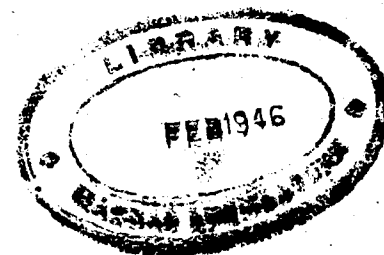


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INDIA AND THE NEW ORDER

BY MR. M. K. NAMBYAR, LL.M. (LOND.), BAR-AT-LAW

THE war of to-day is acclaimed by the Axis as a war for a New Order. What the New Order represents has not been formulated in concrete terms. But the slogan is vaguely suggestive of the Old Order yielding place to a new and a better world for mankind.

The old international order was built on the foundations of the peace of Versailles of 1919. True, vanquished Germany was disarmed, deprived of her colonies and subjected to hard conditions. Nevertheless the settlement proceeded on two broad lines—reparations for the past, and security for the future. The map of Europe was redrawn largely on the principles of nationality and self-determination. The territorial integrity of each state was guaranteed. And to prevent the further recurrence of any war, the League of Nations was designed.

If the League failed, it was largely because the sanctions in the covenant proved difficult or illusory in operation. But the tripod of the project rested on three great principles of equality: independence and the reign of law in the relationship between nations. Every State big or small enjoyed the same status in the eye of the League; the traditional sovereignty of each state was sacrosanct; and the rule of law was to be the anchor-sheet of intercourse between nations.

The New Order that is to replace the old still stands unrevealed. But glimpses are available in the process of its making, and the movements of the minds of its architects.

Every small state in Europe has become the prey of Nazi aggression. Czechoslovakia, Poland, Denmark, Norway, Holland, Belgium, Rumania have one by one been annihilated. The great France has fallen, and is writhing under the heels of the conqueror. Greece is struggling for her life. Obviously, the fundamental postulate of the New Order is the ruthless extermination of weaker states.

Nor can the world be under any illusion as to the philosophy of the New Order. The pages of *Mein Kampf* are illuminating. "The world" according to the Nazi Bible, "is not for coward peoples." "Political boundaries were set up by man and may by man be altered." More significant is Hitler's thesis: "We are not the police protectors of poor little nations, but soldiers of our own." He recognises that it is in accordance "with the Eternal Will that rules the universe to advance the victory of the better and stronger and demand the subordination of the weaker and worse." "Right abides in strength alone." "The sole earthly criterion of whether an enterprise is right or wrong is its success,"

The New Order is thus the exact antithesis of the old. It is out to destroy the smaller nations of the earth. The weak have no right to live. Strength and not sovereignty is the sole attribute to statehood. The rule of the sword is substituted for the rule of law. Brute force determines the course of international life. All those noble impulses of justice and righteousness which have weaved man from the instincts of the beast and enabled him to strive through ages to live in the image of his Maker are derided and assailed.

The challenge of the New Order can neither be denied nor evaded by any state in the East or West. Nor indeed by India. Ever since the birth of Indian nationalism, the forces of freedom have been steadily gathering in the direction of independence as the country's goal. But the movement for liberty has largely been shaped by Western political thought to which a just international order was the fundamental postulate of national existence. The inarticulate hypothesis in the national struggle was that freedom once won was generally secure.

Nor did the actualities of a hundred and fifty years of British rule permit the intrusion of any other idea in the organic life of the country. For generations India's frontiers have been secure: her territorial integrity absolute. Peace within and without has fostered the growth of the movement for *Swaraj*. The world was passed over leaving India's shores untouched. And the year that witnessed the grant of beginnings of self-government in India also saw the creation of the League of Nations. No clouds on the international horizon have ever since

disturbed the illusion of India's inviolability, nor cast any shadows within the orbit of India's movement for complete independence.

In sharp contrast has been the organic development of the Dominion countries of the British Empire. The great war revealed that the danger to Britain was danger to the Dominions. Not mere sentiment but self-interest and security drew the Dominions and the Mother-country into a common bond. In the toil and blood of the last war was born the British Commonwealth of Nations. It was, indeed, a miniature League of Nations equal in status and in no way subordinate one to another, wherein the sovereignty of each was assured in a mighty alliance under a common crown. The contours of Dominion status became clear as years passed. They were formulated in resolutions at the Imperial Conference of 1926, and translated into an Imperial Statute in 1931. Today the Dominions present a common front to the enemy, though their shores are distant from the theatre of war. Not independence but interdependence within the Empire has become the key-note of Dominion freedom and vitality.

To India the menace of the New Order is not less real than to the Dominions. No statesman can ignore or be indifferent to the perils of the present war. The frontiers of India have shifted to the Suez on the west and the French Indo-China on the east. On the result of the war hangs also India's destiny. The New Order has created a new philosophy in which the perspective of India's political aspiration must shift. Not abstract doctrine but concrete reality must now shape the alignments of Indian *Swaraj*. If the New Order is not resisted and should succeed, what shall India expect?

THE AMERICAN PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION

BY DR. DAVID MALAIPERUMAN, M.A., (Madras), Ph.D. (Chicago)

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THE last presidential election was one of the most sensational events in the history of the United States, more fateful than Lincoln's election in the midst of the Civil War, more significant than the re-election of Woodrow Wilson during the last World War. The people of the United States have waived aside a time-honoured and most strongly cherished custom, the only one observed without a single break since the time of George Washington, in electing Franklin Delano Roosevelt as President for the third term with an overwhelming majority. They elected as their leader a man who integrates in his personality the courage and force of George Washington, the democratic zeal of Thomas Jefferson, the social justice of Abraham Lincoln, the adventurous quest of Theodore Roosevelt and the intellectual integrity of Woodrow Wilson. At a time of crisis when civilization and democracy are seriously threatened, the people of the U. S. were not willing to take a chance in changing the administration. The election resolved primarily into a choice between candidates, not party platforms, and Roosevelt inspired confidence in his capacity to steer the country through a period of war crisis. Further, the people naturally voted for a man with long experience in national and foreign affairs in preference to a candidate lacking this experience, however convincing his election pledges might have been. It was no doubt a personal triumph for Roosevelt. Even those who were tepid in their admiration for the New Deal administration and its policy voted for him. As a Washington Correspondent once

put it, he is "the man who on some great emergency shall be deemed universally most capable of serving the public". Millions of his countrymen so regard him. There are others again who consider him as the man "least incapable of serving the public" and voted for him in default. However, the consensus of American public opinion endorsed Dorothy Thompson, the famous columnist and writer, who declared for Roosevelt. Her reasons for coming out for him: his experience, his prestige in the democratic world, her faith in his ability to be a very great man in an emergency, her belief that he has the confidence of the rank and file.

The Roosevelt administration has been given a mandate from the people to carry on the good work of social legislation, recovery and reform. For nearly eight years, Roosevelt has battled for liberal principles and he calls himself a "fighting liberal". The New Deal has grappled with a domestic problem whose magnitude and acuteness are without parallel in American history. Though many people criticised the methods adopted by the Administration, they accepted the underlying purpose of the New Deal—the building of a Social Service State. The defeat of Roosevelt would have meant not merely the defeat of his methods of social legislation but also that of his objectives. Therefore, even those who differed in the methods of domestic policy voted for Roosevelt. The beneficent purposes of the New Deal outweigh its imperfections. Further, neither Wendell Willkie nor his party was able to point

out that the New Deal was fundamentally unsound. The Republican Party offered nothing constructive as a substitute for the New Deal. No one had even sketched the outline of a programme on which a conservative administration must be a success. Their chief contention was that all their troubles are the fault of that so and so in the White House. There was no clear-cut meaningful alternative to the Roosevelt programme nor concrete substitute presented by the Republican candidate, but his election campaign resolved into a mere vote catching contest with poor bait. There is no use getting emotionally and rhetorically excited about the New Deal's failure to solve the problem of domestic prosperity without appealing for the support of an intelligent electorate with an offer of a definite plan for a "Better Deal". Further, a candidate who accepts the New Deal Reforms cannot make the New Deal an issue without offering a solution of the disorder in national economy that he claims to present. In opposing the philosophy of the New Deal, he asserted that industry, when given its head, can promote recovery and provide jobs to every-one. Wendell Willkie came out as a representative of Big Business, an apologist for capitalism that was restrained by New Deal legislation. He has been a utilities magnate, a Wall Street Lawyer, a man whose name has been connected with corporation attacks upon the Government. What chance has a man with Wall Street and Big Business support when it comes to a question of enlisting the sympathy or the votes of farmers, labourers and the masses?

The unprecedented success of Roosevelt meant national confidence in his foreign policy. The foreign policy plank of the

Republican Party was little more than a carbon copy of the New Deal policy. But the votes were cast in favour of Roosevelt, because with his long experience and insight into international affairs, he is expected to better safeguard the interests of the nation in this critical period. Roosevelt carried the country with him in his fight against isolationism, which took a definite turn since the repeal of the arms embargo. Had Willkie been elected, his isolationist followers would have restrained whole-hearted help to the Allies in the present war. So Roosevelt's election is a blessing to the Allies, for he has pledged speedy and increased assistance by way of military planes, destroyers and other material resources of the nation. President Roosevelt has been given a mandate to check Hitlerism and totalitarianism and save democracy in the Western Hemisphere and abroad. No wonder that the Axis Powers wanted to see Roosevelt defeated. His re-election has confounded the Axis partners and propagandists, who had led many Americans to fear that Roosevelt would drag the country into war. These proponents of the New Order in Europe and in the Far East have already been given serious warning and are greatly discomfited at his return to the White House. Britain's hands have been strengthened, not only in the West but also in the Far East.

The threatened menace or Nazi-Fascist aggression in the Western Hemisphere and Far East, Italian entry into the war and invasion of Greece certainly prompted thousands of hesitating voters to throw their weight on the side of Roosevelt in his fight against totalitarianism. Roosevelt has brought home to the minds of his

people that instead of being paralysed by fear, they should act promptly and positively upon the inescapable fact that Hitler and his allies are at war with American civilization, the American hemisphere, just as surely as they are at war with Britain. As a result of the election, U. S. A. policy toward the war has become more definite.

Roosevelt is pledged to keep America out of war; but in increasing help to Britain, America is virtually at war with Hitler. In this connection, it may be well to remember the words of President Woodrow Wilson (before his election for a second term) on January 26, 1916: "You may count upon my heart and resolution to keep you out of war." But what happened nearly six months later? Whether history will repeat itself depends on the turn of world events. But whatever happens now, as before, the policy of the U. S. will have much to do with the course of the War. There are proposals to further amend the Neutrality Act so that American vessels may take supplies to Britain. There is some plan to evade the Johnson Act and the "cash and carry clause" either by amendment of the law or by granting loan to Britain indirectly through the Netherlands Government, for instance. The actualization of these possibilities may be the first step to open conflict. Roosevelt has already become the arch-enemy of the Dictators, and Hitler fears him more than Churchill.

While directing his chief attention to foreign policy, there are those who fear that domestic affairs may be neglected or sacrificed for the sake of defence. John L. Lewis, the Labour leader of the C. I. O.

accused the President of trying to create prosperity by manufacturing armaments. Since Roosevelt's re-election, he has resigned from the Presidentship of the Congress of Industrial Organisation as a protest. Roosevelt has pledged: "We need not swap the gain of better living for the gain of better defence. I propose to retain the one and gain the other." But it must be noted that the drive for military preparedness has already given birth to a parallel drive for the repeal of social legislation. It remains to be seen whether he can make good his word to protect the nation against the appearance of munitions millionaires and the destruction of safeguards to labour, the unemployed and the aged.

