers and of the struggle which Britain had to make to preserve Afghanistan from the possibilities of a Napoleonic invasion, or from the slow onward march of the Russian Bear.

His narratives are of great value to the historian; for very few documents of them were left in the Afghanistan archives as one might imagine in such a turbulent country and the fact that Harland was non-British has lent additional value to his accounts.

Mr. Rose has gathered together in this volume some exceedingly interesting excerpts from Harland's writings. He has given us also a biographical introduction which is not the least interesting part of the book.

Harland must have been a man of some force of character and vision. When he returned to his native land, he advocated the importation of Afghanistan fruits for cultivation in America and he was also connected with a scheme to introduce camels as beasts of burden in the states.

The book contains some very good photographs of Afghanistan rulers and also an excellent map of Afghanistan.

THE MESSAGE OF BUDDHA. By Ardaser Sorabjee N. Wadia, M.A. Published by J. M. Dent & Sons Ltd., London.

THE LIFE AND TEACHINGS OF BUDDHA. By Devamitta Dharmapala. Published by G. A. Natesan & Co., Madras. As. 12.

These two books give to us an outline of the leading ideas of Buddhism. Professor Wadia, while giving a lucid conspectus of the fundamental teachings of Buddha, has also subjected them to a critical analysis. The late Devamitta Dharmapala, as one may expect, defends Buddhism from the attacks made by non-Buddhist critics. In the chapter on the "Unreality of Self", Professor Wadia says that in spite of Buddha's noble effort to free mankind once and for ever from the thralldom of egoism, the problem of human personality still remains unsolved and as mysterious and mystifying as ever. But it is fair to the teachings of Buddha to remark that, though a superficial study of them may leave the impression on our mind that Buddha denied the existence of human personality, still if the differences of philosophical terminology are brushed aside, we will find in substance the affirmation of the existence of the human personality. It is said that the Buddha kept a noble silence when questioned about the existence of God. But by a strange irony his devoted followers deified him. Big pagodas were erected on the remnants of his physical body throughout the Buddhist world.

The venerable Dharmapala makes the rather caustic remark that 'on account of the decadence of Buddhism in India, India lost the freedom of solidarity and the depressed class was created and the result is India is unhappy'. It is difficult to fully agree with this view. Possibly the cold nihilistic doctrine of Buddhism cannot long retain its hold upon the people and the reaction to it in the rise and influence of the popular religion of Bakthi shows that Buddhism attempted the difficult task of denying the inherent

DHARMAKOSA: Vyavahara Kanda, Vol. I. Parts I. and II. Edited by Pandit Lakshmana Sastri Joshi. Prajna Patasala Mandal, Wai, Satara. Part I. Rs. 16. Part II. Rs. 20.

The editor, Pandit Lakshmana Sastri, has laid the scholarly world under a deep debt of gratitude by his publication of this monumental work on Hindu Sociology. It is a great classic which is at once the source book for an accurate and precise study of the Hindu social and political institutions. The work was undertaken by the Editor in association with a host of scholars from the East and the West.

The Dharmakosa brings out in clear outline the various principles of Hindu social life and religion. It is a mine of information for the student of Hindu law and politics, ethics, religion, social institutions such as the family, the caste system and the scheme of varnashramas. We have before us the first two Parts of Vol. I treating about the Vyavahara Kanda, i.e., the subject of legal procedure as laid down by the Hindu law-givers. It deals with what is called adjective law. The first Part consists of more than 700 pages. Not only printed texts are utilised and cited but sometimes incorrect and doubtful readings have been suitably amended. Part II of Vyavahara Kanda, which extends over nearly 900 pages, deals with the entire portion relating to titles of law (vyavaharapadani). This Part may be regarded as constituting the civil law. As many as thirteen titles of law have been included in this. The subjects include non-payment of debts, deposits, sale without ownership, partnership, resumption of gifts, breach of contract of service, non-payment of wages, transgression of a compact, rescission of purchase and sale, dispute between master and herdsmen, boundary disputes and land disputes and inheritance. These details will give the reader how exhaustive and comprehensive has been the treatment of the subject-matter. We are told the third Part dealing with criminal law will treat about six titles of law and we await it with great interest.

GOPALAKRISHNA DEVADHAR. Edited by the Hon. Dr. H. N. Kunzru, President of Servants of India Society, Poona. Rs. 2-8. Published by Servants of India Society.

The volume under review is a collection of essays from the distinguished members of the Servants of India Society about the life and doings of Gopalakrishna Devadhar. The unstinted service towards the cause of social progress and the tireless zeal in reforming the social evils of our times are the marked characteristics of Mr. Devadhar. Though born in poverty, it never repressed the genial current of his soul. The relation between the Servants of India Society and Mr. Devadhar and his association with its founder, the late Gopalakrishna Gokhale, are picturesquely described by Mr. N. A. Dravid, a great friend of Mr. Devadhar. Among the eight essays, the articles from Mr. N. A. Dravid and Mr. Suryanarayana Rao throw considerable light on the solid work of this great and selfless patriot member of the Servants of India Society. The brilliant introduction of Dr. Kunzru is captivating and does justice to the manifold characteristics of Mr. Devadhar.

CHANGING INDIA: An anthology of writings from Raja Ram Mohan Roy to Jawaharlal Nehru. Edited by Raja Rao and Iqbal Singh. George Allen & Unwin Ltd., London. G. A. Natesan & Co. Rs. 3-12.

This is a collection of writings of representative leaders of thought in India, beginning with Raja Ram Mohan Roy, the first of the moderns. It includes significant passages from the writings of poets like Iqbal and Tagore, politicians like Dadabhai and Gokhale and fifteen others, among whom are scientists, reformers, educationists and others. The idea is to give a comprehensive selection of writings, portraying the evolution of Indian thought, social, political and philosophical during the last hundred years—a period of remarkable change and re-orientation. There are striking chapters from the writings of some present-day personalities like Gandhi, Rajagopalachari, Sir Radhakrishnan and Pandit Nehru.

A VIEW OF ALL EXISTENCE including a new appendix on Philosophies. By Elystan Thomas. Watts & Co., London.

The author presents in this book what he calls the scheme of autonomism. He means thereby a theory which believes that all-comprehensive life consists exclusively of auto-existent, self-developing energy. Life-essence is all that which is and all that will be. There is no need to postulate a maker of life, a designer of the universe. The fundamentals of life are non-createdly existent. A state of nothingness at any time in lieu of life is inconceivable. The life-essence is spirit. The elysium that is to be is culminant life, wherein the universe will have been classified and rendered penetratingly conscious throughout and rectified in the use of all vital principles.

Such is, in short, the view of All Existence revealed in this book, which covers a vast field in a short compass. The author rarely enters into a discussion or adduces reasons for the opinions he holds. He states his view-point in a series of categorical propositions in terse and technical phrases. Whether one assents to all that is expressed in this book or not, one cannot help admiring the scheme and the lucid manner in which it is outlined.

THE SEA TOWER. By Hugh Walpole. Macmillans. 7s. 6d.

Bessie Field is the latest creation of Hugh Walpole, who is already familiar to us through his 'Delaneys' and 'Herries'. The story centres round the Field household—a remarkable household whose members are characteristic specimens themselves, each with an individual distinctive interest. Bessie Field, a woman with an indomitable will, dominates over everything around her and tyrannises with her love, her docile husband Archer, her devoted sons Joe and Congreve, her sister Matty, her servant Simpson and her practically permanent guest, Captain Tim. With the arrival of Joe's bride, Chris, brews the storm in the house. Chris with her wonderful beauty captures all hearts except Bessie's and Simpson's. The characters in the story are all exquisitely drawn.

HEART FRAGMENTS. By J. Yoganandam. Published by Arthur H. Stockwell Ltd.

The author says that this little book contains his heart's open reactions to a few incidents of life. Professor P. Seshadri contributes a Foreword appreciating the author's attempt at expressing his truly poetic feelings and fine inspiration constituting a real call of the Soul. Despite a somewhat pessimistic strain, this little collection of poetic prose reveals a considerable depth of feeling.

BOOKS RECEIVED

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THE GOVERNMENT BLUE BOOK. Documents governing German-Polish relations and the outbreak of hostilities between Great Britain and Germany. A Penguin Special.

WOMEN AND MARRIAGE IN INDIA. By P. Thomas. George Allen & Unwin Ltd., London.

A SCHEME OF NATIONAL EDUCATION FOR INDIA. By Mohammed A. Haque. With Foreword by A. Yusuf Ali. Published by Sayad Abdul Qadir, Islamia College, Lahore.

ATATURK AND THE TRUE NATURE OF MODERN TURKEY. By Gerard Tongas. Translated from the French by Major F. F. Rynd. Luzac & Co. Emotional Voice: A book of verse. By Robert H. Gracefield. Arthur H. Stockwell Ltd., 29, Ludgate Hill, London.

FOOD-DE-MEDICINE. By L. N. Ratna. The Pure-bio-dispensary, Dera Ghazi Khan.

THE SHADOW OF EUROPE. By H. N. Sharma, B.C.D. Dharmarajya Press, Delhi.

MOHAMMED AND CHARLEMAGNE. By Henri Pirenne. George Allen & Unwin Ltd., London.

THE BACKDOOR OF HEAVEN: Short Stories. By L. M. Reader. L. N. Fowler & Co. Ltd., London.

PENGUIN SPECIALS
LIGHT ON MOSCOW. By D. N. Pritt, K.C., M.P.

THE SUEZ CANAL. By Hugh Schoufield.

THE GOOD SOLDIER SCHWEIK. By Jaroslav Hasek. Penguin Books Ltd., London.

KANDAPURANA MARAIPORUL. By Daniel John, M.B. Royal Printing Works, Mount Road, Madras.

SO I BECAME A MINISTER. By Mrs. Vijayalakshmi Pandit. Kitabistan, Allahabad.

INTRODUCTION TO SAI BABA OF SHIRDI. With Devotees' Experiences. Parts I and II. By B. V. Narasimhaswami. 55, Strottan Muthia Mudali Street, Madras.

DRAVIDIAN AND ARYAN. By C. Velu Pillai. With a Foreword by Rev. Dr. T. Isaac Tambyah, Saiva Prakasa Press, Jaffna.

Hyderabad

THE NIZAM'S WAR CONTRIBUTION

His Exalted Highness the Nizam of Hyderabad and Berar has offered to His Excellency the Viceroy a monthly contribution of Rs. 1,50,000 towards the cost of those units of his State forces, both cavalry and infantry, which may be called upon for service outside the State.

His Exalted Highness has also offered a cash contribution of £100,000 to the Air Ministry for the needs of aerial warfare. The Nizam gave a like sum for submarine warfare in 1917.

His Majesty the King has conveyed through His Excellency the Viceroy his grateful appreciation of His Exalted Highness' gracious contribution to the Air Ministry.

The Air Council has decided to allocate to His Exalted Highness the Nizam the gift of £100,000 towards the cost of a new fighter squadron to be formed shortly and to be known as "The Hyderabad Squadron".

It is proposed that this squadron should adopt the crescent based on the crest of His Exalted Highness and the motto associated with His Exalted Highness and his Government for which the title "Faithful Ally" has been suggested.

Rajkot

REFORMS IN RAJKOT

Under the reforms announced in the *Rajkot Darbari Gazette Extraordinary* of October 27, the Rajkot State Popular Assembly (Sabha) will be reconstituted so as to consist of 60 members excluding the President. Of these 40 will be elected and 20 nominated including five officials. Fourteen of the 40 elected seats have been allotted to minority communities, viz., Muslims, Bhayats and Depressed Classes to be divided between them by mutual agreement after discussion. The Dewan of Rajkot will be the *ex-officio* President of the Assembly.

In announcing the reforms, the Thakore Sahab says he will be watching the experiment with great interest and, if experience justified it, will be too pleased to make a further gift of wider reforms.

Mysore

MEDICAL RELIEF IN MYSORE

In an address to the members of the Mysore University Union, Professor Radhakumud Mukherjee said:

"It may not generally be known that in the matter of medical relief, Mysore leads its two neighbouring Provinces Madras and Bombay.

On medical relief Mysore spends per capita of the population Re. 0-4-7, while Madras spends only Re. 0-2-9 and Bombay Re. 0-3-0. While the population of Mysore is about one-eighth that of Madras, the expenditure here on medical service is more than one-fifth of what is spent in Madras. Again, medical expenditure in Mysore is more than one-third that in Bombay though the population is about one quarter of that Province.

Mysore with its 305 institutions is able to show one hospital to every 21,059 people, which means one hospital to every 96 square miles. The figure for Bombay is only one hospital to every 358 square miles, or to 62,108 people. Madras has one hospital to every 111 square miles, or to 36,783 people.

The same with in-patients. The daily average of in-patients treated in each Mysore hospital is about seven times that of Madras.

In the field of surgical operations, we find that 91,187 surgical operations were performed in Mysore during the year. The figures for Madras and Bombay cannot compare with Mysore's. Operations on the eye alone numbered 11,529 in the 13 major institutions of the State against 10,034 in the whole of Bombay and 29,871 in the whole of Madras. The percentage of deaths to the total number of operations performed was 14 in Mysore against 27 in Madras."

PAY DAY FOR MYSORE LABOUR

In consultation with large employers of labour such as the City Municipality, the Mysore State Railway and Krishnarajendra Mills, the Mysore Government declared the tenth of each month to be pay day for all industrial labour.

Baroda

HARIJANS IN BARODA

In order to keep the State in peace with the progressive trend of society, His Highness the Maharaja Gaekwar of Baroda has enacted a law, namely, the Social Disability Removal Act No. 56 of 1939. The Act declares that the mere incidence of a person belonging to the community among the Hindus known as the Harijans, touchables or depressed classes should not constitute a bar or disqualification to his employment in any Government service, use of public places, of water supply, roads, means of transport, or his entry within or enjoyment of facilities provided by institutions other than religious which are open to Hindus as a community, are dedicated and maintained for the benefit of the public, are licensed by the Government or are wholly financed or subsidised by the Government or local bodies in the State.

It is also provided that the above shall be the guiding principle in the decision of issues by all civil, criminal and revenue courts and in the execution of duties entrusted to all Government employees or local bodies in the State.

BARODA'S GRANT TO N. P. C.

The Government of Baroda has donated Rs. 2,500 to the Indian National Planning Committee and has agreed to co-operate with it whole-heartedly.

Mr. C. A. Mehta, Director of Industries and Labour, Baroda State, is representing Baroda on the Committee and has been appointed Secretary of the Cottage Industries Sub-Committee.