Having broken the unprecedented third-term limit, there are those who fear that Roosevelt is getting dictatorial powers. But, as Harold Laski points out, great power makes great leadership possible and both internally and externally the President requires power to act in the interests of the American people as a whole, overriding the sectional interests that dominate the Congress. With the outbreak of the war in Europe, all ranks closed in and in one sense it is a nation unified by a military psychology under the leadership of the President who is also commander-in-chief of the army and navy. The history of dictatorships in the modern world shows that they have not crept up inside governments of democracies through the gradual increase of the powers of the executive. The heritage of Franklin Roosevelt, and conditions in the United States, avert any possible danger of dictatorship.

OUR ANCIENT INSTITUTIONS

BY PROF. DR. RAGHU VIRA, M.A., Ph.D., D.Litt., et Phil. (London)

(Director, The International Academy of Indian Culture, Lahore)

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TO develop an India of the future it is essential to pay attention to the many varied institutions which have been developed in India during the course of her very long history. Some of the institutions which have lost their vitality and life values have to be re-organised. Some others have to be given even a new direction so as to make them more useful for our own age. Pilgrimage is one of the many such institutions.

In ancient times pilgrimage was the expression of several mental and spiritual attitudes. On the one hand there was a sacrifice of one's business and time, on the other there was the courting of risks of all sorts. The end was the acquisition of holiness and purity gathered together in un-bounded measure from the turmoil and dangers of the journey through wild jungles and barren deserts, gathered from the company of saints and masters encountered on the way and finally gathered at the holy banks of Tirthas through contacts, human, sub-human and super-human. An Indian place of pilgrimage was always a tirtha, which signifies "a crossing over", physically through and over water, spiritually through and over darkness. Besides water, the Guru, the spiritual preacher was equally recognised as the tirtha. Our places of pilgrimage provided both the water as well as the gurus. Water also stands for purity. In purifying the body it helps in the purification of the soul.

Improvement in travel has minimised to the extreme the charm and the

sanctity, the risk and the purity of pilgrimage. Now it is not the adventurous soul or the yearning soul which undertakes pilgrimage. Anybody who can afford a few rupees can easily reach any place of pilgrimage within a very short time. When he has reached his destination, he finds more of rogues and scoundrels than of holy men. The water is dirty. The food is dirty. There are epidemics of ugly type.

In ancient times pilgrimages served the following purposes in the vastness of our life:—

1. People could get away from the narrowness of their personal surroundings for the pretty long time, at least a few months.

2. It was an occasion for bringing out the best in man when left to his own in the midst of free nature, which at times proved to be extremely hospitable and at others extremely threatening with its lions and tigers and obnoxious mosquitoes and leaches. No road, no hotels.

3. All this was suffered to one end, that of elevating one's self higher and higher.

4. Whatever was beautiful and grand was drunk deep, because it was met with after such a long quest and hard effort. Whatever was beautiful in humanity or in other words whatever was divine, one was really prepared on account of his eagerness to accept and to own. Who can doubt that a large number of these ancient pilgrims found solace and wisdom,

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while we might safely say that today it is hard to find any one who was really benefitted either by the journey or by the sights and contacts at the actual places of pilgrimage.

There is another side which concerns us today more than ever; that is the intellectual widening of our horizon into the great expanse of our civilisation. It has been questioned a hundred and one times whether India is a unity. The diversity of languages, the diversity of customs and manners, is so baffling that this unity is seriously questionable. This thing was realised by our ancients thousands of years ago and was bridged over in various ways. The roaming teachers and ascetics were the uniting bond of India. This was supplemented by the stream of pilgrims carrying with them better understanding and deeper humanity than can ever be realised in any other way. From Rameshwaram up to Kailash, India was one.

But there has been a greater India, the memory of which has never been anything but faint. The ancients showed us the twofold way of maintaining the unity of culture, the wandering teachers and the yearning pilgrims, one anxious to teach, the other anxious to grasp and learn. The system must be resuscitated with new vigour. It is only vigour which brings success. So with vigour the system has to be revived, our teachers and pilgrims have once again to assume their sacred role of uniting with India its forgotten and dismembered parts. There may be 10 different governments ruling over its different parts; that should not matter. But that has mattered so far. The British claim that they

have united the whole of India for the first time and brought the sense of unity of India in the minds of Indians. That is partially true, because otherwise why should we have forgotten the unity of India with greater India. Difference of Government has been responsible for our forgetfulness. This will be illustrated properly by mentioning the names of the different countries which form greater India: Japan, Korea, Manchuria, Mongolia, China, Tibet, Burmah, Siam, Indo-China, Malaya, Java, Sumatra, Bali, Lombok, Borneo, and Ceylon. Even Burmah, Ceylon and Malaya are politically disconnected from India. While the East Indies have been under Dutch control, Indo-China has been occupied by the French. Siam has its own Government. Similarly Tibet and Japan. China is partially still independent, while Manchuria and Korea are in the grips of Japan. Mongolia is partially Sovietised. In spite of the difference in the political control of these countries inhabited by diverse people, the Indian culture still remains as the great bond of union. Political boundaries have been changing for the last 2,000 years ever since Indian culture spread to these countries. Different dynasties have ruled over them, sometimes they have been free and sometimes dependent. But Indian culture has come down as one continuous flow. The only tragic thing has been that for centuries past the people have altogether lost consciousness of their connection with India. The last pilgrims from China to India came in the 10th century. After that the Islamic hordes became a permanent barrier for any civilised and peaceful intercourse between Central Asia and India. India has also stopped sending her missions to

these northern lands. Even in the case of Tibet, intercourse has become restricted to the extreme. But the deciding factor in cutting India from her Colonies in the north has been the disappearance of Buddhism from the land of its origin. The Chinese and other neighbouring peoples, who had gladly accepted all hardships of the long and arduous journey to India, what interest and love could they retain for India when Buddhism was no longer here. The same applies to Tibet, Burmah and Ceylon. There has always been intercourse of culture. We no longer send teachers and we no longer get pilgrims. The glory of India lies in the distribution of spiritual gifts. When we withhold these gifts, we have no right to expect any thing. We cannot go on banking what our ancients did for us. There is again a wave in the different Buddhist countries, and they are once again undertaking pilgrimage to India, but these pilgrims pay their entire homage to ancient India and to ancient monuments of India and none to present India.

The purpose of my writing these sentences is, however, a bit more than has been indicated so far. Indians themselves must accept the role of pilgrims to these lands where vast and grand monuments of her ancient culture stand, proclaiming their eternal message to the world. These monuments lie deserted and uncared for. They lie in the midst of jungle, birds and beasts reside in their

shattered grandeur and holiness. The loving and devoted hand of man has long disappeared. In place of light there is constant darkness. Would the Indians not once again go and devote their honest care on these monuments, restore them back to their pristine glory and establish them afresh for diffusing India's message to the inhabitants of these countries? The idleness and the infamy of a thousand years or even more are to be made 'good'. We should be starting shiploads of pilgrims and teachers to all these countries year after year carrying with them goodwill and understanding. People who can afford should come forward as pioneers of this great work, scholars and explorers have to contribute their strength. Artists are equally necessary. For not only beauty which resides in the soul of man but also a great art shelters India's spirituality. Nowhere in the world has art served humanity in its different functions of nobility has in our culture. We need priests who will once again light new lamps and will not let them die out again. No Government can stand in our way. It is only our own wretchedness which blocks the way. All over India, from every province, pilgrims in large numbers should be forthcoming to undertake these journeys full of romance, promising new lands and new peoples, who are waiting to honour you. I should like very much to be in communication with people who are prepared to do so.

PAKISTAN: ITS IMPLICATIONS

BY MR. C. V. H. RAO

(Editor, "Indian Nation", Patna)

ONE point that emerged out of the Viceroy-Jinnah correspondence recently released was that the Viceroy was not prepared to countenance the claim of the Muslim League for making the Pakistan scheme adumbrated by the League at its last annual session at Lahore a live issue during the pendency of the war or to consider it a matter for immediate decision. He, of course, agreed that the question could be brought up in the course of the constitutional discussions that will take place after the war when the whole scheme of the Government of India Act of 1935 would be open for review. The attitude of the Hindu Mahasabha, which has expressed uncompromising opposition to Pakistan, was also, perhaps, responsible, in part at least, for the Viceroy's reluctance to accept Mr. Jinnah's demand for recognition of the separate Muslim nation or, in other words, the two nations' theory. Nevertheless, the League Pakistan propaganda has in a way entered on a new and intensified phase with the appointment of a Pakistan Deputation to tour Bihar, the United Provinces, the Central Provinces and other provinces and create enthusiasm for the scheme among the Muslim masses of these provinces. It may be noted that the deputation is to confine its propaganda mainly to those provinces where the Muslims are in a minority in the population and where during the regime of the Congress ministries, it was loudly proclaimed that atrocities were perpetrated against Muslims by the latter.

The work done by the deputation in Bihar and the United Provinces so far

has been more to denounce the Congress and the Hindus—especially the former—for their alleged hostility to the Muslims than to put forward dispassionate and convincing arguments in support of the Pakistan scheme. Nevertheless the more important implications of the scheme, which have remained utterly obscure so far, should be drawn attention to. Some of the earlier writers on the subject have traced the origin of the word 'Pakistan' to the initial letters of the Punjab, Afghanistan, Kashmir, Sind and the last three letters of Baluchistan. It is claimed that these territories are predominantly Muslim populated for the last twelve hundred years, and that they have a history, civilisation and culture of their own distinct and separate from the rest of India or 'Hindustan' as it is called. The River Jamuna is the demarcating line between these two territories of 'Pakistan' and 'Hindustan', according to these writers. It may have been, the Pakistanites argue, that in the first few centuries after Christ, Hindu empires and Hindu civilisation and culture flourished in these areas as in other parts of India; but ever since the 8th century A.D., the Hindus have been a minority community there. The area comprised in the territorial divisions mentioned above is for the Muslims, *Dar-ul-Islam* or 'the Land of the Pious', the homeland of the Muslims, where they intend to be the sovereign people while the non-Muslim population in these areas is expected to be under the protection of the Faithful. The total population of the would-be Pakistan is about

42 millions, of which nearly 32 millions are Muslims and, therefore, they constitute more than 80 per cent. of the population and this is the principal argument on which they base their claim to a separate nation. The Muslims, it is further claimed, went to other parts of Hindustan as conquerors and rulers though with the rise of the British, their empire ceased and they remained in the conquered areas as a minority. In so far as that is so, they are entitled to sufficient and ample—which in reality means more than sufficient and ample—safeguards appropriate to the dignity of a race which once ruled over them.