Idar

GONDAL RULER'S GIFT

The Maharaja of Gondal has made the following offer to the Viceroy:—

"I was with the greatest sorrow that I witnessed the tragic loss of life in the fire of the *Royal Oak*. I enclose Rs. 1 lakh with the request that the sum may be distributed among the dependents of the men who lost their lives in the disaster."

Travancore

TRAVANCORE REFORMS

Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar, Dewan, and President of both the Houses of the Travancore Legislature, replying to felicitations offered by the Deputy President of the Travancore Legislative Assembly, at a party given in honour of Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar's completion of sixty years of age, observed:

"I regard the Houses of Travancore Legislature as a very notable and very important part of the body-politic of the State. . . . There could not be objection to the fullest possible contact with all aspects of the administration being established with the Legislature and to the conferment of power of advice when taking decisions not only with regard to departmental matters but also with the whole range of administration, excepting of course, very few topics such as matters affecting the royal family, relations with the Paramount Power and *decaswoms*."

THE MAHARAJAH'S STATUE

A statue of His Highness Sir Bala Rama Varma, Maharaja of Travancore, erected by the Madras public in commemoration of the historic Temple-Entry Proclamation of 1936, was unveiled by His Excellency Lord Erskine, Governor of Madras, on October 28. The statue which is in bronze has been put up on Esplanade Road west of the High Court compound. A large and distinguished gathering was present on the occasion, including a Delegation from Travancore who had come specially for the occasion.

MR. SASTRI'S PLEA FOR PATIENCE

An appeal for a little more patience and a little more goodwill in carrying on the agitation for a change in the form of government in Travancore was made by Mr. T. R. Venkatrama Sastri, who laid the Foundation-stone of the Rest House to be erected at Trivandrum in commemoration of Sir C. P. Ramaswami's 61st birthday by his friends and admirers. Mr. Sastri said:

"Where there is no alien rule or domination or exploitation, where the ruler and subjects have only one interest to serve, namely, that of the State and not outside interest, whereas in these South Indian States it is admitted on all hands that there is good government, though not as a result of self-Government, cannot agitate for a change in the form of government to be carried on—I will not say in peace and amity—but with a little more patience and with a little more goodwill and less suspicion."

Cochin**A SCHEME FOR THE UNEMPLOYED**

The Government of Cochin have approved of a scheme to tackle the problem of unemployment among the educated by affording facilities for a scheme of colonisation submitted by the Rural Development Minister, Dr. A. R. Menon.

It is the Government's intention to allot 50 acres of land in each taluk to a group of educated unemployed, provided not less than 10 organise themselves on a co-operative basis for carrying on the necessary operation on that area.

The Government are stated to be prepared to accord them all facilities to convert these waste lands into cultivable lands and no kind of rent or tax will be levied for the coming years. After 2 years, the value of the land will be assessed and this will have to be repaid in easy instalments spread over a wide period.

Sangli**REFORMS IN SANGLI**

The Sangli Durbar has issued the following *communiqué* regarding the Karve Franchise Committee Reforms Report, which was submitted to the Raja Sahab in July.

Taking into consideration public opinion, the Durbar has generally adopted the Committee's recommendations. Some changes have been effected in the special constituencies.

The Durbar retains one seat for the Chamber of Commerce and another for Co-operative Societies, while the recommendation regarding a seat each for the Gram Panchayat and Labour has not been accepted on account of the absence of an organised labour group with industries duly registered. The seat for handloom weavers has been retained. Cumulative and ballot voting has been adopted.

Election rules are being framed by the Reforms Office. The Reformed Assembly will consist of 45 members, 30 elected and 15 nominated.

Kashmir**CONTROL OF PRICES**

His Highness' Government have issued an order under the Jammu and Kashmir Defence Ordinance empowering the Governors of Jammu and Kashmir and the Wazir of Ladakh to control prices in their respective jurisdictions subject to conditions which may be prescribed by the Government in this behalf from time to time. The power will, for the present, be exercised in respect of necessities such as food-stuffs, salt, kerosine oil, medical supplies and cotton and woollen cloth of cheap quality. Maximum sale prices will be fixed for these commodities. The prices may be altered from time to time according to circumstances.

Indore**GOVERNMENT'S NOTIFICATION**

A Notification issued by the Indore Durbar states that the Government view with great disfavour the activities of all traders and local shopkeepers who have suddenly raised the prices of all commodities, particularly food-stuffs including those which are of every-day consumption by the poor people by 20 to 50 per cent. As profiteering is going on in the city of Indore and traders are taking undue advantage of the situation, the Government warn all such traders that unless they stop profiteering forthwith, stringent action will be taken against them in the interest of the public.

Mandi**REFORMS IN MANDI**

Inaugurating the Mandi State Legislative Council, the Raja Sahib of Mandi expressed the hope that the Legislature would lend a helping hand to the administration of the State on whose shoulders the great responsibilities had fallen on account of the war. He asked his people to be ready for any sacrifice that they might be called upon to make.

His Highness assured the members that in spite of the war, there would be no set back to the measures that his Government were taking to establish representative institutes in the

INDIANS OVERSEAS

South Africa**INDIANS IN SOUTH AFRICA**

The Executive Committee of the new Natal Indian Association, recently formed by the amalgamation of the Natal Indian Congress and Natal Colonial-born and Settlers' Indian Association, adopted a resolution that while opposed to segregation or separation of races, it is prepared with a view to establishing more cordial relations between European and Indian communities to do everything in its power to prevent the purchase of any property by Indians in any predominantly European residential area.

The resolution, subject to confirmation, also accepted the Minister of Interior's suggestion to appoint a sub-committee to work in co-operation with the Housing Committee of the Durban City Council.

The Association believes that this step will enable the City Council to obtain a closer insight into the housing needs and difficulties of the Indian community and ultimately result in a satisfactory solution of the problem of penetration without recourse to legislation.

INDIAN PROBLEM IN SOUTH AFRICA

The Union Government are at present considering immediate steps to deal with what is known as the Indian problem in South Africa, says an official statement issued by the Government's Information Officer on November 1.

Hitherto no authoritative finding of facts has been made regarding the question of penetration of European areas by Indians. The Indian community was specifically excluded from the terms of reference to the Murray Commission.

The Union Government feel that before formulating the final policy the Ministers should be in possession of accurate and precise data regarding all aspects of the problem. Government, therefore, are contemplating an inquiry, probably by technical and departmental survey, into the facts of the situation in Natal and the Transvaal in order to obtain accurate information about the extent to which Indians have

Malaya**INDIANS IN MALAYA**

"Conditions in Malaya are such as to attract back to this country those who have been here before: it is obvious that it is the reputation which these people have given Malaya which brings the new-comers to Malaya," concludes the Controller of Labour, Malaya, Mr. C. Wilson, in his report for 1938 on Indian immigration.

The report sets out a longer review of the position of Indian labour in Malaya than in previous years.

"Both the Government of India and Indian public opinion regard the labourers' right of repatriation as one of great value not lightly to be denied," Mr. Wilson writes. "So long as labourers unable to obtain work under satisfactory conditions have a claim to free repatriation, it is obvious that the danger of excess labour in the country lowering the labourers' standard of living is rendered less probable."

Noting that there were estimated to be 743,555 Indians in Malaya, Mr. Wilson remarks that, in marked contrast to Ceylon where nearly seven-eighths of the population were employed on estates, Malaya afforded a good field for the employment of Indians, not only on estates but in the multifarious activities that went to make the commercial, professional and clerical life of the country. Further he says:

"Less than half of the total Indian population finds work on estates and about half of the South Indian population is so employed. The Indian community has struck root into all sides of Malayan life while maintaining close relations with the mother country. The trade between the two countries and the possibility of its further expansion depend to an extent on this state of affairs."

SOLDIERS IN FOREIGN SERVICE

An assurance that the home and family of a soldier on foreign service would be cared for and protected, was given by Sir Henry Craik, Governor of the Punjab, replying to an address of welcome.

British Guiana

INDIAN EMIGRANTS

There was no emigration of labourers, whether skilled or unskilled from the port of Calcutta to countries overseas during 1938, according to the Protector of Emigrants.

As many as 1,068 emigrants came back and landed in Calcutta, of whom 196 were from Fiji, 835 from British Guiana, 11 from Surinam and the remaining 26 from the Union of South Africa. The majority were Indian people.

Those who came back from South Africa were repatriated under a new scheme and received from the Union Government on arrival in India as bonus the equivalent of 20 in the case of an adult and £10 for a child.

Of those who returned from British Guiana and Fiji, paupers were sent home at the expense of the colony concerned and were paid a bonus sufficient to maintain them for some days, so that meanwhile they could find work or get into touch with their relatives and friends. The Emigration Agent for Surinam made arrangements for those who came from that colony while those who returned to India from South Africa were all sent to their homes at the expense of the Union Government.

Abyssinia

INDIANS FROM ABYSSINIA

Over two hundred Indian residents of Abyssinia have arrived in India from Addis Ababa. More than a hundred of them disembarked in Bombay, the rest remaining at Porbandar. It is understood that these Indians, most of whom are traders, have left behind in Addis Ababa property worth over twenty lakhs of rupees. The exodus of the Indians from Abyssinia is a sequel to the advice tendered by the British Consul-General at the Abyssinian capital in view of the grave international situation which prevailed towards the end of the August.

There were some preliminary talks between the Consul-General and representatives of the Indian community, and in

September the Indian residents were given four hours within which to prepare themselves for starting, the British Consulate having arranged for a special train to take them to Djibouti. From Djibouti they proceeded to Aden and arrived in India exactly one month after they left Addis Ababa.

They had a comfortable voyage. They were not allowed to take more than 350 *lire* each. This fell far short of the passage money required. This difficulty was, however, overcome by arranging for the necessary amount with Indian merchants at Djibouti. An Indian owning a steamer running between Djibouti and Aden also offered to take 70 persons free of charge.

Mauritius

INDIANS IN MAURITIUS

The Committee of the Indian Chamber of Commerce has addressed telegrams to the Secretary of State for Colonies and to the Government of India drawing their attention to the reported decision of the Mauritius Government to take control of all rice and grain import trade which had been mainly controlled by Indian merchants almost since a century.

The Committee point out that such a step will prove highly detrimental to Indian merchants by not only taking away the trade from their hands but also by rendering unrealisable large outstanding against the consumers amounting to lakhs of rupees. They state that under the credit system prevalent in Mauritius, recovery of outstandings will become difficult unless fresh supplies of commodities are made.

The Committee presume that the purpose of imposing control could only be to check profiteering; but for this end, the reported measure is unnecessary and unjustified. The Committee suggest that profiteering should be controlled by regulating prices as is done in other Empire countries. They request His Majesty's Government and the Government of India to take immediate steps to safeguard the interests of Indian merchants in Mauritius.



TOPICS From PERIODICALS



DECLARATIONS AND EXPLANATIONS

Writing in the *Manchester Guardian*, Mr. Graham Pole, Vice-Chairman and Hon. Secretary of the British Committee on Indian and Burman Affairs and a member of the Burma Round Table Conference, asks: "Why should we be surprised at the Indians refusing to accept as satisfactory the statement made by the Viceroy."

The same statement, as Lord Linlithgow pointed out, was made by Lord Irwin as Viceroy on the authority of the Government of the day in 1929, that the natural issue of India's progress as there contemplated is the attainment of Dominion Status. Yet, against all the pleadings of the Aga Khan and the other British Indian delegates who sat with the Joint Committee of Lords and Commons in 1933, our Government refused to include the words "Dominion Status" anywhere in the present Government of India Act.

That Joint Committee was presided over by Lord Linlithgow himself, and Lord Irwin, referring to the declaration quoted by the present Viceroy, said:

My much-discussed declaration dealt with the realm of ultimate purpose. It made no commitments whatever as to date.

And Mr. Churchill, in giving evidence before the Committee, said that

Dominion Status is a distant, remote goal which it is not practicable to take into consideration in any period which human beings need take account of. Mr. Churchill even explained away a speech that he had made when Secretary of State for the Dominions and Colonies in 1921 in which he had said: "We look forward confidently to the days when the Indian Government and people would have assumed fully and completely their Dominion status".

When cross-examined about this before the Joint Committee over which Lord Linlithgow presided, Mr. Churchill explained it away in these words:

I was merely making, what politicians often have to do, an agreeable speech upon a festive occasion.

Regarding Lord Irwin's declaration, Lord Rankeillour, a former Deputy Speaker and

Chairman of Committees of the House Commons, said:

Those were the words of the Viceroy. They can be over-ruled by Parliament.

And on December 13, 1934, in the House of Lords, Lord Rankeillour put the matter even more strongly. Mr. Graham Pole quotes his words:

No statement of a Viceroy, no statement any representative of the Sovereign, no statement by the Prime Minister, indeed no statement by the Sovereign himself, can bind Parliament against his judgment.

Though this may be the strictly legal position, observes the writer, one can hardly be surprised when India's foremost lawyer Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru, retorted: "It is very poor statesmanship to say so and act on it."

Mr. Graham Pole goes on to add that in the course of the debate in the House of Commons, Sir John Simon, then Foreign Secretary, admitted that we were "pledged as clearly as we can be pledged".

But with regard to that pledge we are bound within our discretion and judgment in all honesty to have the courage to do our best to fulfil. Indians quite rightly felt that as a pledge had admittedly been given, it did not lie in our power unilaterally to qualify it by "our indiscretion and judgment".

There is no Preamble to the present Government of India Act. The previous (1919) Act was repealed with the exception of the Preamble which specifically states in terms that the British Parliament alone is to be the judge of India's fitness for any extension of responsible government.

And Mr. Baldwin, the Prime Minister, in March 1936, at the conclusion of the India debate, said that "the House of Commons is the judge of the pace of progress, or whether it should be retrogression or progression".

Mr. Graham Pole is, therefore, not surprised that Indians are not satisfied merely with the Viceroy's declaration contained in the White Paper,

VIVEKANANDA'S ECONOMIC IDEAS

Swami Vivekananda was a myriad minded man. We know him only as a teacher of spiritual truths. But there are aspects of his teaching which show his keen practical sense and his deep sympathy with the poor. A patriot to the core, the Swami was full of ideas bearing on the practical needs of his countrymen.

In the current number of the *Prabuddha Bharata*, Mr. Shib Chandra Dutt, M.A., offers a detailed exposition of the Swami's plan and views about the material uplift of the Indian people. Quoting appropriately from the Swami's lectures on economic subjects, the writer truly observes:

Great as were his achievements and preoccupations in the spiritual line, his intense love for the poor and the helpless made him think repeatedly on economic questions and problems. To understand the attitude of the great Swami towards modern economics, we must observe his attitude towards modern science, engineering, etc. The following passages will help a study of that attitude:—

"What our nation needs to-day is quickness in action and the type of genius that helps scientific invention. Hence it is my desire that 'M' should be an electrician. Even if he does not succeed, I shall be happy simply with the thought that he tried to be great and to be of use to his country."

Mr. Dutt then narrates a conversation which the Swami had with one Sarat Chandra Chakravarti, a disciple of his who was also a private tutor to some boys. The Swami urged him to go in for business.

"If you want to live the life of a worldly man and have a desire for earning money, then go over to America. I shall give you directions. You will find that in five years you will get together a lot of money." The disciple replied: "What business shall I go in for? And where am I to get the money?" The Swami replied: "What nonsense are you talking? Within you lies indomitable power. Only thinking 'I am nothing, I am nothing,' you have become powerless. Why you alone! The whole race has become so. Go round the world once and you will find how vigorously the life-current of other nations is flowing. And what are you doing! Even after learning so much, you go about the doors of others crying: 'Give me employment.'"

In the course of the same conversation the Swamiji is reported to have said:

If you cannot procure money, go to foreign countries working your passage as lascars. Take Indian cloth, towel, bamboo-work and other indigenous products and peddle in the streets of Europe and America; you will find how greatly Indian products are appreciated in foreign markets even now. In America, I found some Mahomedans of the Hooghly district had grown rich by peddling Indian commodities in this way. Have you ever less intelligence than they? Take, for example such excellent fabric as the Benares-made *Sari* of India, the like of which are not produced anywhere else in the world. Go to America with this cloth. Have gowns made out of this fabric and sell them and you will see how much you earn.

The problem of Indian economic life which absorbs the attention of Swamiji most is, as it should be, the problem of poverty.

The root-cause of all the miseries of India is the poverty of the people.

Why does he want the removal of poverty? Because as he teaches, one cannot preach religion to people with empty stomachs.

The crying evil in the East is not religion—they have religion enough—but it is bread that the suffering millions of burning India cry out for with parched throats. They ask for bread but we give them stones. It is an insult to starving people to offer them religion.

Throw your religious observances overboard for the present and be first prepared for the struggle for existence. There can be no religion with the stomach empty.

That was a thoroughly characteristic saying of his.

The Swamiji's prescience was remarkable. He made a very intelligent and far-seeing forecast about the spread of Socialism, as is evident from the following passage quoted by Mr. Dutt:—

Yet a time will come when there will be a rising of the Sudra class with their Sudrahood that is to say, not like that at present when the Sudras are becoming great by acquiring the characteristic qualities of the Vaisya or the Kshatriya, but a time will come when the Sudras of every country, with their inborn Sudra nature and habits, not becoming essence Vaisya or Kshatriya but remaining Sudra, will gain absolute supremacy in every society. . . . Socialism, Anarchism, Nihilism, like all other sects, are the vanguard of the social revolution that is to follow.

CONTEMPORARY WORLD CRISIS

In the course of a lengthy article in the *Indian Journal of Political Science*, Rev. Leonard M. Schiff, M.A., of Cawnpore, examines the course of recent events in Europe. Reviewing the developments following the Treaty of Versailles, he points out that the war "to save democracy" has resulted in the disappearance of Democracy in an increasing number of countries.

Events are moving so rapidly in Europe that much of what he writes must appear as rather old history. After tracing the background of the contest between the democracies and Fascism or Nazism, he goes on to observe:

It must be realised that Democracy is more than a mere question of collecting votes and parliamentary procedure or even of cherished civil liberties. It may be that the Fascist menace was needed to waken up Democracy to its own weakness. The danger of democracy is the humane illusion that Fascism can be won over to the idea of peace and collective reconstruction by forbearance, friendliness and concessions; it is a dangerous illusion, for Fascism and democracy live in different worlds. The Fascist interpretation of the world and of history is in terms of absolute force divorced from morality and reason. The thoughts of democracy and Fascism cannot meet, because while Fascism is occupied with conceptions of power and hegemony, democracy has come to realise that peace is preferable to power. But democracy is still bound up with that imperialist development which we outlined above and it is unlikely that it will be able to prevail, or, even if it wins in an actual war with Fascism, succeed any better than the Statesmen after the Great War unless it is able to liquidate the whole fatal conception of Imperialism and National Sovereignty.

Both at home and abroad, Democracy, if it is to survive and prevail over Fascism, will have to abandon capitalist modes of thought and of production. The conception of freedom so essential in a world obsessed by totalitarian principles will

have to be pushed farther into the economic as well as the ideal world.

In a post-script to the article, the writer discusses various possibilities arising from the issue of the war. Of the Soviet-German pact, he says that it has secured certain positive advantages to Russia. It weakened the anti-Comintern agreement to breaking point and exposed the policy of "appeasement." The future, however, is incalculable.

The new contact between Germany and the Soviet may result in increasing Russian influence and the rise of the disgruntled elements in Germany and the transformation of the Nazi regime into a Socialist regime on the Russian model and with Russian assistance. Much of the preliminary work of destruction has been performed by the Nazis who have left very little of liberal capitalist elements in Germany. In this process, Hitler would receive the liquidation which he so thoroughly deserves.

It is by no means fantastic to prophesy that the war may develop into a war between British Imperialism and the Soviet with a ruined Germany virtually eliminated from the scene.

The writer concludes that to get rid of Hitler is not enough. The real issue for the future will be "the abolition of national sovereignty and the creation of some kind of International Government for the world with its own laws, armed forces and elected officers".

The economic development makes it impossible to envisage the continuance of the present political systems with their pettifogging local administrations, customs, barriers and limitations upon the vast economic possibilities which science has made possible. There must be men of goodwill all over the world who will work even in the midst of war to prevent that outcome of brutality and chaos which Mr. Wells has so terribly and warningly prophesied in the "*Fate of Homo Sapiens*". But is there that vision and intelligence which will make this possible? Time will show. The future and the initiative may lie with India and China, and it behoves us in this land to put our own house in order that we may play a distinguished part in the difficult but infinitely potential and significant events which lie ahead.

ALCOHOL AND PROSTITUTION

Dr. Courtenay C. Weeks, the Vice-President of International Temperance Union, contributes an article under the above caption to the November number of *Aryan Path*, in which he clearly shows how closely connected are the various forms of vice and how the lack of control which comes with addiction to alcohol leads directly to a general weakening of the moral character. The writer quotes, in support of his observations, Gladys M. Hall who says:

Alcoholism and prostitution have long been closely associated. As an element in the development of promiscuity, drink plays indeed a twofold part. The prelude to her first sex adventure is, very frequently, the partial intoxication of the girl. Taken when off her guard, possibly scarcely remembering what took place, she passes through the experience which may lead to her adoption of prostitution. The taking of the first step, even under circumstances depriving her of rational decisions, does seem in many cases to lead to a sort of fatalism or a desperate feeling that by that one act her future has been decided, whether by her own act or not. As the accompaniment to the process of obtaining custom, drink is indispensable to a vast number of prostitutes. Many of them drink cocktails and port wine deliberately knowing what will follow. They drink to work themselves up to it, to enable them to go through with it.

Mr. Weeks says that alcohol prepares in many ways the soil for the growth of not only prostitution but for all sorts of vices.

It (alcohol) excites the grey matter (in the basal ganglia) at the base of the brain, which is intimately connected with desires of all kinds. Normally these are brought into the light of judgment and discrimination and then controlled and directed through the instrumentality of the neopallium or upper cortical layers of the brain. The first and constant action of alcohol is more or less to numb these higher levels and open the floodgates of desire to uncontrolled and uncensored action. Judgment impaired, desire inflamed. Truly a two-edged sword. Under the influence of drink, the individual loses conspicuous elements of self-control, becomes "an altered individual" and altered in the direction of a dethronement of what should be the crown of human life. An octogenarian physician said: The charm of alcohol is that it blurs moral twinges.

WAR ECONOMY AND INDIA

Dr. P. J. Thomas, writing in the *New Review*, points out how war has always been an important formative influence in the past; and how it has made drastic changes in the distribution of wealth between nations and within nations.

In ancient times, especially in India, war concerned only the fighting classes and the civil population was little affected; but to-day, largely owing to the progress of science, war absorbs the whole economic life of a people. Not only the supply of man power and munitions but even the supply of commodities needed for the civil population come under Government control in war time. In short, the whole economy of a nation becomes a 'war economy'. 'Work or fight' is the slogan. All able-bodied persons must either go to the front or engage themselves in the supply of material to those who go to the front.

Discussing India's position, the writer observes that although India was only a distant participator in the war of 1914-18, its economy underwent a substantial change during those eventful years.

Prices went on rising during and after the war, and this caused some difficulty to those living on fixed incomes. A Foodstuffs Commissioner was appointed to restrict the export of foodstuffs and to control their distribution within the country. In 1919, certain crops failed and severe scarcity was experienced. This raised prices to much higher levels, which made it necessary for the Government to undertake a rigid system of control soon after the war. The high prices were not accompanied by rising wages, and therefore labour unrest arose, and there were strikes all over the country. In fact, the last war witnessed the genesis of the Indian trade union movement.

The writer, in conclusion, refers to the report of the Chatfield Committee which has drawn attention to the urgent need for Indian industry advancing to supply locally the essential material in the present war. It is also significant that H. E. the Commander-in-Chief has laid special emphasis on this point in his recent broadcast speech.

The grant of Rs. 34 crores from the British exchequer for the modernization of the Indian army will doubtless be used for providing war material; but this will have beneficial effects on industrial production generally. All this augurs well for Indian industry.

THE SULTANS OF MYSORE

How the Sultans of Mysore were disposed to the Hindu religion is discussed by Mr. V. R. Ramachandra Dikshitar in the last number of the *New Indian Antiquary*. He points out that toleration was the keynote of the religious policy of the Sultans. Of Hyder Ali and Tippu, the writer says that their administration was marked by activities of a healthy kind.

Though Mussalmans by faith, they respected the feelings of their Hindu subjects and their institutions. The *inam* lands, villages, and *agharas* which had been granted in former times by previous Hindu rulers were left untouched. Hyder allowed those who had been enjoying them undisturbed. In the same way Tippu Sultan is said to have restored a grant of twenty villages given to the Dattatreya Pitta by the kings of Anegondi.

The records of Sringeri Mutt show the relation which existed between these Sultans and the authorities of the Mutt. Their relations were something more than mere toleration.

They actively helped the heads of the Mutt in pursuing their old traditional modes of religious worship and conduct. There are many records in Sringeri Mutt which were in the form of *sanads*, *nirupas*, or letters addressed to the Heads of the Mutt by the kings of Mysore from time to time ranging in the date from 1737 to 1878. Of these records which number more than 150, three are by Hyder Ali and about 50 by Tippu Sultan.

One of the letters of Hyder is a *nirupa* of date 1870 addressed to all his officers concerned. They were ordered to see that contributions to the Mutt were properly realised, the tax-collector of the Mutt being helped by the officers of the Nawab in realising the dues to the Mutt. An examination of Tippu's records reveals his connection with the Mutt. When Tippu was harassed by his enemies, he approached the Swamiji at the Mutt and requested him to perform the ceremony known as *Sahasra-candi japa* and bore all the expenses in that connection.

Another letter records the Nawab sending to the Mutt two palankeens, one for the goddess and the other for the personal use of the Swamiji, together with a pair of *chauris* with silver handles.

Still more interesting is the letter of 1793 which says: "You are the Jagadguru. You are always performing penance in order that the whole world may prosper and that the people may be happy. Please pray to God for the increase of our prosperity. In whatever country holy personages like yourself may reside, that country will flourish with good showers and crops. Why should you live so long in a foreign country? Please finish your work soon and return."

That Tippu Sultan believed in the blessings of holy personage of the status of the Mattadhipati at Sringeri and wrote to him to send his blessings is evident from another letter dated 1791 which says:

You are a holy personage and an ascetic. As it is your duty to be solicitous about the welfare of the many, we request you to pray to God along with the other Brahmans of the *Matha*, so that all the enemies may suffer defeat and take to flight and all the people of our country live happily, and to send us your blessings.

Again, when the Swamiji wrote that consequent on the raid by Maratha horsemen on Sringeri, a re-consecration of the Sarada was necessary, the Nawab generously sanctioned 200 *rahati* in cash and 200 *rahati* worth of grain for the consecration ceremony. These all point out to the solicitude on the part of the two Muhammadan rulers of Mysore towards the Hindu religious head of Sringeri.

INDIA IN PERIODICALS

- EARLY MEDICINE IN IRAN AND INDIA. By Dr. H. G. Cinnio. [The Aryan Path, Nov. 1939.]
- THE SILK INDUSTRY IN INDIA. By Miss Wahida Aziz. [The Modern Review, November 1939.]
- THE ADVAITA AND MORAL PARADOXES. By Dr. P. T. Raju. [The Vedanta Kesari, Nov. 1939.]
- PROBLEMS OF MILK SUPPLY AND DAIRY SOCIETIES IN INDIA. By Mani Shankar Misra. [Indian Co-operative Review, July-September 1939.]
- ECONOMIC TRENDS IN INDIAN STATES. By R. W. Brock. [The Asiatic Review, October 1939.]
- THE INDIAN PRINCES IN FEDERATION. By Dr. H. C. Mookerjee, M.A., Ph.D. [The Calcutta Review, October 1939.]
- THE INDIANS ABROAD. By C. Narayana Menon. [The Indian Journal of Political Science, October-December 1939.]
- MARX ON INDIA. By K. B. Krishna, M.A., Ph.D. [Triveni, October 1939.]

NATIONAL LANGUAGE FOR INDIA

"The question of Urdu *versus* Hindi is to my mind an exhibition of confusion between renaissance and revivalism," says Humayun Z. A. Kabir in his address to the Assam students, which is printed in the October number of the *Calcutta Review* under the title "Education and Social Order". Mr. Kabir advocates Hindustani as the common language for India.

If we want a common language for India—and who does not?—it must perforce be Hindustani; not the rich and luxurious Urdu which a Lucknowite may display nor the sonorous Hindi which is the delight of the Pundits of Benares, but the Hindustani of the market place which you and I speak and understand. And I am equally convinced that the only way of achieving this Hindustani is to adopt the Roman script—the international script of the modern world—so that at one stroke we make Hindustani accessible not only to the whole of India, but to the peoples of the world as a whole. I have no doubt in my mind that when we have taken this single but revolutionary step and made it possible for the whole of India to contribute to the enrichment of Hindustani, it will become one of the major languages of the world. Till this is done, religious and regional, communal and cultural and linguistic bickerings will continue.