The Muslim League has not so far worked out the details of the Pakistan scheme which was adopted officially by it at its Lahore session in December 1939. But if and when the League comes to the stage of discussing and filling in the practical details, it is very likely to find itself pitted against two or three rocks of difficulties of a particularly dangerous type on which it is likely to wreck itself. At the moment these factors I am mentioning to demonstrate, if not the obvious impracticability of the idea at least the very serious nature of the difficulties inherent in its implementation. In the first place, there is the question of what will happen to the minority populations in the areas where the independent sovereign Muslim States are to be established. In the proposed state in the North-West these minorities, the two most important of which are the Hindus and the Sikhs, constitute about 32 per cent. of the population while in the North-East state of Bengal and Assam, the Hindu minority will be even larger. Unless the Pakistan

States can arrange for a wholesale migration of these minority populations from their territories, which is wholly impossible, or arrange for a mutual exchange of populations with the Hindu states, they will only aggravate the seriousness of the minorities problem. An alternative is of course to reduce the Hindu and Sikh minorities to a position of complete subordination to the majority, but this will in no case be tolerated at least so far as the Punjab is concerned, either by the highly advanced Hindu community or the virile and martial community of Sikhs. They will demand ample and effective safeguards and political and other rights which the sovereign Muslim states will have to grant to them or these latter will have to experience the consequences of having dissatisfied and restless sections within the body politic, which will be a source of grave danger to the stability of the State itself. There is nothing so far in what the Pakistan propagandists have been saying to warrant the conclusion that they contemplate either wholesale migration of Hindus from the Pakistan states or a mutual exchange of populations between themselves and the Hindustan states. In such a case they will have to concede all the safeguards and rights which the minority communities will demand, which means in effect that the position will not be at all different under Pakistan than what it is at present. In a democratic constitution such as India is aspiring for, one of the principal conditions will be the introduction of adequate constitutional safeguards for the minority communities wherever they may be. That proposition has been accepted both by the British Government through the Viceroy and by the Congress, though

the Congress has mentioned only the Muslim community as being entitled to decide upon the safeguards that will be necessary for it. There can thus be no special virtue in demanding the cutting up of the country into Muslim zones and Hindu zones and setting up what are called independent Muslim states when the arrangements for the protection of minority rights, which are the principal bone of contention now and for the securing of which the Pakistan scheme has been formulated, are to be the same under that scheme as under any other democratic constitution for the whole country.

Nor is there any indication so far that the Muslim minority populations in the Hindu majority provinces are very anxious to leave their hearths and homes and migrate wholesale to the Pakistan areas. In fact except for some vocal, vociferous Muslim League politicians in Bihar and the United Provinces, the vast majority of the Muslims have displayed remarkably little enthusiasm for Pakistan. They have remained indifferent to it so far, while some prominent Muslims in both these provinces, even as Sir Sikandar Hayat Khan in the Punjab, have never concealed their disapprobation of and disagreement with the Pakistan propaganda. It is this apathy on the part of the Muslims in these two important Hindu majority provinces that has been partly responsible for the decision of the League to send out a propaganda deputation to tour these areas and whip up enthusiasm for Pakistan among the former. Of course, Muslims in these Hindu majority provinces want to have safeguards and protection for their rights and no one denies that they are entitled to them. In Bihar, for example, though the Muslims are only

13 per cent. of the population, their representation in the Legislature and in the Services is as much as 25 or even 30 per cent. in some cases, and no Muslim can deny that it is not either adequate or satisfactory. If, however, Pakistan is forced upon India as a result of bitterness or violence, there is a legitimate apprehension among the Bihar Muslims that they will have to face a hard time with the Hindu majority. Pakistanites assure the Muslim co-religionists that they have nothing to fear from the majority community in the Hindustan provinces so long as there are Hindu minorities in the Pakistan provinces, the obvious implication of the assurance being that if the Muslims in the former are not properly treated by the Hindus, the Hindu minority in the latter will be made to feel the pinch and thus the equilibrium will be restored. It is extremely problematical whether the Muslim minorities in Bihar, the U. P., Madras or the Central Provinces will feel that this indirect and rather unsafe method of having their rights safeguarded is a satisfactory one on which any reliance can be placed.

Next to the problem of the minorities, the two other problems that will confront the new sovereign and independent Muslim states will be those of finance and defence. The whole of India is one entity at present and is under one Central Government; even so the defence of her frontiers is a matter of extreme difficulty and considerable concern today to that Government. Under the scheme of two sovereign Indias, the question will inevitably arise as to which part of India's will be the responsibility for the defence

of the frontiers. The possibility cannot be overlooked of the Muslim state in the North-West joining hands with other Islamic countries further West and proving a menace to Hindustan. Will the latter be entitled to post her armies at the North-West frontier to prevent this infiltration of a combined Islamic onslaught on her integrity or will she be forced to defend herself only when the menace actually reaches her frontiers? In the latter case there will be perpetual need for Hindustan being prepared for a conflict with Pakistan, which means a state of civil strife between the two Indias and a direct encouragement to any aggressor to profit by their weakness.

Nor is it possible to be rest assured that economically and financially the Pakistan States will be self-sufficient. Pakistanites console themselves with the comforting thought that when these areas are properly and systematically developed and their natural resources fully and systematically exploited, they will become rich territories and capable of maintaining an efficient administrative machinery and of undertaking ameliorative measures for the people's benefit. It is indubitable that these areas and their resources are susceptible of development, as in fact many areas in other parts of India and their resources are susceptible. Even so, it will not only take a number of years to do it, but even after it is done it may be that the results will not be commensurate with expectations. They will have to go through the painful experiences of unbalanced budgets, financial disequilibria and economic crises and other incidental evils for which nominal political independence may not be sufficient compensation.

And, lastly, there is the question of the Muslim Indian States in the Hindu majority areas, which will be like small islands in the midst of an engirdling sea of Hindustan. What will happen to a state like Hyderabad in case all the Hindustan provinces constitute themselves into a Hindu federation? Will Hyderabad join that federation or will it hold aloof or will it coalesce with the Pakistan states in forming a Muslim federation? In the latter case how will adjustments be possible as regards tariff barriers, defence and other vital matters involving considerable administrative difficulties? Similarly what will happen to a state like Kashmir which is to be an integrate part of Pakistan but which is at present ruled by a Hindu Prince? If the latter is to be liquidated, it will be legitimate to demand that the Hyderabad state also should be liquidated because the vast majority of the Hyderabad subjects are Hindus. No attention has been bestowed on these highly complicated problems so far.

The Lahore resolution of the Muslim League, which constitutes at the moment the first precise demand for the division of India into two States, Hindu and Muslim, has not yet been explained in detail by any Muslim Leaguer. Nevertheless we have repeated assertions by Leaguers that Pakistan offers the only honorable solution for the age-old Hindu-Muslim problem and that they are prepared to shed their blood for the attainment of the ideal. Muslim poets and a few other writers may have dreamed of a separate and independent Muslim State in India to compensate for the loss of the Muslim Empire in India. But in its recent manifestations it is mainly the result of

the Muslim League's anxiety to secure a preponderating influence over Muslim opinion and the sequel to the political ambitions of some of its leaders. But when its implications are worked out, it will be found that it is a highly disintegrating ideal aiming at the vivisection of India without benefitting either the Muslims or the Hindus. It will in fact raise a far greater number of new problems pertaining to Hindu-Muslim relations and majority and minority relations than it will solve and will not provide any kind of satisfactory remedy of the difficult problem of safeguarding the interests of the Muslim minority, which, in fact, can be the only *raison d'être* for Pakistan.

But while some of the Muslim poets and writers may have dreamt of the two nations' idea to satisfy their imagination about the revival of the glorious days of Muslim domination in India, while a predominant section of Muslim Leaguers advocate it and proclaim their determination to see it become an accomplished fact in order to realise their political ambitions, notwithstanding the indubitable fact that they are flying thereby in the face of history, it is puzzling as to why the Britishers should countenance the scheme which amounts to a repudiation of their own efforts through nearly a century and a half to build up a united India. It is a mystery which remains to be explained.

NAZI TOTALITARIANISM

BY PROF. P. J. THOMAS, D. PHIL. (Oxon), M.L.C.

IN the nineteenth century, the State was a mere policeman, but in the twentieth, it has extended its authority over all directions, largely due to the force of economic influences, and to-day, over a large part of Europe, the State has become totalitarian. Soviet Russia was the first to establish such a State in modern times and communism was the driving force. Since then Italy and Germany have adopted totalitarianism, which although different in methods is similar in essence to the Russian political model. Portugal and Spain have also scrapped democracy and are ruled by dictators, but they have not adopted totalitarianism of the kind prevailing in the three States just mentioned. Democracy has thus fallen on evil days, and France, which was its home, has had to shelve,

if not abandon, it. Even in Great Britain and the U. S. A. democracy is now working under severe restrictions.

Mussolini has supplied the motto for totalitarianism, although he is not the worst of the totalitarians. "Nothing outside the State, nothing against the State, everything within the State, everything for the State." In other words the State must be all in all. The worst tyrants of the ancient or the Middle Ages had not a fraction of the power now wielded by the dictators. Louis XIV said *L'état c'est moi*, but he had little real power compared with Hitler or Stalin. It was not because Louis XIV did not want it, but because he had not the means of acquiring and effectively carrying out such power. Modern science has forged the

weapons for totalitarianism and dictatorship—stern repression and shameless propaganda. There is only one party possible in the totalitarian State and that party must run the government according to its own ideology. All the liberties, civil and political, recognized in democracy are mercilessly scrapped in the totalitarian State, and only one man has any liberties, and that man is the dictator himself.

SOVIETISM AND NAZISM

It is true that Soviet Russia was the first country to establish totalitarianism of the modern type; it is also true that Fascism and Nazism came as a reaction against Sovietism. But the reaction has gone much further and nowhere has totalitarianism reached such extreme limits as in Nazi Germany. When compared to the Nazi model, the totalitarianism of Italy, and even that of Russia, now looks mild. While it is true that both Sovietism and Nazism are against liberty and are injurious, it must be admitted that the Soviet, at least in theory, stands for equality and cosmopolitanism, but the Nazi scoffs at equality, claims divine right for the Nordic race and considers other races as inferior breeds. The Soviet dictator is only the supreme leader; but the Nazi Fuehrer is much more than a leader—he is God's own chosen vicegerant. Divorces may be easy in Russia, but the number of divorces is not tremendously large. In Germany, owing to a craze for the increase of population, immoral practices are openly preached and perhaps practised. Russia has no need for God or religion, but Germany has gone one better by enthroning a racial God and investing the Fuehrer with divine powers. The new blood-and-land cult of Germany is certainly more

injurious than the most obdurate atheism. Sovietism has been changing and may perhaps eventually evolve into a high-grade State-socialism, but Nazism is the rake's progress and is bound to end in a smash-up.

THE NAZI DRIVE

I happened to be in Germany in the three critical years of its recent history, namely, 1922, 1928 and 1935, and can claim some personal knowledge regarding the circumstances that led to Nazi revolution and the drastic political and economic changes that it ushered in. In 1922, Germany was at the nadir of her economic fortunes, owing greatly to the despondency resulting from defeat in the world war and to the impoverishment of the middle classes by an unexampled inflation proceeding on a fantastic tempo. However, owing largely to foreign loans, German industry revived and a high state of prosperity came over the country by 1928-29. But the world economic crisis stemmed the tide of this prosperity drive and as the foreign loans stopped, German industry was plunged into a perilous condition and the number of the unemployed rose to 6 millions. Brüning's deflation policy further aggravated the situation. All this facilitated the Nazis coming into power in 1933.