Revolutionary ardour and disciplined sense must co-operate in this endeavour. National vanity may at first be injured though there is no reason why it should. For, the script is an artificial set of symbols which has little to do with a nation's genius.

We must realise that the language is not the script. The language we may imbibe with our mother's milk, but the script we painfully and laboriously acquire with tears and toil. Besides, it is only a perverted inferiority complex, a slave mentality, if I may use a strong word, that prevents our adopting of what may be good in other cultures and other civilisations. A vital nation, an alive people never hesitates to borrow, adopt and adapt; for it assimilates whatever it acquires. But a subject race continually hesitates and pauses, lest a breath of air from the free and wide world outside sully its artificially preserved purity.

PHILOSOPHY OF THE BHAGAVATA

Swami Jagadiswarananda, writing in the October Number of the *Vedanta Kesari*, endeavours to remove a misconception that Bhagavata is exclusively a work of devotion. He observes that Srimad Bhagavata is well known as a great classic of devotion or Bhakti, and to the Vaishnavas it is a scripture of supreme authority. However this grand Purana, the writer adds, is equally important as a work expounding Divine knowledge also in an emphatic manner, which fact is often overlooked by many who value it only as a devotional work.

In the *Bhagavad-gita* and in the eleventh Book of the *Bhagavata*, the path leading the aspirant to perfection is laid out by the great Teacher Sri Krishna. In both these works, although the persons who are instructed are two, namely, Arjuna and Uddhava, the teacher and the teachings are exactly the same. This is amply evident from the contents of the two books themselves. Moreover, it is not at all likely that the same teacher has two entirely different doctrines on a subject of such great importance to be taught in two places, although there may be variations of emphasis. The paths of Knowledge, of Devotion and of Yoga are met with in both the scriptures. In *Bhagavata* XI. 13, Lord Krishna admits paths other than that of Devotion for the attainment of the goal. The three-fold Yoga taught in the *Gita* is what we find in the *Bhagavata* also. "In order to help men to realise liberation," says Bhagavan Sri Krishna in *Bhagavata* XI. 20.6 *et seq.*: "I have inculcated three methods, i.e., Jnana, Karma and Bhakti. Of these, Knowledge or Jnana is for those Sannyasins who are disgusted with work and have renounced it. Those who are still seeking the fulfilment of desires have the path of Work. But the man who by chance has contracted faith in the stories about the Lord and who is neither disgusted with, nor grossly attached to, work has in the path of Devotion the way to Success."

The *Bhagavata* in one place definitely points out that a man should dispense with the sacred Books at the dawn of spiritual experience, as a peasant throws away the stalks after storing the corn. The idea is echoed in the *Gita*.

SRIMAD BHAGAVATA. Condensed in Poet Vyasa's own words. Text in Sanskrit Devanagari and English translation. Re. 1-4. To Subs of "I. R." Re. 1. G. A. Natesan & Co., Madras.

ANCIENT SOUTH INDIAN COMMERCE

"There is ample evidence that the trade of South India extended not only to the Mesopotamian valley but also to Egypt in the third millennium B.C.," writes Srimati V. T. Lakshmi in the October number of the *Triveni*. The classical literature of South India is full of references to ships, shipping and distant voyages. In Asia Minor, Babylon and Assyria, colonies of South Indian merchants were established which continued to thrive till the seventh century A.D. The Arabs, who played the intermediaries in those days carried muslins and Indian spices from South Indian "Baradavars", who took those articles in their boats to Aden and East African coast and carried them in turn to Thebes or Memphis by sea or land.

In the Book of Genesis there is mention of a company of traders with spicery and myrrh going to Egypt. In the abundant booty, loading the vessel of the Pharaoh for conveyance to the land of Egypt, appeared many South Indian animals and products not indigenous to Egypt—elephant's teeth, precious stones, sandalwood and monkeys. Further, the presence of indigo, tamarind-wood and other Indian products have been detected in the tombs of Egypt; and, it is also said that the Egyptians dyed cloth with indigo and wrapped their mummies in South Indian muslin. But the Egyptians were poor sailors, and South Indian articles found their way to Egypt through Arab and Phœnician ships. There are certain words that betray the Indian origin of articles. 'The Egyptian word "Ebu" like the Italian word "Ebur" may be Sanskrit "Ibhu"; the Egyptian word "Kafu" like the Hebrew word "Koph" may have come from the Sanskrit "Kapi," meaning ape.' The presence of the African Baobab in the Tinnevely district has been traced to early traders from Africa. In the inscriptions of Harkhuf under the Egyptian King, Mernere, of the sixth Dynasty, 2,600 B.C., there are references to several South Indian articles that found their way to Egypt: incense, ebony, grain, ivory, panthers, etc. The ebony referred to, doubtless, was South Indian ebony, which was according to Theophrastus peculiar only to India. In the sixth Dynasty, under Pepi II, in the twenty-sixth century B.C., references were made to South Indian cotton cloth by an Egyptian Royal officer Sebn. Besides, ivory was in great demand in Egypt, and considering the fact that it was easier to

kill elephants in Indian forests than in African forests, Indian ivory alone could have been largely imported to Egypt. Further, it was asserted that the Egyptian Kings used axes and swords and other iron implements manufactured only in South India in those early times.

South Indian traders must have sent their ships to sea and sailed to distant lands for sale and barter long before North Indians took to maritime commerce. In the second millennium B.C., when the old land-route was destroyed, the tide of trade bent southward and led to a great development in the sea trade of South India.

FRANKLIN ROOSEVELT

The secret of President Roosevelt's success during the slump in the recent years is described in the November number of the *Twentieth Century* by Mr. D. B. Vohra. Within a month of his inauguration, the banks, railways, agriculture and trade were in his hands. For he asked for special powers to handle them. Equipped with powers of an autocrat, he proceeded at once to put his long cherished ideas into practice. Despite the warnings of orthodox economists, he devalued the dollar which he considered to be essential for national welfare.

Having acquired a measure of control over the workings of industry, he proceeded to levy heavy taxes on its fabulously rich exponents, using the money thus collected for unemployment relief and fosterage of agriculture. By such means did the born aristocrat direct all his policy to the uplift of the poor.

Roosevelt's powers, as we have noticed, are autocratic, but he never uses them autocratically. Ever since he attained authority, he has taken every opportunity to act with constitutional propriety. The fact is that with the balanced nature he possesses, it ill suits him to adopt the dictatorial role. Both by instinct and by choice he is a thorough democrat, and America need never fear that he will blossom forth into a Hitler or a Stalin. He has no animus towards any one, not even towards the business magnates whom he taxes so prodigiously. Of racial prejudice also he is innocent having Negro servants at home and a Jew member in his Cabinet.

In foreign relations, Mr. Roosevelt's policy is based on plain honesty and he suffers from none of the perversities of mind which make the dictators such a terror to all who have to deal with them,

RURAL MEDICAL RELIEF

BLINDNESS IN INDIA

"Blindness in India," is the subject of an article in the November number of the *Modern Review* by Dr. B. G. Ghate, who says that the chief tragedy of blindness in India is that much of it could be cured.

The average Indian often fails to realise that neglected eye trouble may result in partial or total blindness and is unwilling to avail himself of even the few medical facilities that are at his disposal. One of the most important single causes of blindness is cataract and cataract is essentially a curable disease. The census reports for the Punjab and Bengal show that during 1921 to 1931—170 and 26 thousand successful operations were performed respectively in these provinces and on the basis of these figures, it is not unlikely that at least a lakh of people are being saved annually from blindness in India. Yet much remains to be done; the average man has yet to be taught that the only cure for cataract lies in a surgical operation. This can be achieved through propaganda and education. Then every province will have to start separate eye-hospitals. The general government hospital today is already too much overworked and a separate eye-hospital would be infinitely more effective in a fight against blindness.

Expert medical opinion today holds the view that the prevention of blindness is no longer so much a medical problem as an economic and social one. This aspect of the problem was stressed again and again by successive speakers at the recent International Ophthalmological Conference held in Cairo; and it was generally held that although scientific investigation had not yet solved all the problems associated with eye disease, it was nevertheless possible to carry through a preventive campaign with a considerable measure of success by attempting to eliminate the social and economic causes of blindness.

Thus the problem of blindness is two-fold; whereas it is important to prevent further blindness, it is equally important to provide for the well-being of those who are already blind.

Science and Culture for October in its leader advocates intensive medical relief for the villages. In their zeal to serve the masses, the Government should not hastily recognise, says the journal, ancient and not thoroughly scientific systems of medicine. They should insist that before recognition is accorded, the followers of such systems must possess an adequate knowledge of the basic sciences of chemistry, physics, biology including bacteriology and anatomy. Further the medicines supplied by such persons should have satisfied certain scientific tests with regard to their action and efficiency.

The journal compares India to the pre-Revolution Russia, where epidemics used to carry off peasant population by thousands in those days.

The villagers who were just as poor and ignorant as the village population of India, in despair used to have resort to black magic. One of the methods frequently pursued was to tie four widows to the plough, and make them run around the village number of times. The furrow made in this way could not be crossed by witches and evil spirits who were supposed to cause disease. But to-day, thanks to Soviet rule, Russia abounds in polyclinics, maternity homes, nursing homes and hospitals, the excellence of which excites the admiration of the Americans. Medical men are State officers, and public health and medical aid are State concerns. The example of Russia shows how a scientific approach to a problem followed by the right kind of activity can repair most of the ills from which mankind suffers and for which we look in vain for remedies elsewhere. But India cannot expect to have any improvement in medical aid to the rural population and in public sanitation until the problem of poverty is solved—a task which is now engaging the attention of the National Planning Committee. But the proposed State recognition of indigenous systems of medicine, without insistence on an adequate knowledge of the basic sciences, will only set the hands of the clock of progress backwards.

MULTUM IN PARVO

NEWS

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DEPARTMENTAL

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NOTES

Questions of Importance

THE CONGRESS RESOLUTION

The Congress Working Committee concluded its five days' session at Allahabad on November 23, after passing a lengthy resolution on the present political crisis in India.

The resolution endorses the Congress President's reply to the Viceroy, dated November 4, and reiterates the view

that recognition of India's independence and of the right of her people to frame their constitution by Constituent Assembly is essential in order to remove the taint of Imperialism from Britain's policy and to enable the Congress to consider further co-operation.

The Committee holds that a Constituent Assembly is the only democratic method of determining the constitution of a free country and none who believes in democracy can possibly take exception to it. The resolution further points out

that the policy of non-co-operation started with the resignation of Congress Ministers continues and must continue unless the British Government revises its policy and accepts the Congress contention.

The Working Committee, however, reminds Congressmen that

it is inherent in every form of satyagraha that no effort is spared to achieve an honourable settlement with the opponent. While a satyagrahi is ever ready to offer a non-violent fight, if it has to come, he never relaxes his effort for peace and always works for its attainment.

The Working Committee will, therefore, continue to explore all means of arriving at an honourable settlement even though the British Government has banged the door in the face of the Congress. The resolution says that

the Congress has looked upon the war crisis and the problems it raises as an essentially moral issue and has not sought to profit by it in any spirit of bargaining. The moral and dominant issue of war aims and India's freedom is to be settled satisfactorily before any subsidiary question can be considered.

GANDHIJI ON THE MAIN ISSUE

In the course of a statement cabled to the *News Chronicle*, London, on November 14 Mahatma Gandhi says:

I observe that the main issue between Britain and India is being confused in the British press.

Does Britain intend to recognise India as an independent nation, or must India remain Britain's dependency? This question has not been raised by the Congress to gain advantage over Britain but to enable the people of India to decide how they should behave during the world crisis. The issue thus becomes purely moral; for owing to the material and military control of India, Britain is able to regulate the Indian and British garrison and drain India's wealth at her will. Eight provinces out of eleven have said in emphatic language that they cannot participate in war, if it does not mean, among other things, India's complete freedom.

All other issues are subordinate. The question of minorities is purely domestic for the majority and the minorities to settle themselves. The proposed constituent assembly is the only body that can evolve a proper and lasting solution. Any other can only be a makeshift carrying no popular sanction. To fling the minorities question on India's face is to confuse the issues.

MR. NEHRU ON NON-VIOLENCE

"We must stick stoutly and wholeheartedly to the method of non-violence and reject all substitutes that might be offered to us," writes Mr. Jawaharlal Nehru in the course of an article entitled "Which Way What Means?" in the *National Herald*:

We must realise that non-violence is non-violence... It is not difficult for us, if we were so minded to produce chaos in India, but out of chaos does not necessarily, or even usually, emerge freedom. In India there are obvious possibilities of chaos leading to the most unfortunate of consequences. We cannot always predict the consequences of our action especially when we move on the plane of the masses. We take risks and must take them. But it would be inconceivable folly to do something which adds to these risks enormously, puts obstruction in the way of our freedom and takes away that moral stature from our movement which has been our pride these many years. When the world is weary of the methods of violence, for us even to think of reversion to them would be tragedy indeed.

ZETLAND ON CONGRESS DEMAND

Following the break-down of the Delhi talks and the resignation of the Congress governments in the Provinces, Lord Zetland made the following statement in the House of Lords on November 7:—

The Congress have definitely refused to consider any concrete plans such as those outlined by the Governor-General, unless His Majesty's Government should be willing first: to make a declaration to the effect that India is an independent nation and that His Majesty's Government will raise no opposition to her future form of government being determined without their intervention by a Constituent Assembly called upon the widest possible basis of franchise and by agreement in regard to communal representation. The Congress have further consistently taken the line, which they still maintain, that the fact there are racial and religious minorities in India is of no relevance in that connection and that it has always been the intention of the Congress to secure through the constitution to be framed by Indians themselves such protection for their rights as may prove acceptable to the minorities.

His Majesty's Government find it impossible to accept this position. The long standing British connection with India has left His Majesty's Government with obligations towards her which it is impossible for them to shed by disinterested themselves wholly in the shaping of her future form of government. Moreover, one outstanding result of the recent discussions in which the Governor-General has been engaged with representatives of all parties and interests in India has been to establish beyond doubt the fact that a declaration in the sense proposed with the summary abandonment by His Majesty's Government of their position in India would be far from acceptable to large sections of Indian population.

But this does not mean that we had in any sense weakened in our determination to assist India by such means as are in our power to reach without avoidable delay, the position in the British Commonwealth of Nations to which we are pledged. . . .