Before 1933, Germany was ruled by a democracy and the Government was largely controlled by the people organised in various parties, but in 1933, the country came under the rule of one party led by one man—Adolf Hitler. All the old parties were abolished and the National Socialist Party (Nazi) made itself the government. The Reichstag (Parliament) now meets only to register Hitler's decrees, and that too only occasionally. Before 1933, Germany witnessed an efflorescence of

Christian life. The Catholic Church, the most numerous and compact religious body there, carried on a vigorous spiritual and social activity through a large number of powerful country-wide organisations. The Centre Party largely represented Catholic opinion. The Nazis set up a totalitarian State and abolished everything which went against their interests. Thus the Centre Party was killed and most of the Catholic organisations were put an end to.

HUMAN SOUL IN CHAINS

The result has been the enslavement of the human soul in Germany. In the universities I visited in 1935, Nazi ideas had corrupted learning, and I heard learned professors affirming in their lectures that might was right. At the entrance to many universities was a large portrait of Hitler and every student or teacher who went in had to bow to it, failing which he was expelled. Many professors whom I had met in Germany in 1928—not all Jews—were expelled or are in concentration camps.

Under Nazism, the whole life is regimented by the State. The inexorable character of this regimentation can be seen from the following statement by a Nazi leader:—"We begin with the child when he is three years old. As soon as he begins to think he gets a little flag put in his hand; then follows the school, the Hitler Youth, the S. A. and military training. We don't let him go till he dies, whether he likes it or not." The State takes such a strong hold of the youth that he or she is expected to give secret information to the Gestapo regarding their parents' activities. Even Sparta in her halcyon days did not claim such a complete control over her youth. The life

of the grown-up man or woman is also equally regimented. The State prescribes from time to time what food to eat, what clothes to wear, what books to read, what meetings to attend, etc.

TOTAL WAR

All this regimentation is with a purpose—to prepare Germany for aggression. Germans have always believed that they were destined to rule the world, and this idea has found expression in German thought for a long time. The Nazis have caught hold of this idea and from their very inception they have been harping on this theme, and the whole of their programme is aimed to that end. Germany needs lebensraum (living space), and it is her birthright to acquire fresh territories, even by extinguishing or enslaving the inhabitants therein. (After all, those non-Aryan races are inferior people.) Therefore the Nazis set to work from 1933 to rearm Germany, and this has involved complete regimentation of men and material, because the war is to be a "total war", i.e., a war in which the whole nation and its resources are utilized to the full. Total war is the inevitable counterpart of the totalitarian State.

GUNS OR BUTTER

This total war has involved not only the drilling and dragooning of men, women and children, but also the utilization of all the resources for military purposes. Modern warfare requires large quantities of metals, textiles and foodstuffs. It also involves the conversion of a vast quantity of foodstuffs for making military equipment. A great deal of fats, starch, rubber, etc. are required for armament. Therefore oils which otherwise would

have been used for food (as margarine, etc.) have gone into the armament industry. Similarly foodgrains have been used for making starch, sugar for glycerine, potato for power alcohol. As Germany has no internal supplies of rubber and petrol, such articles had to be made synthetically, and this has been done by using material which would otherwise have been used for ordinary consumption. Field-Marshal Goering's poser, "Guns or butter?", has therefore a real meaning and the whole policy has severely limited the supply of consumption goods for the civilian population.

"HEIL HUNGER"

The result has been hunger and starvation. In a recent book, "Heil Hunger", Dr. Martin Gampert draws a picture of Germany starved alike of mental and

physical nourishment, doped, intoxicated and driven like galley slaves and left in a state of nervous prostration. How long can this go on? In spite of the most careful propaganda, the truth is bound to dawn on the German people, and however intoxicated with power the war lords may be, the common people are sure to come to their senses soon.

The tide may turn any day. And then the consequences may be disastrous, not only to the Hitler regime, not only to the Nazi ideology, but to the German people as a whole. The position of the occupied territories is also pitiable. With imminent starvation staring in the face, Europe in the coming winter will have a terrible time. America may perhaps avert this, if they play their cards effectively, and in good time.

INFLUENCES ON RABINDRANATH

BY MR. UMA NATH BHATTACHARYYA

IT is interesting to study the influences of the indigenous and foreign literature over Rabindranath. In this short discourse



SIR RABINDRANATH TAGORE

I intend to discuss the Indian influences only. But before entering into this

discussion, it must not be forgotten that all powerful writers, particularly not-of-born poets like Rabindranath, stand on their own legs and walk with great freedom in the realm of literature. Those who are true poets illumine every object of the world with the light of their genius. The poets need not like the moon borrow light from others. Cannot a poet influence another then?

The answer to this question is that a poet may be influenced by another indirectly and without his knowledge, but he is not wakeful and conscious of it. Though every poet is a born poet, yet it requires time for the unfoldment of his genius and the development of his poetic faculty. Before attaining the end, in course of

this unfoldment and before he makes out his own path, it is but natural that a poet may more or less be influenced by his predecessors whose works are fascinating to him. It is not at all a loss of prestige to confess this indebtedness. It is the weak who shirk from taking loans, for they know for certain that it will never be possible for them to make them free from this debt. But those who are strong and have the self-confidence raise loans according to their requirement and repay it to the farthing with interest. In the works of Kalidas, the influence of the authors of the *Ramayana* and the *Skandapurana* can be seen; on Shakespeare the influence of Marlowes, on Ynanadas and Govindadas that of Chandidas and Vidyapati, respectively, can well be discovered. There are other instances as well. These poets are born poets, one and all. Basing their writings on the models of their predecessors, they have created exquisitely wonderful literature of their own by dint of their own poetic power in which the new sublimity has completely enveloped the past. Materials are lying everywhere in this wide world, but to build, to shape, to create, to reveal and to elevate are the sacred trusts of the poets. In the literary world there is no such word called stealth. Assimilation is the term which is found there. In other words, it may be called asset or acquisition.

In studying the life-history of Rabindranath, it is seen that this great scholar-poet has gathered materials for his works from many excellent literatures of the world and has created new and matchless forms of literature. As he read the *Ramayana* and *Mahabharat* from his early boyhood, these immortal epics of Valmiki

and Vyasa left a very deep impression on his heart as on so many other poets of this sub-continent. Innumerable instances can be quoted from Tagore, where the influence of the works of those two world-figures can be noticed. 'Language and Rhyme', 'Genius of Valmiki', 'To Ahalya', 'Coronation of Love', 'Meeting between Karna and Kunti', 'Appeal of Gandhari', 'Farewell from Heaven', etc., may be mentioned in this connection.

The second great influence upon Rabindranath is that of the Vaisnava poets of Bengal. From his early youth, Rabindranath mastered the poems of these poets so perfectly that he imbibed the words and tones, melody and rhyme, language and ideas of these lyrics and making them his own, wrote a book of lyrics called "Songs of Vanu-singha". In style and vocabulary this book is exactly like that of the ancient vaisnabe-school of poets of 15th and 16th centuries whose songs and lyrics have acquired a very prominent place in world-lyrics. The born-singer, Rabindranath, has drunk deep at the spring of his country's poetry. In very many places of his poems the influence of the works of these poets is found. Vaisnava poems are essentially love-poems. Poet Rabindranath has presented these peerless and exquisite lyrics of love in a wonderfully novel style and enchanting form.

The third influence over Rabindranath is that of Beharilal, the greatest lyrist of pre-Rabindra era. It was Beharilal who gilt the new horizon and opened a new vista in the field of modern Bengali lyrical poems. He saw nature in new perspective. Insatiable thirst for the Eternal Beauty was the source of his inspiration. In his

young age, Rabindranath came in contact with this poet and was greatly influenced by him. From Beharilal, he got the message of beauty-worship. In fact, many say that Beharilal was the first master of Tagore. In many poems of his early youth including "Golden-boat", the idea and rhymes of Beharilal's 'Sarada-mangal' and 'Banga-sundari' can easily be traced.

But influence of Kalidas, the greatest poet of India, is the strongest on Rabindranath. The two poets of India who have become world-favourites are the poets of Sakuntala and Gitanjali. Rabindranath is the worthy heir of Kalidas and has ably inherited his literary spirits. In his description of Nature and Indian seasons, particularly of the Rainy season, Kalidas is unsurpassed in poetry. Rabindranath too is the poet of 'cycle of seasons', 'studio and amphitheatre of seasons'. In endless way he has described the inward and the outward beauties of the rainy season. The other seasons also have found a new meaning and beauty in his poems and songs. These two poets have not only pictured the outward beauty of Nature, but have suggested the mysterious link that exists between Nature and human heart. 'Cloud-message', 'Birth of Kumar', 'Ideal World' 'Poetry', 'Dream' and others are a few examples where Kalidas' hand can be detected.

In describing the feminine beauty, Kalidas is second to none. Directly or indirectly he has described woman and her charms in many ways. He has never lost any opportunity of picturing her. Like Kalidas, Rabindranath is also a poet-worshipper of beauty. His pen has lent an uncommon enchantment in the description of beauty. Rabindranath also has

given womanhood a prominent place in his works and has idealised it.

The fifth influence over Rabindranath is that of folk-songs, folk-lore, songs of Bowls and mendicants and legends and traditions of Bengal. Without the magic touch of the songs of one's own native land, it is not possible to achieve anything great in the field of songs. Rabindranath's popularity among the masses rests mainly on the wonderful spell of his songs. By drinking deep at the spring of this indigenous songs of his motherland, this child of songs has breathed into a new wonderland of songs and has sung so madly well that we can hardly check ourselves in going merrily round him equally intoxicated when we read this class of his songs. Whatever he has touched, he has gifted it with uncommon sublimity and has imprinted on it the most exquisite works of art by his genius and originality. In "Manasi" and "Sisu", he has given a very charming picture of the folk-tale world and the Bengali fairyland.

Besides the five influences enumerated above, there are two others by far the grandest Indian influences over Rabindranath. These, I mean, are the influences of the Vedas and the Upanishads, the most sacred heritage of our country and the influence of Buddhism and the Buddhist literatures. Rabindranath had the good fortune of being born in a distinguished family where from his infancy he was brought up in the life-giving atmosphere of the Vedas and the Upanishads. The teaching of these holy books is to realise the True, the Good and the Beautiful in life. The poet learnt that in order to enjoy this life of ours, we

must live in complete harmony with Nature. In fact, he has spent many a day and moonlit night in peaceful abode of Nature amidst the beautiful tree and creepers by the side of gentle rivulets and flooded streams, now enjoying the fragrance of flowers and murmuring ripples of brooks and songs of birds and now the fearfully dancing waves of the rivers, becoming one, as it were, with light and shade, rays of the sun and light of the moon, the earth and the sky and land and water, the entire creation so to speak. This union and intimacy with Nature has sweetened his poetry. Our poet has realised the Joyous One in his life and has felt Him within his heart. This will be brought home to any one, who will study his 'Gitanjali', 'Gitali', 'Naibedya' and 'Religious songs'.

I shall conclude this essay briefly touching on the Buddhist influence. By his pity and sympathy for every living

being and by his astonishing example of renunciation, Lord Buddha has set a very noble ideal before the world. Man's spiritual life has been greatly enriched by him. His teachings are still working in the world to this day and shaping the lives and moulding the characters of thousands. This life and teaching of Buddha has struck a chord of his heart and the poet has written several ballads and narrative poems on legends and tales of Buddhist era to glorify his great renunciation. Thus it is seen that Rabindranath has collected precious gems from almost every place in order to decorate the shrine of the Goddess of Poetry, the ideal of his lady-love. In the hermitage of Bengali literature, this poet sage of India has brought into existence by his devotion a divine stream of thought and culture in which the current of all world literatures have entered in sweet peaceful harmony.