Let me make it plain that Section 93 of the Act under which this action has been taken is in no sense a penal provision; it simply provides a machinery, the possible necessity for which Parliament in its wisdom foresaw, if, to quote the words of the Act, a situation has arisen in which the government of a province cannot be carried on in accordance with the provisions of this Act for carrying on the King's Government.

It is our hope that in the absence of opposition from supporters of the Congress or from other quarters, the Governors, with the aid of their official advisers and members of the public services, will succeed in conducting smoothly and efficiently the administration of the provinces. . . .

LORD SAMUEL ON INDIA

In the course of a debate in the House of Lords on November 2 on the Indian situation, Lord Samuel made the following observations:—

The complaint is made by the Congress that, while the British Government agree to Dominion Status in principle, they take no steps to give effect to or implement it in practice. Sir Samuel Hoare has said that pledges had been made time after time that Dominion Status was the aim of Indian policy. The Viceroy, in the White Paper, says we are working to the end that India may attain her due place amongst the great Dominions, and he quotes this statement: 'The natural issue of Indian progress is the attainment of Dominion Status.' The aim—the issue—is almost something in the future.

The last quotation was from a statement made by the present Foreign Secretary, then Lord Irwin, and the date was 1929—ten years ago.

Year after year goes by, and this policy which is declared the goal, the end, the aim, is not in fact carried into effect, and Indian political leaders see the best years of their lives go by, and they are still in the phase of struggle.

I may be permitted to use the familiar quotation: 'Man never is but always to be blessed.'

It is like some mountain climber who sees what he takes to be the summit before him, and, when he reaches the top of the ridge after much effort, sees that the summit lies farther beyond, and, again, when he struggles on to a further ridge, the goal is still out of his grasp.

Government say that if only Indians could agree among themselves on the outstanding questions as between the communities and between the Congress Party and the States, at once Dominion Status could be brought into effect.

But that, in substance, means that Muslims are to have a veto on the introduction of Dominion Status. . . .

It is natural for them to say to the Hindus: 'Unless you can concede all we want, we will refuse an agreement, and if we refuse an agreement, the British Government say they will not introduce Dominion Status.'

Consequently the present policy of His Majesty's Government leads to the conclusion that the final decision is left with the Muslims. That will mean that one-fourth of the population of India is to decide the future of India rather than three-fourths.

Such a situation may easily become a permanent dead-lock, and it is not surprising that the Congress suspects that that is the intention.

Further, it appears to me quite essential that, when discussions take place at the end of the war on terms of peace and arrangements to be made subsequently, and when the Dominions, as they certainly will be, are brought into consultation, India should be brought into consultation on equal terms. Even if, on that date, Dominion Status has not been enacted by Statute, still that step might be taken.

THE PARTY SYSTEM

Addressing a public meeting at the Kellett Hall, Triplicane, Mr. G. A. Natesan defended the Congress Ministries and the party system. Mr. P. Nagaraja Rao, a research scholar, also defended the party system and the democratic form of constitution.

Mr. Natesan said that personally, he did not think it possible to go back on the principle of democracy in India.

The people of India might not be accustomed to democracy, but there was no alternative to that form of constitution. It was, however, true that difficulties had to be surmounted in working democracy and perhaps changes should be made in the details of the system in its application to India.

Referring to the problem of electorates, Mr. Natesan said that politicians should take courage in both hands and replace separate electorates by joint electorates with proportional representation for the minorities.

In a joint electorate, a candidate from a majority community would have to obtain the votes of members of the minority communities; and the candidate of a minority community would have to adjust himself to the needs of the majority community to secure their support. Thus the arrangement would promote mutual toleration, goodwill and understanding.

It was an evil day for India when separate electorates were introduced. It was difficult to get out of them, but an endeavour should be made to bring about a change. They should reconcile themselves to separate electorates only if that was inevitable.

Where a party was returned to the legislature in an overwhelming majority, it was inconceivable that it should be asked to form a coalition government or to take into the government a member of each of the parties that had tried their best to obtain the support of the people but failed. A great deal of the criticism of the Congress was based on the fact that other parties which fought the elections did not secure a majority in the legislature. It was unreasonable to ask a party which had educated the people for a long time and obtained their support and been returned in a majority to agree to any sacrifice of its strength. But, perhaps, in the interests of peace some sacrifice might have to be made.

DIAMOND JUBILEE OF THE HINDU

A great and noteworthy event in the history of Indian Journalism is the celebration of the Diamond Jubilee of the *Hindu* and its moving into its magnificent new buildings on the Mount Road, Madras. In the course of a message to the Jubilee Number, Mr. G. A. Natesan, the editor of this *Review*, writes to the present editor of the *Hindu*:

From the time your revered father came into possession of the paper, he maintained the old tradition well and truly. Indeed, the reputation of the paper as a bold and vigorous critic of the misdoings of the Government in those days grew very high. Who that knows your father can forget the strong and dignified editorials interspersed often with telling quotations from that great champion of liberty—Burke? Neither the constant frowns of the bureaucracy, the warnings of the Government, nor the actual threat of prosecution during the regime of one of the former Governors of Madras or even the drastic changes made in the law of sedition and the Press Act deterred your father in any way from the path of his duty to the public. In those days politicians were divided into two distinct hostile camps—extremists and moderates—and I owe it to your father's memory to state that his personal relations with me till the day he was prematurely cut off was of a very cordial character. It was the same too with the two talented editors who succeeded him—the late Mr. A. Rangaswami Aiyangar whose handling of constitutional questions won for him well-deserved credit and Mr. S. Rangaswami whose brilliant and trenchant editorials and replies to the criticisms of the *Madras Mail* in those days were the objects of unmixed admiration.

You will, I am sure, allow me to congratulate you and your brother on the part you have played in building up your paper during a period of a quarter of a century and more with which you have been connected with it. By gathering together on your editorial and reporting staff a number of well-equipped young men who turn out admirable work under your wise guidance and by your generous treatment of them all, you have set an example to your fellow-journalists. The enormous enterprise you have shown in many ways for making the paper attractive to all classes of readers, your unstinting efforts to get up-to-date news from all quarters, the publication of portraits and illustrations, the cinema page, the sporting section—I will not forget the racing section—the introduction of costly modern printing machinery for the production of the paper, all these have brought to it the popularity it so richly deserves and won for it the undisputed claim of being the premier *Indian Daily* in the country.

AGRA UNIVERSITY CONVOCATION

The annual convocation of the Agra University was held on November 18 at the Senate House under the presidentship of Dr. P. Basu, the Vice-Chancellor.



Mrs. SAROJINI NAIDU

Dr. (Mrs.) Sarojini Naidu delivered the Convocation Address. Mr. Pannalal, Chief Secretary to the U. P. Government, received the honorary degree of Doctor of Letters, and Rai Bahadur Brijendra Swarup received the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws. The degree of Doctor of Letters and Doctor of Science were conferred on Messrs. Harihar Nath Hukku and Kuni Behari Lal Mathur, respectively.

MYSORE UNIVERSITY CONVOCATION

Sir Nripendranath Sircar, ex-Law Member to the Government of India, delivered the Convocation Address of the University of Mysore on 25th October last. He said:

You have to thank the State and your Ruler and be grateful for all that is being done to you. No institution in this world is perfect, but what does matter and evoke admiration is the constant effort towards progressive improvements. There is nothing in any British Indian Province which enables it to say that they are in advance of your State and that should be a consolation and a source of pride to all of you who belong to Mysore.

DR. MONTESSORI'S SCHEME

The first Indian training course in education by Dr. Maria Montessori was inaugurated by Dr. George S. Arundale in the Blavatsky Hall, Theosophical Society, Adyar, on November 11.

Speaking in Italian, which was translated into English by Dr. Montessori, Madame Montessori acknowledged the welcome extended to her by so many people. "This visit of mine represents for me in my life a great thing. If I had come here so late in life, it is because I was very strongly attracted by it. I can't describe now the depth of my emotion that is overwhelming me by your warm welcome."

Concluding, Madame observed: "The child is for us a teacher and the world is in need of children—for the adult alone is not sufficient but he should join with his children."

THE TRAVANCORE CONVOCATION

The Travancore University, at its first Convocation held on November 11 under the presidency of His Highness the Chancellor the Maharaja of Travancore, conferred the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws on Sir C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar, Vice-Chancellor of the University and Dewan of Travancore. The Pro-Chancellor Her Highness Maharani Sethu Parvati Bai was present and among the distinguished guests were: His Highness the Elaya Raja, the First Princess and Mr. John Sergeant, Educational Commissioner with the Government of India.

The Convocation Address was delivered by Lieut.-Colonel G. P. Murphy, Resident for Madras States.

RIOTING IN BOMBAY

Mr. Justice Broomfield, who inquired into the police firing on a Muslim crowd at Chota Qabrastan on August 1 (day of the inauguration of prohibition, a procession having been taken out to protest against the Property Tax) has held that in his opinion the firing was justified inasmuch as firing was resorted to by the police in self-defence as they were faced with an extremely menacing and dangerous situation and the probability, not only of serious injury to themselves, but of the mob escaping completely from police control with results that might have been appalling.

The evidence makes it abundantly clear that the crowds ahead of the procession were completely out of control and in a dangerously excited and truculent mood. It came very near to rioting at the junction of Masjid Bunder Road and Abdul Rehman Street and the Pydhoni Junction and became definitely riotous at Two Tanks, Kumbharwada and Northbrook Street. At these places, only the most strenuous exertions of the police prevented a very serious communal clash.

MR. QAZI ATTAULLAH

Holding that criticism of the Unionist Ministry does not come under the purview of Section 124-A of the Indian Penal Code (Sedition), Mr. Justice Blacker of the Lahore High Court quashed a sentence of eighteen months' rigorous imprisonment passed against Qazi Attaullah, a member of the All-India Congress Committee.

His Lordship upheld the conviction against him under Section 153-A, I.P.C. (promoting enmity between two classes of His Majesty's subjects) and reduced the sentence of the eighteen months' imprison-

POOR PERSONS' LEGAL ASSISTANCE

Act No. 2322 of South Australia contains some ancillary provisions for the purpose of facilitating the working of a voluntary scheme, which has been in operation for about three years and under which the Law Society of South Australia provides legal assistance for deserving poor persons in legal matters of all kinds. Section 3 of the Act provides that the Attorney-General may give general or special directions as to the remission of fees which would otherwise be payable to the Crown in connection with any matter arising in the course of legal work being carried out for a poor person under the Law Society's scheme. Section 4 of the Act exempts from stamp duty declarations made by poor persons applying to the Law Society for assistance. Section 5 provides that except with the consent of the Council of the Law Society, a statement made to the Society by an applicant for legal assistance shall not be given in evidence in any Court and a document received by the Society in relation to any application for legal assistance shall not be produced by the Society or its officers in any Court. Section 6 provides that orders for costs may be made in favour of a poor person who is successful in litigation as if he were liable to his solicitor for costs in the usual way.

LATE MR. ARTHUR DAVIES

A meeting of the staff and the students of the Law College, Madras, was held on November 22, with Mr. K. Krishna Menon, the Principal, in the chair, when a resolution was passed placing on record their deep sense of sorrow at the death of Mr. Arthur

ALLIANZ UND STUTTGARTER

The Government of India announces that after mature consideration of the issues involved, it is unable to authorise the continuance of the business of Allianz Und Stuttgarter Life Insurance Bank Limited in India in regard to the undertaking of new contracts of life insurance. As regards contracts in force at the outbreak of hostilities, however, it is hoped that means may be found to allow these to continue and details of a suitable scheme are being examined. Until a decision is announced, the policyholders whose premiums fall due are advised to follow the instructions which have been issued by the Controller of enemy firms.

POSTAL ORDERS LEGAL TENDER

A Treasury announcement in Great Britain calls attention to the fact that postal orders are now legal tender and may be used and must be accepted in the same way as coin and bank notes. A crossed postal order remains legal tender and the crossing now serves no useful purpose. The public are also requested to refrain from marking the face of the order in any way.

ADDITIONAL PROTECTION

It is always wise to refrain from drawing too hasty conclusions as to a policyholder's ability to purchase additional protection, says the *Weekly Record*. It generally pays to at least give him an opportunity to pass judgment on his own ability to pay more premiums.

Select a number of these policyholders whom you have not canvassed, because of a feeling that probably they cannot afford

to pay more premiums. Canvass them. You will no doubt find a number of them who both can, and will, purchase additional insurance when their need for it is fully explained.

Several of these policyholders will serve to prove that every policyholder should at least be given an opportunity to purchase the protection which he obviously needs.

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

Mr. White asked the Prime Minister in the House of Commons whether in connection with the forthcoming investigation into old age pensions he will call for a report from the Unemployment Insurance Statutory Committee as to the advisability of reducing the contributions of employers and employed persons to the Unemployment Insurance Fund with a view to the transference of some part of the contributions to old age pensions insurance?

The Prime Minister: No, Sir. The contributions under each of the State Insurance Schemes should in my view be considered solely in relation to the needs of the particular scheme.

LIFE ASSURANCE IN 1938

The new business written by French life insurance companies during 1938 amounted to fr. 10,150,859,000 as against fr. 8,674,476,000 written in 1937. The total business in force was fr. 48,154'6 millions as compared with fr. 43,905'8 millions in the previous year. The output of the mutual companies' new business was fr. 1,818,827,000 against fr. 1,346,780,000 in 1937, the business in force at the end of 1938 being fr. 8,483'6 millions against fr. 7,854 millions at the end of 1937.

INDIA'S FOREIGN TRADE

Dr. T. E. Gregory, Economic Adviser to the Government of India, in his review of the trade of India in 1938-39, says that owing to the recession in business activity and the consequent shrinkage in world trade, the total value of India's foreign trade in merchandise fell from Rs. 963 crores in 1937-38 to Rs. 822 crores in 1938-39. Both exports and imports fell in equal magnitude.

The total value of India's exports to all countries including Burma amounted to Rs. 163 crores compared with Rs. 181 crores in the preceding year. The total value of imports into India declined by Rs. 21 crores to Rs. 152 crores.

The merchandise balance of trade in favour of India increased by Rs. 1,68 lakhs to Rs. 17,56 lakhs. If transactions in treasure are included, then the total visible balance in favour of India mounted to Rs. 29,44 lakhs in 1938-39 as against Rs. 30,24 lakhs in the preceding year.

The Reserve Bank purchased gold in the open market in India and ear-marked it for purchasers abroad. This was really tantamount to an export of gold as foreign exchange was available against this gold. The total value of such gold in 1938-39 was Rs. 10,19 lakhs and this amount must be taken into consideration in working out the total visible balance in favour of India.