THE INDIAN PRESS

BY MR. POTHAN JOSEPH

—:O:—

AS a news-editor with the faculty for viewing events from different angles, Mrs. Margarita Barns made her mark more than ten years ago when with limited resources she maintained a news service to India from London with distinctive qualities. Her book on the Indian Press is a solid study of the growth of public opinion in India and will always have its place on the shelf of every newspaper office as a work of reference. Not that it is lacking in narrative interest, for the story of happenings given from Chapter 4 to Chapter 10 provides live

reading and forms an interesting record of the conflict between Authority and free opinion. There is a wealth of incident in the many devices used by Authority in its relations with organs of public opinion. Since circumstances have forced on the Indian Press another ordeal of censorship, it is well to recall that newspapers in India had in the past endured many restrictions which no doubt offended the dictum of Milton: "Give me the liberty to know, to utter, and to argue, freely according to my conscience, above all liberties."

Mrs. Barns* sails hugging the coast-line of political excitement in India. The struggle was of course for the realization of Milton's theme in the *Areopagatica*. In the beginning it was coloured by the fact that the East India Company had been a trading organisation but as the exposition proceeds to the middle of the book, we have a reporter's narration of the non-co-operation movement. The book is a personality-parade of administrators and adventurers in the earlier chapters while later full corroboration is given of its sub-title "A History of the Growth of Public Opinion in India." In the introduction of printing as an epoch-making event, Indians were not far behind the people of Europe. There was a lag of only one hundred years when Portuguese Jesuits arrived on the scene with the art of printing as an innovation. We had been accustomed to feats of memory and accomplishments of calligraphy. Aurangzeb is said to have copied the Quran during the heat of battle but the marvel of printing was the fast multiplication of copies. The Portuguese missionaries employed it for pious propaganda, but the business man was waiting round the corner to exploit printing as a trade, and journalism as a medium for publicity. The historical sense is sustained by Mrs. Barns with the parallelism she gives in respect of dates, a very serviceable feature which text-books of history should copy when students are taught Indian History in one period and European History in another. The East India Company was up against what may be called the spirit of Protestantism which, in matters besides religion, prompts the

instinct of free criticism characteristic of the British people.

Hicky who produced the *Gazette* in Calcutta, was a journalist and a trader while Buckingham silk, deported because of his effrontery, was the first combative type of journalist in India. He was the professional man. The "Natives of India", as the Minutes of the East India Company describe them, were fast assimilating the secrets of the English language and the tenets of liberty. Indians took to it. The existence of the "Vernacular press" signified the entry of a new force in Indian evolution. Though Lord Lytton wanted to torpedo it by law, a vertical split divided the Press into the Anglo-Indian Press and the Indian Press. Indian writers soaked in Victorian Liberalism later lost ground with the onset of the Non-co-operation Movement, but there was an organic growth in the cultivation of modernism and the adaptation of Western ideas through Indian journals. The process was arrested when the credentials of heroic action in politics had nothing in common with the learned standards of an earlier day. Mrs. Barns' book is crammed with facts as the bibliography attached to it must prove, and right in the middle we are taken to a turn when journalism as a profession and a refinement in life is obscured by a new species of agitation. The interest in the career of an Editor seems largely restricted in the book to the question whether he had been to jail. As an eye-witness, the Non-co-operation drama must have gripped Mrs. Barns as indeed her previous work on India would testify. The journalists gained prominence by what they did outside their office, "joining the movement". There is no allusion, for

instance, to the remarkable influence exerted by a person called K. Natarajan, while those of lesser worth squeeze their way into the volume because of the circumstance that they had courted arrest. Sachidananda Sinha is not there, but Mr. S. A. Brelvi is mentioned as one who went to jail and because of that Brelvi eclipses Horniman who, despite his yeoman service to journalism as a profession, does not catch the judge's eye. If any man wishes to get a vivid grasp of the contributions rendered by Indian journalists to journalism in their specific role regardless of jail-going distinction, he should wait for an enlarged edition of the book. Upon the growth of the law of the land touching the business of journalism, the author has written with a full grasp of the subject. At the stage preceding the Round Table Conference, we find Mrs. Barns right in her element as a first-class news-hawk and we have choice presentations from political literature and quotable documents. Mrs. Barns' effort is a record of monumental industry without a wasted word (in fact she is rather austere in the use of words), and credit must be given to her for original features of its construction as book. The author is no lover of anecdotes. It consists of very comprehensive material assembled and interpreted in the language of what may be called bloodless culture. The impression we get is that every statement of the author has been framed after full verification.

Just as conspicuous personalities in the development of Indian journalism do not figure in essential parts of the narrative, the author was never attracted to an exposition of the growth of features in the contents of newspapers. There is no vision of journalism as an adventure. Observations about policy, modes of presentation, scoops, display of news, pep-tonized writing, illustrations and cartoons find no place in the book to give it a

specialised interest. Another ground for complaint would be the omission to recognize the rise of technical journalism; for instance, neglect of a journal like the *Indian Finance* does not suit an exhaustive study of the tendencies of Indian journalism, but then politics, legal history and the elucidation of ideas form the active direction of the author's mental compass in the production of the book. In a work of eminent pioneership, we do not expect to see all we want and it is better to judge thankfully of what we get and not what we miss. There is nothing casual about its contents, and its compactness of presentation cannot be excelled.

Mrs. Barns' work is a creditable performance worthy of being treasured by all who are proud of the rise of journalism in India and the ideological nexus it has preserved for India in her relations with British thought and British institutions. The price of the book cannot be called cheap but then there is nothing cheap in it, and I congratulate Mrs. Barns on her thoroughness and craftsmanship.

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BY HELEN. J. ROLLES, B.A.

BACK again in India, it is difficult to realise that a few weeks ago we were in England, sharing physically as well as mentally the strain of being so to speak 'under fire'.

It is a far cry from the peaceful life of an upcountry station in the Ceded Districts to the strange atmosphere of a South Coast town in wartime England. But our leave took us home a few days before war started, so after six years of homesick longing for the beauty and quiet of the England countryside, we arrived to the gloom of the blackout and the almost unbearable anxiety of those first days when Germany's intentions regarding Poland were still uncertain.

In those few days of waiting an incredible amount of quiet activity was taking place. The distribution of gas-masks had already been made, but the few individuals who like ourselves had been out of the country were supplied with them; all tiny babies were issued with protective bags, and toddlers with 'Mickey Mouse' masks (an attempt at producing a less repulsive object by the simple expedient of using red and blue materials and adding a nose!).

The blackout was perfected in every town, village and remote homestead in Great Britain; and here I would state that those who have only seen the subdued lighting of places like Bombay cannot possibly imagine the intense darkness of the English blackout. Walking down the street by night is like visiting a City of the Dead; except on rare moonlight nights, it is impossible to see the shapes of houses or even the sides of the road. The night driver, literally taking his life in his hands, guides his way by a white

line painted in the middle of the high road, by instinct in country lanes, for his car lights are so effectively masked that it is impossible to see even the white line more than a yard or two ahead. And it must be remembered that in winter night begins to fall at 4 p.m.

Thousands of children were transferred from London and certain dangerous coastal areas to safer regions in the country. It is a tribute to the efficiency of the vast machinery set in motion for this large-scale evacuation that there was not one accident during the process. It is also a tribute to the adaptability of British families that so many hundreds of them have willingly taken for an indefinite period school-children, teachers, and mothers with babies, often with a very different social background, and sometimes with rather trying personal habits. And all this in addition to the Jewish, Polish and Czech refugees we were already entertaining before Britain entered the war. For example, the children of one London school were supporting a Basque child, a Polish boy and a Jewish refugee.

As usual, Britain's peculiar sense of humour came to her people's aid in the most trying moments. The outburst of new songs in the early days of the war . . . 'Run, Adolf, Run' . . . 'Roll out the barrel' (usually associated with the figure of Goering) . . . and above all, 'We're gonna hang out the washing on the Siegfried Line', all gently poking fun rather than abuse at 'Old Hitler' . . . and such descriptive names as 'Lord Haw-Haw', 'Mr. Nasty', 'Shivver Sister' and 'Chatterbug' came to stay. Humour appeared in most unlikely situations, as in

the case of two country women I saw looking into a china shop. "That's a pretty tea-set", remarked one. "It's all right," replied the other grudgingly, "but I ain't going to get no new tea-set with old 'Itler coming over. My old one's good enough for 'im."

The B. B. C. was a very great factor in keeping up public morale, and their programmes helped us through the long gloomy evenings spent in heavily curtained and shaded rooms in England's coldest winter for fifty years. However bad the news, their entertainers never failed us, and it was—and is—still possible daily to forget all the horror for a brief spell because of their courage and self-forgetfulness. The essential normality of life in England was due largely to their efforts to keep the old pleasant ways of England going with music, drama, nature talks, advice on reading, and topical talks on catering as well as inspiring religious addresses and sermons.

In a special broadcast, the King himself called his people to a day of prayer, and he and the Queen have been foremost in pleading for a return to religion. There is nobody in England who doubts their sincerity, and there can be nobody in England who does not feel that the Royal Couple are truly one with their people. No special precautions are taken for their safety; they move around during air-raids to cheer, encourage and help. Their home has been damaged, their children evacuated and their family affected by the dangers of war. The Duke of Kent missed a bomb by a matter of yards; the Duchess's cousin was killed outright in an air-raid. The Duchess herself has completed her training (incognito) as a nurse for the wounded,

One of the remarkable things about this war is the great corporate effort that is being made and the tremendous unifying influence it has on the population. All are in it together; the hundreds of A. R. P. workers, men and women voluntarily sitting up at night after working 'all out' by day and already sacrificing all holidays—the humble shop-keeper who keeps a cigarette box on the counter and asks each purchaser of a new packet to "put one in for the boys"—men toiling on their allotments in their spare time—women knitting on trains and buses—housewives saving waste-paper, cartons and tinfoil, and refusing to waste a crumb of food—tradesmen patiently cutting out endless tiny tickets from ration books—children bravely leaving home and parents for a remote village or a safer country—and parents still more bravely sending them while they themselves stay at their posts.

One evening an extremely ragged and dirty little boy turned up at my back door asking for tinfoil. He had a large and heavy sack with him, too heavy for such a small boy, and after adding my small contribution I asked how far he had to carry it, remarking that it was too big for him. He looked at me with amazement mingled with scorn. "Who'd fetch it if I didn't?" he said. "I collects regular. "The 'ospital depends on me."

It is usually said, and said with reason, that war unleashes man's worst passions and destroys morality. However this may be, this particular phase of this war is undoubtedly purifying and strengthening the moral fibre of Britain. Unity of purpose, patience and cheerfulness under danger and suspense, and above

all unfaltering resolution to see this through, to give all, if necessary, to save not only Europe, but the whole of civilization from the dreadful doom which threatens it if our cause is lost—these are the keynotes of life in England to-day.