India's internal trade has been increasing in volume during the last few years, but this tendency was slightly checked during the year. The total inland trade in important commodities decreased from 785,000,000 maunds to 781,000,000 maunds.

For the first time for some years

money rates hardened, but the rise was quite moderate and did not materially affect the policy of cheap money inaugurated some years back.

The total amount of Treasury Bills sold to the public by the Government of India by tender and by intermediaries was Rs. 97'5 crores in the year under review as compared with Rs. 72 crores in the preceding year.

MACHINERIES IMPORTED INTO INDIA

The following is the list of machineries imported into India last year with their cost:—

	Rs.
Electric and Machineries ..	2,69,07,880
Agricultural ..	10,79,231
Boilers ..	1,16,86,372
Other than Electric Motor ..	1,69,83,517
Machineries for Shoe Factories ..	4,46,897
„ Mineral Factories ..	36,11,362
„ Mines ..	16,92,840
„ Oiling Factories ..	22,80,274
„ Paper Mills ..	44,89,439
„ Cotton Mills ..	2,92,12,729
„ Jute Mills ..	52,21,477
„ Printing Machines ..	18,63,126
„ Pumping Machines ..	36,14,663
Refrigerator ..	28,28,692
Rice and Flour Mills ..	8,85,465
Sewing Machines ..	82,00,427
Sugar Mills ..	69,86,183
Typewriters ..	21,99,851
Saw Mills, etc. ..	4,13,398
Other Machineries ..	2,98,96,880

BRITAIN'S PURCHASE OF JUTE BAGS

An order for 500 million sandbags, the largest since the outbreak of the War, has been placed with Indian Jute Mill's Association, Calcutta, by the British Government through the Government of India.

The new order as well as the existing contracts are to be completed by the end of April at the rate of 109 million bags per month, the price being the same as in the case of the previous order.

TRAVANCORE'S REFORMER-PRINCESS

The Maharani Memorial Building built to commemorate the services to the country of Maharani Sethu Parvati Bai,



H. H. THE MAHARANI

mother of His Highness the Maharaja of Travancore, was opened on the occasion of the Maharani's birthday on November 14, by Sir C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar.

The Dewan also unveiled a portrait of the Maharani. The memorial was erected by public subscription by women of Travancore and the building will be used as a rest-house for women.

Sir C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar said that rarely in the annals of Indian royalty had there been a person more dynamic, more versatile or more full of love for humanity than the Maharani.

One outstanding contribution by the Maharani was so to have trained her son, the Maharaja, that he was to-day the embodiment of their ideal of kingship. The Maharani was a former President of the Indian Women's Conference and champion of complete equality between women and men. In the great temple-entry proclamation, the Maharaja

was actively encouraged and inspired by the Maharani and the entire credit for the great reform must be shared between them.

Sir C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar added that during the minority of her son, the present Maharaja, the manner in which Her Highness vindicated his dignity and status and fought single-handed for recognition of privileges and claims of the Royal House and His Highness was beyond controversy an act of rare heroism.

The Dewan also referred to the happiness of the home life of the Maharaja and said that their grateful thanks were due to the Maharani for this.

The President of the Memorial Committee, Mrs. Malloor Govinda Pillai, in her speech described the Maharani as the boldest reformer-Princess in India to-day.

THE QUEEN'S TRIBUTE TO WOMEN

The Queen, in simple but effective language, broadcast on Armistice Day a message on November 11 to the women of the Empire thanking them for the way they had answered the call for fortitude and self-sacrifice. The Queen at the outset recalled the seven happy weeks of goodwill and human kindness which she and the King enjoyed in Canada and the United States, contrasting them with the sadly different circumstances prevailing to-day.

"The call has come and from my heart, I thank you, the women of the Empire, for the way you have answered it. The tasks you have undertaken whether at home or in distant lands, cover every field of national service and I would like to pay my tribute to all of you who are giving such splendid and unselfish help in this time of trouble."

JOURNALISTS' CONFERENCE

Presiding over the Second Andhra Provincial Journalists' Conference held at Ellore on October 22, Mr. Pothan Joseph said: "In addition to old restrictions the new laws imposed during war curtail the rights of the journalist but let us earnestly hope that the Provincial Governments who administer law would consider the difficulties under which newspapers are struggling in an abnormal time."

Referring to restrictions in India, Dr. P. Subbarayan, Minister for Law, Madras, agreed with the Chairman that the Government should take the Press more into its confidence.

The Conference passed resolutions seeking to minimise hardships of journalists during the period of the war and demanding that Press Advisers should exercise their duties in consultation with a committee of journalists at each centre, that the Press Advisers should extend their contacts with correspondents to smoothen the work of journalists by holding periodical conferences. Another resolution requested the Government to make a comprehensive inquiry, with a majority representation of journalists, into the various Press laws and Penal provisions in India pertaining to the conduct of newspapers.

SIR FAZL-I-HUSSAIN LIBRARY

H. E. Sir Henry Craik, Governor of the Punjab, opened the Sir Fazl-i-Hussain Memorial Library at Lahore on October 28.

The foundation-stone of the library was laid in October 1937 by H. E. Lord Linlithgow. The library built on the Gothic style of architecture at a cost of Rs. 1,30,000 stands majestically next to Government College.

Dr. Dunnicliff, Secretary of the Library Committee, said the cost of the building had been met by public donations of Rs. 74,850 and a Government grant of Rs. 55,000.

NOBEL PRIZE FOR LITERATURE

The Nobel Prize for Literature for 1939 has been awarded to Frans Sillanpaease of Finland, whose novels on peasant life have been translated in many languages.

MR. SATYAMURTHI

Mr. Satyamurthi, M.L.A., Central, was unanimously elected Mayor of Madras at a special meeting of the Madras Corporation on November 6.



MR. S. SATYAMURTHI

The retiring Mayor, before asking Mr. Satyamurthi to occupy the Mayoral chair, offered his congratulations to him.

Speeches were made by several other members of the Council, congratulating Mr. Satyamurthi on his election and expressing the hope that he will contribute much during his Mayoralty towards the improvement of the city.

Mr. Satyamurthi, replying to the congratulations, assured the Councillors that during his Mayoralty, he would work for the welfare, progress and happiness of the city. He told them that he would have no party affiliations as far as the duties of the Mayoral chair were concerned and he would show that a strong Congressman could also be a strong, impartial and just chairman.

SIR JAMES GRIGG

Sir James Grigg, the new Permanent War Under-Secretary, who succeeded Sir Herbert Creedy on the latter's retirement, now takes his place on the Army Council.

DR. B. C. ROY

Dr. B. C. Roy was unanimously elected President of the Medical Council of India at its half yearly meeting on October 31 at New Delhi.

Dr. Roy will be the first non-official President of the Council. He was congratulated by both official and non-official members and he made a suitable reply.

The Council decided to recommend to the Central Government to amend the Indian Medical Council Act, 1933, so as to provide for the appointment of Visitors in addition to Inspectors.

The Council accepted the recommendation of the Executive Committee that one representative of the Associated Press and one of the United Press respectively and other visitors not exceeding four at a time may be admitted to the meetings. The Press representatives shall be required to obtain the previous approval of the Secretary to the publication of their report of the proceedings. The President at any time may hold the meeting in camera in which case all visitors will be required to withdraw.

The Council decided that one meeting of the Council should be held at the headquarters in Delhi and the venue of the other meetings in the year may be decided by the Council on the recommendation of the Executive Committee.

The next meeting of the Council will be held on the 11th March, 1940.

THE LATE DR. RANGACHARI

The spirit of selfless service to humanity, which animated the life of the late Dr. S. Rangachari and which made him place unreservedly his professional skill at the disposal alike of the rich and the poor, was stressed by H. E. Lord Erskine, Governor of Madras, when he unveiled, on November 6, a bronze statue of the Doctor in the Madras General Hospital. The function was largely attended by prominent citizens of Madras including members of the medical profession.

The statue is installed on a stone pedestal, a few yards east of the main entrance to the General Hospital. It faces the road and occupies a commanding position.

YOGIC ASANAS FOR HEALTH

Dr. V. G. Rele's book on 'Yogic Asanas' (Taraporevala & Sons, Bombay) is a practical guide to the student who aspires to practise yoga asanas. Yoga of late has been the craze of the West, and many an European spiritualist looks forward to yoga for his consolation. The several asanas (poses) bring about the necessary tranquillity to the mind.

The volume is a self-instructor in yoga. The portions relating to the physiology of yoga are dealt at some length and are amply illustrated. Certain yogic practices help to steady the mind for realising definite objects, be they material or spiritual. The Western systems of Physical Culture merely help to develop the muscles of the body. The yogic asanas, by their exercises, make the body healthy and strong, particularly the trunk muscles, by requisitioning their health to tone up all the involuntary organs of the body which are concerned with the processes of digestion, evacuation, circulation, respiration and secretion. Through this the nervous system automatically and vigorously acts and also tones up the whole system. The yogic training presupposes regulated diet and timely exercise. To a civilisation essentially excited and madly frantic, the call of Patanjali to keep a clean and a steady mind is most appropriate. The learned doctor's book is a welcome addition to the existing literature on the practice of yoga.

DANGERS OF WORRY

More than a dozen years ago, Dr. Felix Deutsch, then practising in Vienna, pointed out that in patients suffering from organic diseases, it was noticeable that their symptoms were the more abundant and the more distressing just in proportion to the amount of dammed-up anxiety that was present in their systems.

Anxiety is of many kinds and derives from many sources, but there is evidence for believing that anxiety which cannot be discharged in action is discharged in the form of disease. To a degree, therefore, as Dr. Deutsch points out, every disease is an anxiety disease. A person remains ill because he cannot get rid of his anxiety. To be healthy is to be free of anxiety.

LAND MORTGAGE BANK

The Tenth Land Mortgage Bank Conference was held on November 18, at the Bank premises in Mount Road, Madras. Mr. T. A. Ramalingam Chettiar, President



Mr. V. V. GIRI

of the Madras Central Co-operative Land Mortgage Bank, Ltd., presided, and Mr. V. V. Giri declared the Conference open.

The Conference passed many resolutions affecting the working of land mortgage banks. The first resolution stated that it was enough if revolution of mortgaged properties in primary land mortgage banks is done once in two years instead of annually as is being now done.

One of the resolutions requested the Government to issue suitable instructions to zamindars to furnish required information to primary banks at their request in order to facilitate securing information regarding zemindari rents paid by borrowers.

By another resolution the Conference urged on the Government the necessity for permitting the opening of accounts in sub-treasury where there were no banking facilities.

The Conference also resolved that the bye-laws of the Primary Land Mortgage Banks be amended by making provisions for common good fund, building fund, etc.

By yet another resolution, the Conference resolved to allow the Secretaries of the Primary Banks to take allowance from the Primary Land Mortgage Banks when they were working at profit.

INDIA'S RAILWAYS

Towards the middle of 1938, railway authorities took an unprecedented step in questioning 10,000 of the country 521,000,000 passengers as to where they were going and why. Although the greatest percentage admitted to the rather generalized category of "obligatory", which included travelling to lawsuits, on business and to sick relations, as many as 29 per cent travelled for pleasure, writes Robert Parry Ellis in the *Asiatic Review*.

Many of the State Railways have made arrangements for varying types of holiday concessions and special zone tickets whereby passengers may travel at will for a certain time through a given area are obtainable. This question has also been discussed by local Railway Advisory Committees. Although originated in various forms on several railways to combat the growing road competition, this form of travel has been accepted by almost every State Railway. The Bombay-Baroda and Central India Railway, who about two years ago inaugurated a special week-end fast service between Bombay and Surat called the "Flying Ranee", have devised a type of coupon book through which traders can travel 500 miles at a greatly reduced rate. The East Indian Railway, on the other hand, have accepted a sliding scale system of charges for long distance return journeys. Other railways such as the Madras and Southern Mahratta Railways have issued joint zone tickets with other adjoining units.

INDIAN STATE RAILWAYS

Indian State Railways can claim to be the only railways in the world, showing a surplus after paying interest charges. In the years 1936-37 and 1937-1938 respectively, the figures in their financial statement are approximately as follows: The total earnings increased from £78,500,000 to about £80,500,000 while the total working expenses also showed an increase of from nearly £51,000,000 to just over £52,000,000. This shows an increment in profits of from £27,500,000 to £29,000,000 out of which interest charges of £5,245,926 and £5,188,907 were paid in the respective years. As can be seen by these figures, a surplus of more than £2,000,000 was shown in both years.

SRI CHITRA EXHIBITION

Opening Sri Chitra Exhibition on November 8, H. H. the Elayaraja of Travancore said that it was indeed a happy idea to have included an exhibition amongst the events of the birthday week which, though mainly related to Travancore products, has elicited response all over India. "It is not for me to dwell on the advantages of an exhibition of this kind, but the stimulus and encouragement it affords to the enterprise in our own State, and the valuable results of contact with those coming from outside our borders, are enough justification for any trouble that we may take."

B. B. C. PROGRAMMES

Sir John Squire, the well-known musical critic, in a letter to the *Times* protesting against the unnecessary frequency of B. B. C. war bulletins at a time when news is scarce and the nerves of listeners are apt to become frayed, makes a plea for the return to normal music programmes instead of the hotchpotch of items, grave and gay, with which the British public have had to put up since the war began. With this view most listeners in India also will agree.

Sir John Squire also suggests that the B. B. C. might turn their attention to war songs, which in the last war played such an important part in keeping up the spirit of the troops. To start the ball rolling, he offers the following adaptation of a song with which all old soldiers are familiar:—

"Pack up your Goebbels in your old kit bag
And Heil! Heil!" etc.

And

"What's the use of Goering?"

MASK DANCES

Of late a movement has been started in Bengal to revive their ancient mask dances. Writing on the significance of these mask dances, Mr. G. S. Dutt, I.C.S., says in the *Modern Review*:

"These mask dances are essentially democratic in character and form an integral part of the religious and social life of the rural Hindu population of Bengal irrespective of caste or rank."

TABLE TENNIS FOR TROOPS

Table Tennis is an ideal game for barracks, camps and hostels, and during winter months when open-air games and sports are not possible, it can provide hard and exciting physical exercise and keen competition between individuals and groups. This is what the English Table Tennis Association declared when they recently offered to place their organisation at the disposal of the Army Sports authorities.

Exhibition matches, of course, will be played by Internationals for the entertainment of the troops. Richard Bergmann, the present world champion and incidentally a Polish citizen, has already offered his services. Another champion, Victor Barna, the Hungarian, who visited India recently, is also expected to take part.

15,000 METRES ROAD RACE

The 15,000 metres road race in connection with the Bombay Presidency Olympic Games was won by C. S. A. Swami of the *Times of India* for the second year in succession from S. S. Varma of the South Indian Welfare Society. P. R. Ghatkar also of the *Times of India* finished third and C. Mathias fourth. Only five competed. The winner's time was 58 minutes 18.25 seconds.

20,000 metres walking relay race resulted in an easy victory for Y. M. C. A. "B" by 50 metres. There was a keen finish as Karkera, Kanara's fourth man, started ahead of C. B. Michaei, Y. M. C. A.'s fourth man, but the latter quickly overhauled the leader and won easily. Only four teams competed.

The results were: Y. M. C. A. "B" first; Kanara Athletic second. Time: 1 hour, 54 minutes, 44.45 seconds.

A CHAMPION GIRL SWIMMER

The Swedish champion girl swimmer, Sally Bauer, swam the English Channel on August 27. She started from Cap Gris Nez on the French coast and after swimming for 15 hours and 22 minutes reached land on the other side of the Channel, about six miles south-west of Dover and about one mile east of Folkestone. Miss Bauer is the first Swede and the first Scandinavian to accomplish this feat.

NOBEL PRIZES FOR SCIENCE

This year's Nobel Prize for Physics has been awarded to Professor Ernest Orlando Lawrence of California University for his discovery of cyclotron.

Sir C. V. Raman, in an interview to the *Hindu*, expresses high praise for the work of Prof. Lawrence. Sir C. V. Raman compares the cyclotron discovered by Prof. Lawrence, which has won him the Prize, to Alladin's Wonderful Lamp: for the cyclotron literally manufactures new chemical elements out of old ones. The work on atomic disintegration has built up a new chemistry, which has also opened up an insight into the fundamental problems of astronomy. "We are now in a position," says Sir C. V. Raman, "to discuss the processes taking place in the interior of stars with more than an assumption of knowledge."

The Nobel Prize for Chemistry for 1939 has been awarded jointly to Professor Butenandt of the University of Berlin, Professor Ruzicka of Zurich, and Professor Kuhn of Heidelberg University.

BERYLLIUM

A year or two ago the Germans swept the board at some American motor car races. The secret of their success was largely in their use of valve springs made of a new alloy: beryllium nickel.

Since then this alloy has been used extensively in the motor car and aeroplane industries and for the manufacture of surgical instruments and hypodermic needles. It is regarded as a vital war necessity. One great advantage of this recent discovery in metallurgy is the way it stands up to heat. A temperature that would produce fatigue in other metals leaves beryllium nickel unimpaired.

What is beryllium? As its name implies, it comes from beryll and most of us are familiar with this in the form of the emerald.

Beryllium is one of the lightest elements known, only hydrogen, helium and lithium are lighter; yet when mixed with other metals, notably gold, copper and nickel, it is one of the strongest and hardest.

A SWADESHI TALKIE MACHINE

It is really a happy circumstance to find that India has got its own "Sound System" better known to the public as Talkies. Its inventor, Mr. Bamadas Chatterjee, M.Sc., a Bengali youth, after a hard struggle of nearly eight years on his most expensive experiments, has placed before the public to their entire satisfaction his Sound System better known as "Cystophone Ultraphonic" which is practically replacing a lot of foreign machines, says a report in the *Indian Movies*.

The Indian film industry has been suffering a great deal due to the installation of the foreign expensive studio equipment, recording and re-recording machines, etc. Mr. Chatterjee has again come to the rescue by his wonderful and less expensive products. He has also made a very simple, easy and less expensive method of producing rain and storm effects for the pictures and which can be easily done anywhere. It is hoped that this new industry will be greatly benefitted by the war situation.

SOUTH INDIAN FILMS

The South Indian Film Chamber of Commerce entertained Mr. S. Satyamurthi, Mayor, at a dinner recently.

Replying to the toast, Mr. Satyamurthi wanted the film producers to direct the searchlight of their conscience into their industry and see whether they were well financed, well organised, whether they set up unhealthy competition among themselves and such other allied things. He was sure a great future lay before the industry and no Government could afford to belittle the great services which the industry awaited to render to the country.

POONA'S FILM MERGER

A new film concern has been launched in Poona with an authorised capital of Rs. 25,00,000 under the name and style of Navyug Pictures Ltd. It is reported that Huns Pictures of Poona will merge with this company.

Mr. K. Narayan Kale, the writer, and Baburao Pendharkar, the actor, are the men who will guide this concern.

WHY CARS CATCH FIRE

Motor vehicle fires whether in accidents or at other times are most often due to one of the following causes:—

1. A leaking carburetter, or leaking petrol line from tank or pump to the carburetter;
2. A loose or broken gasket or cracked exhaust pipe or silencer;
3. Defective insulation in the wiring, especially in the high tension wire from the battery;
4. Accumulation of inflammable oil and grease on the engine or in the shield beneath it;
5. Improperly adjusted brakes creating excessive heating through friction and setting fire to accumulated grease or dirt.

Some drivers are in the habit of carrying off rags or cotton waste in a convenient spot under the bonnet or hung over a strut; should the engine be running exceptionally hot, petrol or oil-soaked cotton waste may well burst into flame, and yet another common cause of motor vehicle fires is carelessness in smoking.

DRIVERS' MISTAKES

"It takes two to make an accident" may not be absolutely true but there is a lot in it. You can very often prevent a traffic accident by a courteous or generous action when the other fellow has made a mistake. When a motorist tries to pass you and misjudges the space available, drop back and let him into line. Be a sport; don't be a cad and say: "Serves him right, let's see how he gets out of this jam!"

If a driver behind you is over anxious to get ahead, pull aside and let him go on his way. Who knows what his errand may be? He might be racing against death to obtain medical assistance for a loved one at death's door, you never can tell. In any case it costs you nothing to let him his way; be a sport and let him do so in safety. Further, says the Safety First Association, when some driver insists on "hogging" the right of way, let him take it. Don't let it be written on your tombstone: "He knew he had the right of way—so he took it."

CODE OF AERIAL WARFARE

It will be remembered that the British and French Governments published a joint declaration on September 3 in response to President Roosevelt's appeal, which set forth their intention to spare civilian populations as well as historic buildings, provided the enemy observed like rules and stated they had some time ago sent explicit instruction to commanders of armed forces prohibiting bombing, whether from air or sea or by artillery on land, of any except strictly military objectives in the narrowest sense of the word.

Asked in the House of Commons on October 24, whether in view of the declared policy of restricting aerial warfare to military objectives, His Majesty's Government considered approaching Neutral Powers including the United States of America with a view to their proposing, both to belligerents and non-belligerents, a code of aerial warfare together with means of reports on observations of violation of the code, Mr. R. A. Butler, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, said that Government did not consider further action beyond their already declared policy would be of assistance in the matter, especially when the extreme difficulty of reporting observance or violation of rules was considered.

TRAINING PILOTS

How R. A. F. pilots receive the final stages of their training is described by a *Times* correspondent who visited an instructional centre that has been working 24 hours a day for seven days a week since the outbreak of the war. The training falls into three main parts: elementary, intermediate, and advanced, and this service flying training school is concerned with the last two. Elementary training covers the learning to fly period; intermediate, the handling of service aircraft, night flying, and formation flying; and advanced, the use of service aircraft as instruments of war including gunnery and bombing. For gunnery they use camera guns and thus the accuracy of their shooting can be assessed. Bombing is taught with the camera obscura and there is practice in both level and dive bombing.

PIGMENT FROM WASTE PRODUCT

A method of treatment whereby the waste product mud left as residue can be made to yield titanium oxide, is described by Mr. Sudhir Chandra Chakravarty, M.Sc., in a *Bulletin* Number 15 of the Industrial Research Bureau of the Government of India.

The *Bulletin* shows how a valuable material used in the paint and other industries at present imported can be recovered from the waste mud found in the production of Alumina-Ferric from certain indigenous bauxites.

Alumina-Ferric, which is commercial aluminium sulphate contaminated with a little iron sulphate, is manufactured by a number of firms in India and is used largely for the purification of water.

The *Bulletin* points out that bauxite, when used to manufacture Alumina-Ferric, leaves as residue a mud which contains 38 per cent. of titanium oxide. This residue has hitherto been treated as a waste product. The author describes a method of treatment whereby the mud can be made to yield titanium oxide of 98.99 per cent. purity in sufficient quantities to make the recovery a profitable by-product of Alumina-Ferric industry.

BRITAIN'S A. R. P. EFFORTS

The magnitude of Britain's effort for the protection of her population against air attack is revealed in the following recently disclosed detail of one aspect of A. R. P.

Twenty square miles of corrugated steel are being produced by steel works in strategic positions over the whole of U. K. or 2,50,000 "Anderson" shelters ordered by Government to shelter 15,000,000 people in their own gardens. Production of the first million shelters, which began in mid-February, was completed and shelters delivered by the second week of September. The rate now has been increased from one million in seven months to one and a half million in the same period. It is pointed out that this vital defence measure is not hampering the supply of armaments; the shelters requirements represent only about 3-1/2 per cent. of the total production of all classes of British steel.

IMPORTANCE OF IRRIGATION

The benefits from irrigation, and the necessity for the maintenance of a highly efficient irrigation service, were amongst the subjects stressed by Mr. A. Gordon, C.I.E., in his presidential address at the Tenth Annual Meeting of the Central Board of Irrigation which lately met in Delhi.

"Naturally most people," said Mr. Gordon, "look to the financial returns on capital expended and seldom beyond that. But there is a large accession to the wealth of the country which is indirectly due to irrigation and would not exist but for irrigation."

"The affairs of this Board," Mr. Gordon continued, "have always been run with a very modest expenditure. I feel convinced that any other country in the world would be astonished at what has been done considering the small outlay. While we still desire to avoid increasing expenditure, we have reached a stage where our activities will have to be curtailed or else increased funds placed at our disposal. The contingency has already arisen and it will be most unfortunate should this state of affairs continue. Important papers, which are out of print, cannot be reprinted and others have to be produced without illustrations, which would greatly add to their value."

COPPER DUST TO KILL PLANT PESTS

Agriculturists at the New York State experimental station have discovered a new and more effective way of killing plant pests. It consists of the application of the yellow particles of copper dust to plant seeds.

Copper dust or powder has been used for some time on seeds, and crop yields have been considerably increased. The tiny metallic particles have a deadly effect on disease spores. These particles, produced electrically, range in colour from brown and red to yellow. It has now been discovered that the yellow grains are much more effective than the red or brown. The pest organisms absorb more of the poisonous copper,

INDUSTRIAL LABOUR IN INDIA

The publication of the Report on Industrial Labour in India by the International Labour Office, Geneva, is most opportune, coming as it does at a time when provincial autonomy has brought labour questions to the forefront and labour legislation is being embarked upon in all provinces. To the planners of the All-India National Planning Committee too, this book should prove valuable as it focusses attention to the problems which a more rapid industrialisation is bound to create. Although for the most part the book is based on the wealth of data furnished by the Whitley Commission on Labour, there are several interesting features in it. The introductory chapter describing the geographical, social and political setting of the problems of industrial labour is an essential preliminary to the understanding of the many complexities and anomalies of the Indian labour problems. In Chapter 2, the distribution of industrial employment among plantations, factories, mines, communications and transport and other industrial occupations is traced and explained. Most students will find Chapter 3 treating about Labour Legislation most useful as it outlines the legislative measures taken by the Government of India and the several Provinces to implement the recommendations of the Royal Commission.

The relations between capital and labour in India have been admirably dealt with in Chapter 4, where the report endorses the view of the Royal Commission that machinery for the prevention of disputes is of far greater importance than that for their settlement. Of other chapters in the book, it is necessary to mention only two. The standard of living of the workers is still found to be poor and requires "the urgent attention of all authorities who realise the importance of raising their social and economic status as well as of increasing their industrial efficiency". The need for improving the housing conditions of the workers has been stressed and towards this end, the increased help and activity on the part of local Governments, Municipalities and semi-public bodies seem to be urgently called for.

GENERAL

SIR C. P. RAMASWAMI'S 61ST BIRTHDAY

Mr. G. A. Natesan, Editor of this *Review*, sent the following message to a Travancore Journal on the occasion of Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar's Sixty-first Birthday:—