As for ethical standards, perhaps it is sufficient comment on these to say that in a growing number of towns, owing to labour shortage, one sees the daily newspaper "selling itself". A pile of papers is left on the public pavement with a growing heap of money beside it. You take your paper and put down your coin, helping yourself to change when necessary. One never heard any complaint that the money was short.

When France, the last of our allies, capitulated, a railway porter was heard to remark: "So now it's only us. But old Hitler don't half know what a packet the British Empire is when it's on its toes!"

"On its toes" is a good description of the attitude of preparedness that England held for many months before the sporadic raids intensified into a Blitzkrieg. All defenses were strengthened when England became the sole battlefield, and night after night those of us who lived in 'defence areas' went to bed with everything prepared for midnight raids, windows barricaded against shattering glass, children put to sleep near the safest wall in the house, emergency food and first aid kit as well as gas-masks ready to hand. We all knew how to tackle incendiary bombs, what to do in case of invasion, how to recognise parachutists in disguise (!), and how to deal with all possible contingencies; but by far the most trying part of the suspense was not knowing what was coming next.

The promised Blitzkrieg took the form of intensified air attack, and those of us who were in the earlier raids in coastal areas can well imagine the horror of London's grimmer experience. And yet even that experience so far from producing the slightest signs of panic, serves but to steel London's resolution to destroy this evil thing that has come upon Europe.

Some months ago we were reminded by the Archbishop of York that we must think of ourselves primarily as Christians who happened also to be Britons, not as Britons who happened to be Christians, and there are millions of us who feel that it is our ideals and our religion rather than our nationality that compel us to resist even unto death what the Nazi regime represents.

There is a hymn often sung in England today, noble words to a fine old tune, both the products of Germany at her best, a best so great that she cannot but return to it one day. It is Martin Luther's great challenge to the world—"Ein feste Burg"—

"And were this world all devils o'er
All waiting to devour us,
We'll lay it not to heart so sore
Not they can overpower us.
And though they take our wife,
Goods, honour, children, life;
Yet is their profit small;
These things shall vanish all.
The City of God remaineth."

England is learning through suffering and bloodshed, and showing the world by the price she willingly pays, that in the last resort nothing matters but the things of the spirit—truth, liberty and honour—and that though we lose all our material possessions, even life itself, in every truth **THE CITY OF GOD REMAINETH.**

THE TOWER OF LONDON

BY MR. OLIVER MOORE

[By the River Thames in London stands one of the oldest fortresses in the world. A fortress, too, that has never been conquered; it is the Tower of London and within its walls many of the most vivid incidents in British history have been enacted.]

THE Tower of London recently hit by a German bomb, stands by the River Thames in Britain's capital, the

the foundations were being laid of the Louvre. Elizabeth comes to the throne and Versailles is still a swamp. This heart of England's had been beating 600 years when the Escorial was built and yet another century was to pass before Sans-Souci stood complete.



This picture shows the Tower as it stands to-day, its flag flying proudly, and its defenders—for the Tower has always maintained a small garrison of troops—are ready as ever to defend it. Tower Bridge is easily distinguished in the background.

very heart of England. Its great muscular walls are fifteen feet thick and ninety feet high. Its foundations root to depths unknown. It is the oldest fortress in the world. More, it is the only fortress in the world that has never been conquered.

It had stood vigil on the Thames 800 years before the Doge's Palace looked down at itself in the waters of Venice or the Kremlin shook its spears above Moscow. The Vatican is youth in stone measured by these heart-beats. Henry the Eighth was King of England when

Somewhere in its foundation is the still older fortress built by Julius Caesar, but it was the Tower begun by William the Conqueror 900 years ago which was to become the heart of Britain. It is worth noting that both these military geniuses chose the same spot to mark and seal their conquest; they meet near the main entrance where a part of Caesar's wall may still be seen in the south-east corner of William's White Tower.

King after king now added walls and towers within the central keep. Henry III,

completed the fortress as it stands today; Richard Coeur de Lion deepened and widened the moat; Edward I. on his return from the Holy Land completed the outer defences.

Here in its first centuries lived the Kings of England with state departments for themselves and their nobles and barracks for the soldiery in the ramparts. Here was stored ammunition and food and stores and gold and jewels so that while remaining a royal palace it could also withstand siege if need be.

With law and lawyers grafted on the nation, the Tower became the scene of

Judicature before which even Queens were tried. Here was the Royal Mint for the coin of the realm, the treasure, the regalia. Here were the State prisons with dungeons beneath the moat with their dark cold sweating walls: the torture chambers: the chapel, to which the condemned were led for their last prayer before being beheaded on Tower Green.

So within the turreted walls which are the cradle of the British race, their first history played itself out, confined and domestic. It was with Queen Elizabeth that the Tower ceased for ever to be a Royal palace. Poor Elizabeth had spent



This picture shows Canadian soldiers standing outside the Tower and talking to one of the attendants or "Beefeaters" as they have been known for centuries. He is dressed in a costume that has not changed since the middle ages.

great political trials such as had not been seen before or since. With these came prisons where queens and nobles were housed and executed. Here in its Palace, Kings feasted and held revelry and set out for their Coronations at Westminster. Here was the ancient home of the Knights of the Bath and the Courts of

her early days there as a prisoner, and refused, as sovereign, to live in a spot where she had spent months in hideous suspense, between life and death.

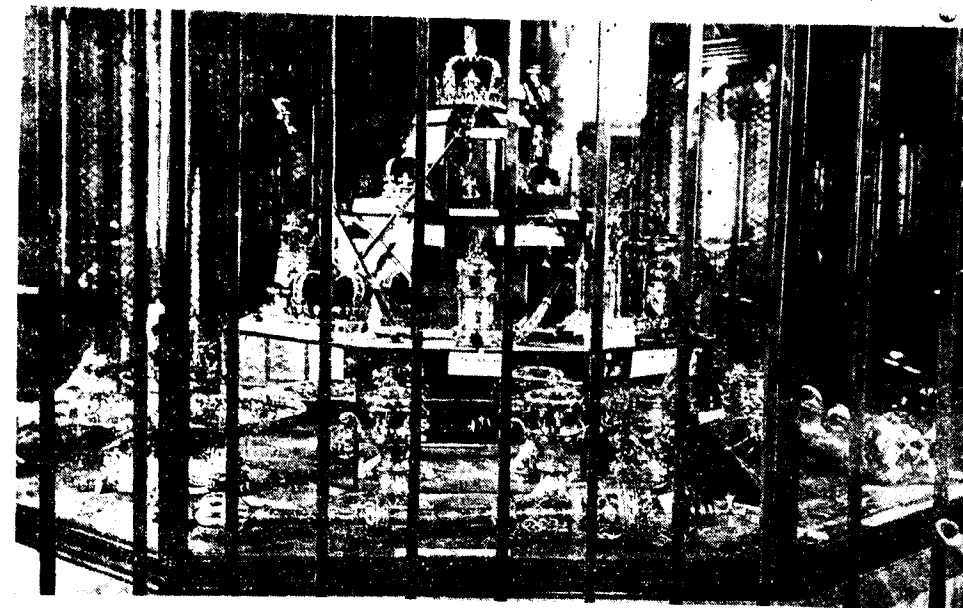
But what was to be England's growing greatness was to be the Tower's decline. Now it became little more than a prison and a torture-house. Its name became a

terror in the land. To be "committed to the Tower" was synonymous with death, often unjust death, more often than not, tortured death. It became a hotbed of disease, dishonesty and extortion. Taverns were set up within the walls: mean buildings and storehouses blocked the gates and river front, almost obscuring the ramparts.

It was not till another queen ascended the throne that the Tower was restored to its former stateliness and beauty, if not to its Royal glory. During Queen Victoria's reign, the Tower was swept clean of these two centuries of rubbish and extraneous growth: the towers and ramparts repaired, and the whole place reconstituted as far as possible with the old plans which were still in existence.

the Beefeaters in their Elizabethan ruffs and doublet and hose, to remember that once they flocked here free, to gloat and cheer at a popular execution, or riot at an unpopular one. And heaven knows they were frequent enough; queens, great nobles, prelates, soldiers and statesmen, guilty and innocent alike, passed under Traitor's Gate to Tower Green in a procession, to satisfy the most bloodthirsty.

Two of the most horrible were that in 1685 of the handsome James, Duke of Monmouth, son of Charles II, "the Uncrowned King", and that of the Countess of Salisbury in 1541. The valiant old Countess, who was 71, refused to lay her head on the block saying she had Plantagenet blood in her veins and would kneel to none and had to be chased by



This picture shows the Crown Jewels, which, until the war began, were on public exhibition at the Tower. Behind these bars is one of the most priceless collections of jewelry in the world.

It is hard, in an age where Londoners pay their shillings to take provincial aunts and nephews to see their foremost monument and pass in neat file behind

the executioner around the scaffold and hacked to pieces standing.

The Duke of Monmouth chatted with the executioner: felt the edge of the axe

and bade him do his work well and cleanly. He gave the man six guineas and told his servant to give him six more if he did his work well, then with great composure fitted his own neck to the block. A dreadful scene followed; three strokes were made but failed to sever the head. Throwing down his axe, the executioner offered forty guineas to any one who would complete the work. The people groaned and wept. Finally with two more strokes the executioner's work was over. When they tell this story at the Tower, they always reassure the tender-hearted by saying that the

second blow knocked the Duke senseless, and the rest were more painful to the on-lookers than the victim.

It is not in stone and mortar alone that the Tower is the monument of England. All her youth and growth is within its walls; all those highlights of a nation's experience which long afterwards men call history. And if English hearts beat more quickly when they think of this fortress of theirs, it is not only at the thought that it is the oldest fortress in the world, but also at the knowledge that in all its thousand years it has never been conquered.

NEPAL TO-DAY

By DR. RAMAN VASA, D.Litt. (Paris)

NEPAL is the last but the glorious relic of independent Hindu polity as a nation State. This mountainous country, having its metropolis in the valley surrounded by snow-clad sublimes of the Himalayas, ever remains superb, for, never in its history could any ill-intentioned alien penetrate the country and sully its freedom. Neither a religious bigot nor a pseudo commercial traveller could ever dupe the sons of this 'Land of Gods'. This country knows no Mirkasims, no Umichands. Verily, India can look to Nepal with sentiments of reverence.

If the French and the English nationals express hope of continuing their struggle for free existence from their distant dominions in Algeria and Canada if necessary, the perturbed Hindus in their hour of need may well-nigh look with hope and inspiration to this seat of their ancient culture. Nepal deserves this honour; it has successfully withstood

against all attempts at de-culturalisation; thanks to its bold rulers and administrators.

It is no news to a student of modern Indian history now the Gurkhas hemmed the attempted Afghan onslaught over India in 1919 when at the end of the last War, Afghanistan wanted to take the advantage of the weakness of the British. This menace was more real when one remembers how some of the Mussalmans of India had the audacity to sympathise with the Afghan ambitions.

The Hindu culture in Nepal has never been of that passive renunciative type that often dupes a man of reality but on the contrary it is of the bold militant type that makes a man a stern fighter—a toiler who shirks not the struggle but faces bravely the grim situation in all its reality. This is not less surprising in view of the fact that even to-day Buddhism prevails in Nepal as a living religion with its ancient stupas and Vihars where the

faithful follow the cult preached by the "Light of Asia". It is significant to remember that Lord Buddha was born at Lumbini which lies in the Nepal territory. The fame of the Gurkha valour is as resplendent as that of the old Rajputs. These fighters of necessity have learnt from their great Leaders an exceedingly important thing, namely, how to live in order to maintain the great tradition of a great country. War is not their trade but the force to face an aggressor and with which to serve their friends faced with a similar danger.

The soul of Nepal is receptive to the universally seductive idea of independent national existence. After great trials the ferment of this idea salvaged from the old regime this definitely new Nepal which the British recognized and which now they trust as a reliable friend in deed and in need. This Nepal is the product of a revelation—the spontaneous and impressive revelation of the national conscience and a love for cultural solidarity.

The man who symbolised the change was Maharaja Chundra Shumsher. It was carried on by his successor, Maharaja Bhim Shumsher, and now falls to his beloved successor and collaborator the present ruler Maharaja Judha Shumsher the task of consolidating Maharaja Chandra's achievements and of guiding the destiny of the country to higher levels of progress and prosperity. This task the respected ruler, Maharaja Judha, has shouldered with rare courage and prudence.

With exemplary courage and munificence, Maharaja Judha faced the delicate situation that was created by the earthquake catastrophe of 1934 which wrought great havoc throughout the country. Many beautiful buildings, temples and shrines with all their artistic splendour were but ruins. The all-round relief which he

brought to the suffering people through gifts, loans, concessions and donations was worthy of a Hindu ruler. The work of reconstruction was started in great earnest, with the result that within three years the disfigured faces of the towns and the



MAHARAJA JUDHA SHUMSHER

capital were beautified with new roads, new buildings and new temples. Redemption loans were excused and people soon forgot the mishap and blessed their ruler.

This builder, who has the whole confidence and all love of the people, is not one of those whom demagogues produce. He is too honest and sincere to trade under false colours as do many a pseudo democrat in the present world over-ridden with different *isms*. The simple ruler rests content with his ideals to rule the people for the good of the people. He knows that it is not only the ballot of the franchise that make the people better off. What the people want is a state of peace and security in which they can work and enjoy the fruits of their labour and participate in the cultural and the creative activities that may enable them

to live as men, true and noble. He is convinced that what is required universally all over the world is less disease, more bread and more enlightenment so that man may live with decency and dignity. Maharaja Judha has hitched his waggon to achieve this for his people.

Nepal lives a rural civilisation; pastoral life is predominant and as yet the smoking chimneys and the crowded slums have not raised their ugly silhouettes against the clear sky-line. Peasants and farmers live a quiet existence. Ample facilities are available to them for progress. The land revenue is low; not only that, but the revenue of the first three years is remitted to a new holding. Protection is assured to the tenants against ejection and annoyance. Justice is accessible directly without cost of time and money.

Cottage industries and handicrafts thrive under State patronage, and protection is amply extended through high import levies. Nepal is well-known for its wood-carving, ivory and crystal work in art, and lepidary skill. Hand-made cloth and paper are common cottage industries. The Maharaja has set a worthy example for emulation by using the locally made articles.

Industrialisation on a big scale is not yet introduced. In a predominantly agricultural community, industrialisation, if introduced outside any planned economy, generally thrives at the cost of the agriculture. This idea explains in part Nepal's shyness as an industrial entrepreneur. Unemployment is thin. All through the country there are public rest-houses on the outskirts of the villages. There is always a place for human heads to rest.

A great deal of interest is evinced by the State in education. Education is free, not only the primary education but the secondary as well as the university education is free. There are several schools and a full-grade Arts college preparing students for the degree courses. There is a network of Sanskrit Pathshalas where education in Sanskrit language, grammar and philosophy is imparted by the Shastries. The State sends every year students with stipends to study Engineering, Mining, Forestry, Medicine, etc., in India. The State has its own institutions for Technical, Military and Agricultural training. It has its own S. S. L. C. Examination Board. Its present Department of Public Instruction under the guidance of General Mrigendra observes with great interest the modern developments in the educational field in leading countries of the world.

Under the auspices of the State, important publications in foreign languages are translated into the Nepalese language. Nepal has always been hospitable to foreign scholars and savants interested in research studies in ancient Indian civilisation. Shri Bir Manuscript Library has a big collection of unpublished manuscripts in Sanskrit, Pali, Tibetan and Chinese languages.

Lately, the State has enlarged its foreign department. It takes interest in contacts with foreign countries. Nepal has its ambassador at the Court of St. James's in London.

This is the ninth year of Maharaja Judha's career at the helm of the State. Nepal celebrated the anniversary with great eclat.

Amazing Tale of German Stupidity

BY MR. A. T. SRESHTA

ON the 2nd April, 1917, the United States of America plunged into the maelstrom of international conflict. It was one of the most dramatic events of the Great War. But more startling was Britain's ingenuity which unravelled the skein of dark conspiracy the Germany had woven round U. S. A.

From the outset of the war, President Wilson, though pro-Ally, had determined to keep his country out of the European struggle. Besides, isolationists like Senator Borah and the German-American population in U. S. A. exercised great influence on his foreign policy.

The sinking of liners like the *Marina*, *Sussex*, *Housatonic* conveying American passengers and the sabotage of factories and munition ships, while they aroused a storm of indignation, did little to break the tradition of American neutrality. Even Col. House, Wilson's right-hand man, returning war-inclined after tour of the belligerent countries, failed to convince the President of the necessity of hostilities. The Monroe Doctrine acted as a powerful deterrent on all provocative influences, short of actual attack on U. S. A.

But by a curious fate, what none of these causes could accomplish, Germany itself brought to consummation by a foolhardy scheme which drew America in a flash to the side of the Allies.

Early in the war, Germany was appalled by the unceasing flow of U. S. munitions into Allied countries, while she herself was unable to command American markets owing to the naval blockade.

Berlin then decided to involve Mexico and Japan in a war with U. S. A. so as to effectually stop American munition export to Europe. An attempt in this direction had indeed been made in 1915 by Captain Rintelen, a German spy in U. S. A., but had failed.

One other event occurred which was to have far-reaching effect on the whole course of the war. Rintelen had in 1915 brought for the German Embassy at New York a most secret code to supersede the existing one which was suspected to be known to the enemy. But by sheer carelessness, this important code fell into the hand of an ill-paid junior clerk of the Embassy staff. He was set upon by British agents and persuaded to disclose the cypher.

For Britain, it was a priceless possession. Germany was now in her grip. Not till many years after the war did Berlin know that Britain had secured the code.

On the 14th January 1917, Zimmermann put himself in communication with Ambassador Eckhardt at Mexico City through his American representative Count Bernstorff.

Eckhardt was instructed to persuade Carranza, the President of Mexico, to

declare war on U. S. A. Carranza was also to be requested to induce Japan to rally to his side on the declaration of hostilities.

The Foreign Office at London intercepted this telegram and transmitted the decoded copy to President Wilson.

In America, the news was received with mixed feelings. "It is sheer forgery, Britain is intriguing," angrily declared some, while others, more sober, held their peace, hardly crediting that Germany would have dared to implicate two friendly nations in a war with U. S. A. An enquiry at the Washington telegraph office revealed a copy of the Zimmermann telegram in code despatched to New Mexico by Count Bernstorff. This copy was sent to London and deciphered in the presence of the U. S. Ambassador by two special experts (to whom only the code was known). The renderings of the British and the American telegrams tallied word for word.

Over U. S. A. swept a tremendous wave of indignation. Still, the pro-German Americans designated the whole affair as a carefully planned ruse of the British to inveigle their country into war.

Great Britain smiled and set about to draw the nets closer round the enemy. Germany, already, suspect, should be made to compromise herself beyond doubt.

Eckhardt quickly realised from publicity in the press that Wilson knew the contents of the Zimmermann telegram. Either the decoded telegram or the "most secret code" had leaked out. But how? And to whom was it known.

With Zimmermann, he began a telegraphic correspondence on the cause of the leakage. But to one great blunder was now added another. The despatches were sent again in the same code and Britain listened.

At London, the brains of the Naval Intelligence experts worked furiously on the possible consequences of this German enquiry. No, it would not do if the enemy were to conclude that the code was in the hands of the English. Germany would then change her tactics

and all hope of irrevocably incriminating her in the Mexican intrigue would be lost.

Admiral (now Sir) Reginald Hall, the Chief of the Naval Intelligence Service, forthwith summoned a reporter of the *Daily Mail*.

"Isn't British Intelligence Service stupid?" he asked.

"I don't follow, sir," replied the astonished reporter.

"America has secured the decoded Zimmermann telegram, while we have not a single German despatch to our credit. Isn't our service stupid, muddle-headed? Should it not be scrapped? . . . Publish this . . . As regards censorship, leave it to me," added Sir Reginald.

The dapper reporter smiled softly as the light dawned on him.

The following day, the columns of the *Daily Mail* blazoned out in glaring headlines the inefficiency and worthlessness of the British Intelligence and paid a striking tribute to the genius of the American Service which had contrived to obtain every decoded telegram from Berlin.

Germany fell into the trap. She believed that someone in America had betrayed the telegram and the blame fell on the German Legation in Mexico.

But Eckhardt proved that no treachery could have occurred in his office with the result that the Mexican conspiracy was taken up with renewed vigour. Britain was overjoyed and awaited developments.

America now moved rapidly. An explanation of the Zimmermann despatch was demanded. Berlin, rather non-plussed, replied, as an excuse, that the instructions were to be carried out only if America declared war on Germany.

This admission by Germany marked a new phase in U. S. foreign relations. America's rage attained fever-heat. Many pro-German Americans swung to Wilson's side.

At about the same time, Japan whose attention had been drawn to the Zimmermann telegram hastened to contradict misapprehensions regarding her foreign policy. "We cannot imagine what Germany is thinking of when she suggests the possibility of ourselves to be entangled in a war with the United States. . . .

Japan adheres faithfully to her pact with the Allied Powers."

This was a blow that might have quenched the ardour of the most determined conspirator.

But amazing to relate, Germany pursued her scheme with a perseverance that, in retrospect, surpasses all credulity. All the while, Britain eavesdropped and transmitted the messages to U. S. A.

Soon after, Eckhardt wired: "I have received offers of help for purposes of propaganda from several quarters." And from Berlin: "Please ascertain the type of arms and munitions required. . . . Mexico must try to obtain arms as far as possible from Japan and South America."

Further details were worked out: supply of money to agents, landing of arms at secret ports, and finally instructions to set fire to the Tampico oil-fields. The torpedoing of the Cunarder *Laconia* with Americans on board and the U. S. vessels *Algonquin* and *Heraldton* put the seal to Germany's fate.

American patience had come to breaking point. What was before a storm became now a roaring tornado. War-fever swept U. S. A. like a hurricane. And the Southern States, till then inclined to favour Germany, came with a bound to the side of the Allies.

America struck. Across the Atlantic sped U. S. Men-of-War with troops and munitions for continental battle-fields.

Modern history affords no parallel to the downright stupidity with which Germany worked out the plot in Mexico. Before his arrest, Rintelen had obtained definite proof that the code was stolen; but the German Naval Attache at the Embassy, who had charge of the cypher and who prided himself on the water-tight secrecy of his office, scoffed at the mere idea of theft. Later, Eckhardt, though aware that the code was unsafe, still cabled in the same code. From start to finish it was a piece of incredible folly, which brought a Great Power against Germany, the moral effect of which counted for much more than the mere addition to the Allies' numerical strength. Within twenty months, Germany was brought to the knees.