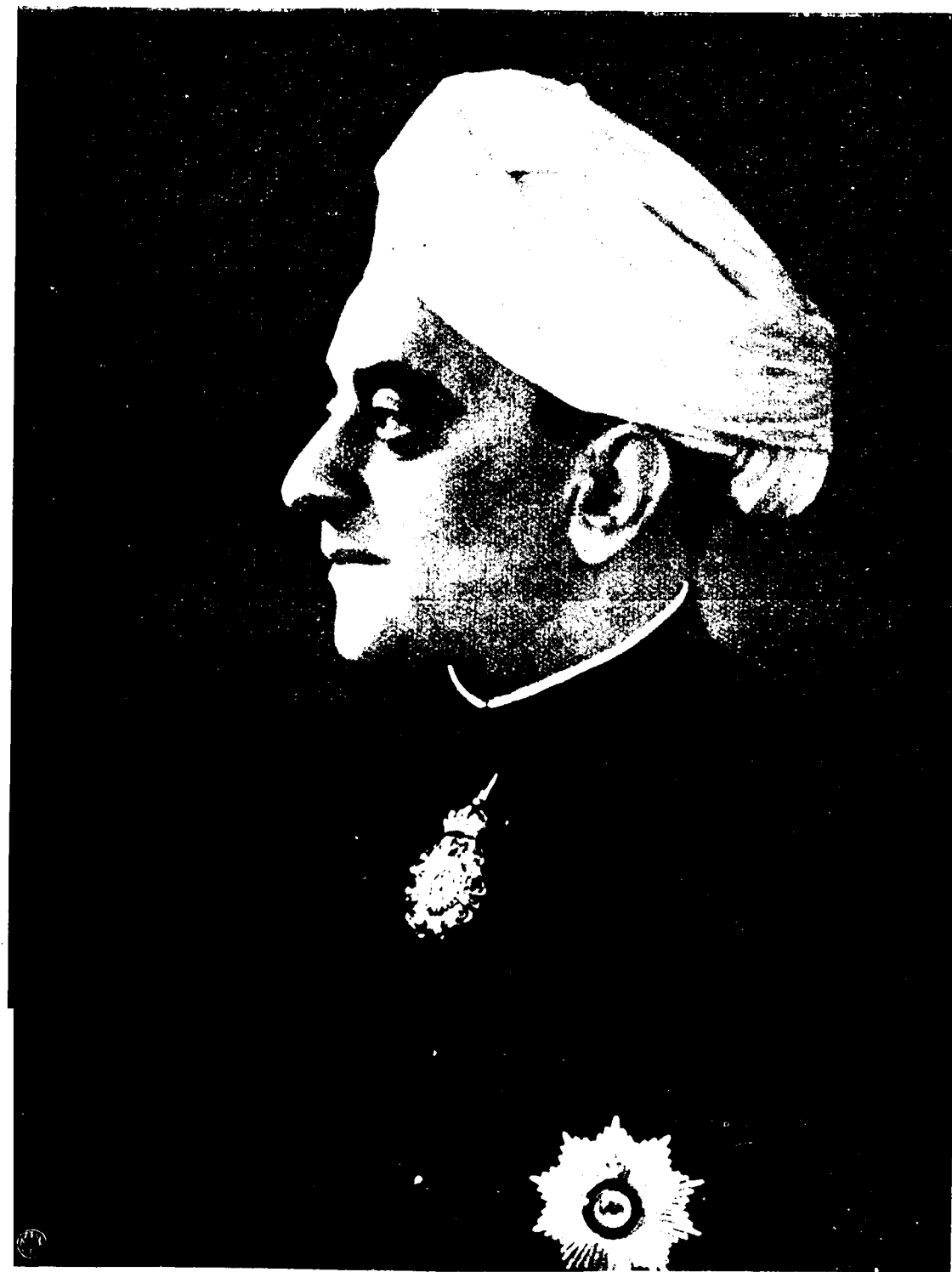
Forty-five years of uninterrupted friendship from college days may colour one's judgment of contemporaries, but any one who has known Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar and watched his brilliant career through the decades will agree that Sir C. P.'s versatile talents, winning manners, singular freedom from personal rancour, loyalty to friends and 'generosity even to opponents are his remarkable personal qualities. It is a pleasure to see C. P. as fresh and vivacious at 61 as at 16 when first we came together in the Madras Presidency College. He still retains the same alertness of brain and body—which is the envy of many friends and the despair of others. It has been our good fortune to be thrown together in more than one sphere of public activity—civic, political, and educational—in all of which his contribution has been equally distinguished. Sir C. P.'s rise to positions of power and responsibility in the Provincial and Central Governments was what was expected and well deserved. But the outstanding achievement of his career will in all probability be his association with H. H. the Maharajah of Travancore in that historic event—the Great Temple Entry Proclamation of November 1937.

Sir C. P. has for many years past been deeply attached to the Ruling House of Travancore and his latter years have been marked by complete devotion to the service of that State. Like all men engaged in practical affairs demanding momentous decisions affecting the lives and fortunes of multitudes of people, Sir C. P. has provoked controversies in his time. It is the mark of all virile work that it creates enemies as much as admirers. Sir C. P. has had both in abundant measure. But no one who has watched the course of events in Travancore can be ignorant of its progressive and efficient administration under the guidance of its energetic Dewan. I felicitate my old friend on the completion of his 60th year and I wish him many more years of fruitful public service for the fulfilment of causes dear to his heart.

In a Scout Magazine where controversies have to be eschewed I must not discuss political problems of the State. But I think it is permissible to add that from all that I know of Sir C. P. and his genuine desire to make Travancore an ideal State, he will be the first to initiate further measures for constitutional advancement if only some of the politicians of Travancore show patience and trust.

A BUST OF SIR C. P. RAMASWAMI

In the Travancore Legislative Chamber, Sir Abdur Rahman, Judge of the Madras High Court, unveiled a bronze bust of Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar, President of both the Houses of Legislature, presented by the Nair Service Society in appreciation of his services.



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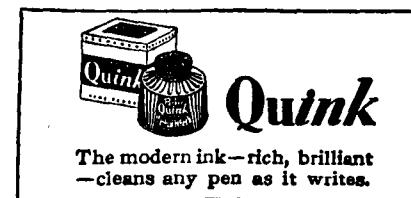
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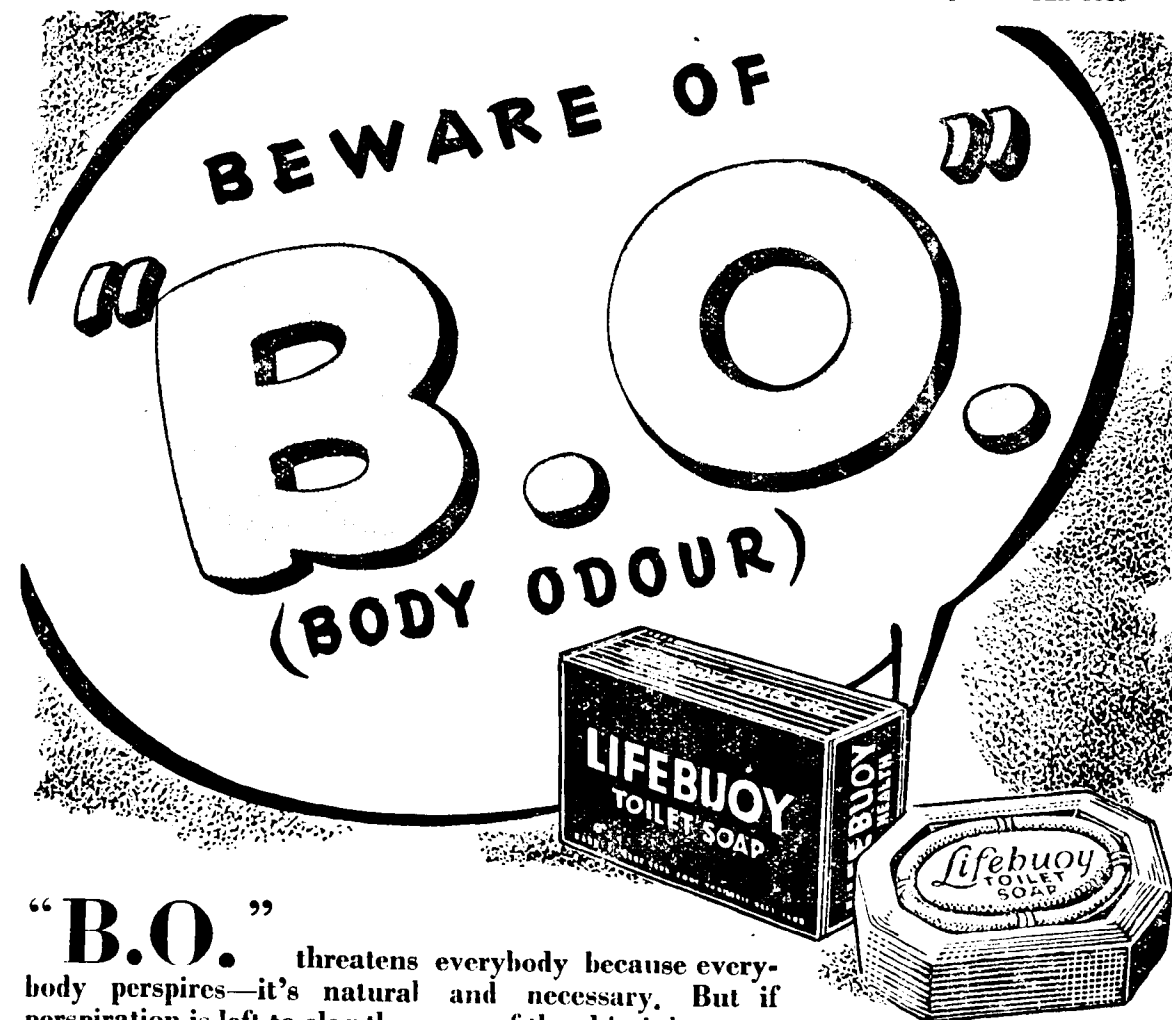
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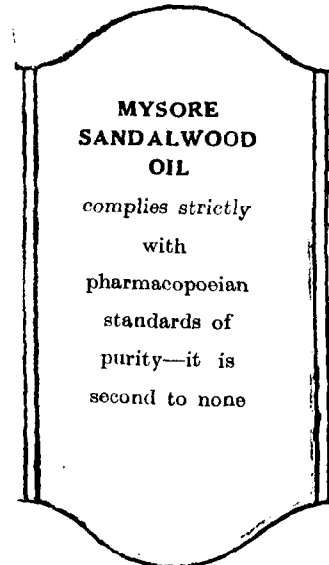
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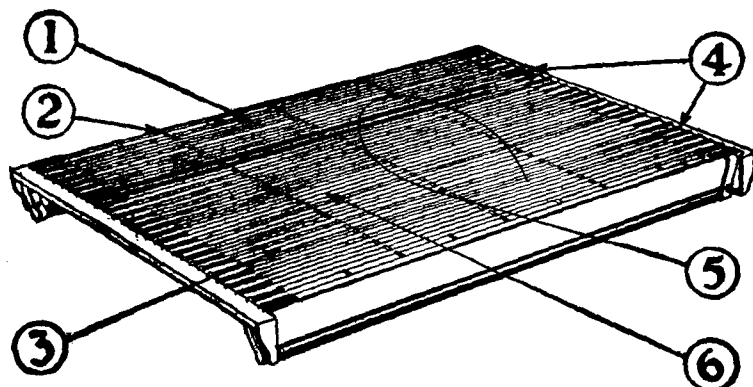
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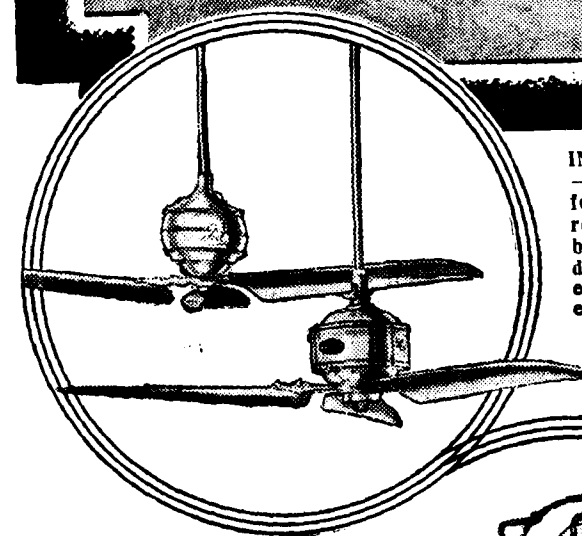
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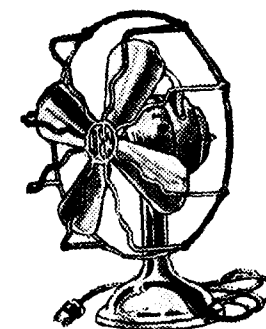
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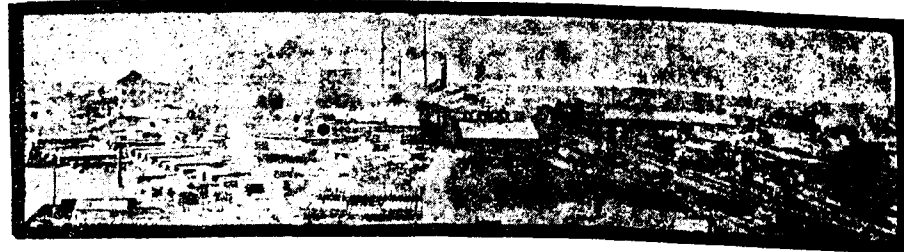
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(5) All entries and entry fees to be sent by registered post to the Address given below to reach there on or before the 15th January 1940. The entry fee to be sent either by M. O. or in India Postal Order otherwise we shall not be held responsible for the same if lost in transit.

(6) A special prize of Rs. 100 will be awarded to the sender of the largest number of entries; when there is a tie the amount of prize will be equally divided.

(7). All answers sent by the competitors shall be scrutinised under the supervision of the Darjeeling District Congress Committee after one week of the Annual Session of the Indian National Congress at RAMGARH and the decision of the Darjeeling District Congress Committee in this respect will be Final and Acceptable in all cases.

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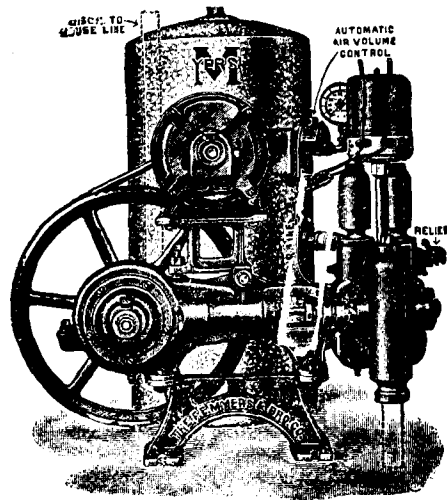
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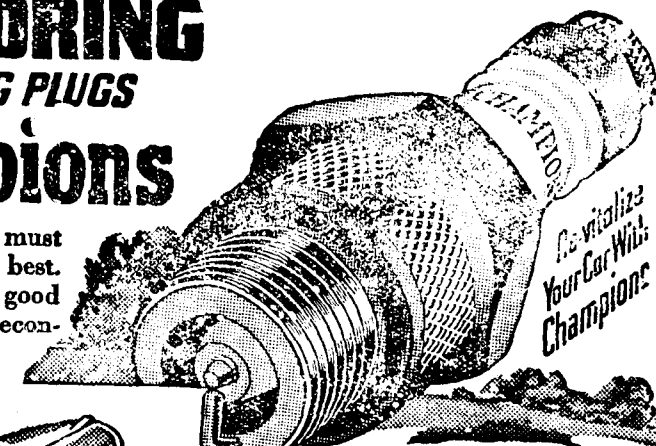
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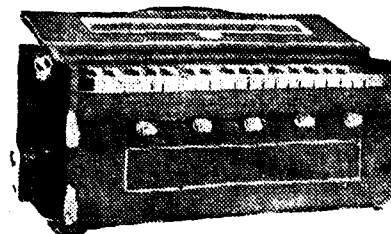
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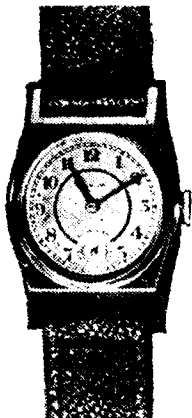
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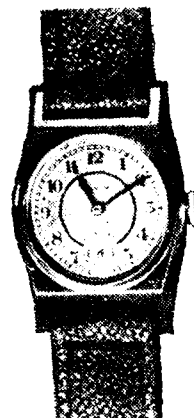
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