KERALA AND NAMBUDRIS

BY MR. A. K. T. K. M. NARAYANAN NAMBUDRIPAD

HISTORICAL and other authentic records on the subjects reveal that until 112 B.C., Kerala as it then was forming that tract of land lying to the West of the Western Ghats with the sea as its natural boundary on the West and extending from Kasargode in the North to Cape Comorin in the South, had a constitutional form of its own. Changes in the government began with the advent of the Perumal Kings of the Chola Dynasty, who in course of time began to gain complete sway over the land. The Nambudris in those ancient days had an uppermost hand in all the administrative matters of the country prior to the Chola Dynasty's incursions. In all governmental affairs of the country, their position and status was almost on a footing of equality with the Perumals and formed a close resemblance to that of the Lords and the British Parliament.

The books also bear testimony to the fact that the Nambudris of those days were a very civilised community with a high degree of moral rectitude and truth ingrained in them. But, from the beginning of the 4th century A.D., their civilisation and moral attainments began to suffer a set-back. Land in those times belonged to the Nambudris exclusively and their status as Landlords was very similar to the Feudal system of Russia. As to be seen in the "People of All Nations" (pp. 1714 and 2715):—

The Nambudri Brahmin is the recognised lord of creation. For his lighter complexion shows him in most cases to be the lineal descendant of the Aryan immigrant who subdued the darker aboriginal races and nowhere else in India does any Brahmin swagger along the road with quite such a sense of superiority. Has it not been said of him that his person is 'holy', his directions 'commands', his movements a 'procession', his meal is 'nectar'—the holiest of human beings and the representative of God on earth?

Even today, there are in Kerala several Nambudri families which could be traced back to such remote periods. But, at present, there exist only a few fortunate "Manas" or "Illams" (Families of Nambudris) which continue to enjoy certain prerogatives, privileges, concessions and other rights which their more fortunate ancestors once enjoyed in full glory. Thekkiniyedath Kirangat Mana is one of such outstanding Manas of great repute. This distinguished Nambudri Family owns extensive landed properties in the countries ruled by the Zamorin and the Rajahs of Cochin and the honours and privileges enjoyed by this family are ascribable to the fact that their ancestors had immense power and had exercised a dominant hand in the reins of the government of the rulers of the land as it existed then. This Thekkiniyedath Kirangat Mana is still enjoying certain rights and privileges at the "Ariyittu Vazhcha" of the Zamorin (i.e., when the Zamorin succeeds to the *Gadi*). Likewise, there exists a special and marked relation with the Cochin Rajahs also. There are several anecdotes current to confirm this and one of such runs as follows:—

About the middle of the 18th century, while the Zamorin Rajah was making various attempts to capture Cochin, a battalion of the Zamorin's army surrounded the Fort of Trichur where the Yuvarajah of Cochin and his Court Dignitaries had taken refuge. When the Thekkiniyedath Kirangat Nambudripad heard of the predicament of the Yuvarajah, the Nambudripad with two or three other Nambudris went to the Fort on the pretext of performing certain religious rites within the Fort, and having obtained permission from the Zamorin's army, entered the Fort. In those olden days Brahmins were venerated and even adored. The Nambudripad suggested to the Yuvarajah to dress himself as the Nambudripad and walk through the gate in the company of the other Nambudris in the guise of the Nambudripad leaving the Fort after the completion of the rites. The ruse proved a capital success and when the Zamorin's army later entered the Fort and searched for the Yuvarajah, they found only the Nambudripad and the Rajah had flown to their utter discomfiture.

Till the close of the 19th century, the Nambudri was supinely indifferent to the benefits of Western education—nay, he was even positively averse to the study of English. Samskrit was his vocational language and he studied it well. Though well-versed in the Vedas and Shastric lore, the Nambudris were under a serious handicap in that they knew little of the language of the Westerners or their etiquette or manners. But, with the beginning of the 20th century, almost a revolution has taken place and today you see them in the forefront of education with many young men in the Universities. Many have already obtained University degrees and a few are in the service of the Crown. It is also significant that they are making rapid strides in social progress. Even until the last decade, it was not customary among Nambudri ladies to wear gold bracelets or bangles as only brass-bangles were considered orthodox. Today, it may be difficult to distinguish the styles adopted by some of their ladies from the Parsi or the Bengalee style!

Occupying as they did a status like that of the Lords till the close of the 19th century, the Nambudris thought they had not debased themselves by taking to any vocation in life such as agriculture, trade or industry. The cause of this was mainly two-fold:—utter ignorance and a false sense of prestige. Nevertheless, history books testify to their high intelligence and wisdom. In modern times, however, you can see them take a very active part in almost every movement and they spare no pains for the uplift of their community. The lead to this movement has been set in the main by the A.K.T.K.M. (Avana Kanhiyur Thekkiniyedath Kirangat Mana) Family. This is the same Mana as Thekkiniyedath Kirangat. When Avanavu and Kanhiyur Manas became extinct, the properties and rights of those Manas devolved on the Thekkiniyedath Kirangat Mana.

During the time of Tipu's conquest of Malabar, the members of this Mana took refuge at Thiruvarpil in Travancore. The Zamorin Rajah, the Rajahs of Cochin and Kulasekhara Perumal the three ancient royal families of Kerala treat the members

of the Mana with great respect and honour. Historical records show that about the year 1310 A.D. one of the members of this Mana had resort to "Satyagraha" (the weapon now being formulated by Mahatma Gandhi). Here is the anecdote:—

The Zamorin had captured the Peruvanam temple and Village from the Rajah of Cochin. In order to get back the Temple and the Village, the Head of this Mana approached the Zamorin and remained in the Palace of the Zamorin for nearly twelve years and would not leave the Palace until the request of the Nambudripad was granted. Eventually, when the Nambudripad found that in spite of the long stay of twelve years, the Zamorin was not moved, he refused even a morsel of food offered by the Zamorin. The Nambudripad collected some chopped pieces of yam and the Zamorin would not afford any facility for cooking and refused fire too. The Nambudripad, it is said, had the yam pieces cooked by the fire of his penance and austerity and ate his yam meal to the utter bewilderment and amazement of the Zamorin and the courtiers. The Zamorin immediately ordered the surrender of the Village and the Temple to the Nambudripad.

The A.K.T.K.M. form a distinct family different from the other Nambudris. Besides being the owners of extensive landed properties in Malabar and Cochin, they have been the first to adapt themselves to the changing times and environments. In the field of education and industry and trade and commerce, they have been the beacon-light to the other members of the community.

The family-house of this Mana is situated in the Village of Desamangalam near the Shoranur Station on the South Indian Railway. The Village is on the Northern borders of the Cochin State and close to Malabar.

Ancient temples and other edifices that lie scattered throughout the length and breadth of India bear sufficient proof that Indians have been and are a skilled nation of architects even from very early times. Although changes have inevitably crept in with the change of times and circumstances, yet, Indians, generally speaking, do not depart from the principles enjoined in their science of architecture. This is all the more true in the case of residential quarters which should be constructed only in accord with the principles laid down and on no account can the principles be ignored.

INDIAN AFFAIRS

BY "AN INDIAN JOURNALIST"

The M. P.'s Appeal to India

THE appeal to the people of India "from friends in the House of Commons" is a happily conceived Christmas greeting. We welcome the spirit of cordiality that underlies the appeal and it is a comfort to know that whatever might be the attitude of the British Government itself, there are in England people in responsible positions imbued with goodwill to India and a keen desire for an equitable settlement of the Indian problem.

"All parties in this country," say the signatories, "will experience the most heart-felt gratification and relief when India to its own satisfaction finds the means to become fully self-governed". We welcome this declaration. But it is no good telling us merely that "the British people are irrevocably resolved to give India full political freedom." The question is when, and the M. P.'s appeal, as a contemporary shrewdly points out, "curiously enough makes no reference to this all important matter."

The *New Republic* forcibly contrasts the British Government's repeated declaration that

Britain is fighting for democracy, that her own class distinctions are being swept away and that she looks forward to a future of wide-spread equality with the fact that

she refuses to give India the freedom that was promised 23 years ago in the midst of an earlier war.

An even more scathing commentary on Britain's handling of India is contained in Prof. Laski's words which quoted with equal appropriateness:

There is not one popular leader in India with a serious following behind him, to whom we can appeal for support of the continuance of our paramountcy. Year by year, to maintain it, we have to resort to special powers, the exercise of

undemocratic authority, the wide use of the power to imprison. The few Indians of position we can produce to applaud our rule are men whom we have elevated for that purpose.

The M. P.'s appeal, as we began by saying, indicates a genuine desire for a solution of the Indian problem. But expressions of goodwill and generous declarations of good intentions will not carry far at this day. The proper way is to face the problem promptly and squarely and approach it in a practical manner now and at once.

"The anti-war campaign of *satyagraha* launched by Mahatma Gandhi and the demand of the Congress Party for independence are the result," as Sir P. S. Sivaswamy Ayyar observes, "of a deep-rooted distrust of the British Government engendered by the history of broken pledges in the past." He offers some definite suggestions to end the deadlock.

1. The British Government must definitely and unequivocally declare its repudiation of the Pakistan Scheme, which no patriotic Indian can ever accept.

2. The safeguards contained in the Government of India Act for the protection of British industries and commerce must be repealed and a policy of active encouragement of Indian industries by Indians must be adopted and vigorously pursued.

"India First"

Mr. Amery's slogan "India First" is unexceptionable and, indeed, in the present distracting times, nothing could be more appropriate than this watchword which he explained in terms which can hardly be improved: "By India, I mean India as a whole; India as nature and history have shaped her; India with her infinite diversity and underlying unity; India as she is today and as we wish her to be in the years to come." One wishes that Mr. Amery is guided by these admirable sentiments in his handling of the impasse in India. If only he had acted up to this counsel a

year ago, we would not now be faced with a dead-lock perilous to the best interests of India and England alike. But Britain never does the right thing at the right time, and the result is muddling and vexation.

London Correspondents point to the paradox of the British Press praising the valuable aid rendered by the Indian soldiers at Sidi Bassani while Indian leaders are being simultaneously imprisoned in India. As Mr. Vernon Bartlett has pointed out in the *News Chronicle*, the failure to win Indian support would be one of the greatest disasters imaginable. "I know that there are minorities," continues Mr. Bartlett,

and I sympathise with them, for, I am almost in a minority myself. And there are the Princes, but I do not much care about them, because they have had security under British protection and few of them have devoted any time to the happiness of their subjects. But the majorities too have their rights and when I hear officials emphasising the hardships of the minorities in India, I cannot but remember how Hitler did the same about German minorities in Sudetenland and Poland.

"The Fatal Phrase"

While Mr. Bartlett takes Mr. Amery to task, the *Manchester Guardian* (which among the British papers usually takes an intelligent and more or less dispassionate view of things Indian) criticises the Viceroy for asserting that Government has done everything in its power. "This fatal phrase" should never be used by any one responsible for the good of a nation," says the *Guardian*,

for history shows how often a Government, after protesting that it has done everything in its power, finds it possible to do something more.

There may be some officials in India, says the *Guardian*, who find that Indian divisions are a useful excuse for doing nothing.

but there is no wisdom or courage in inaction. Either the Viceroy should renew his efforts to bring India together through her leaders or others should go out from this country to attempt it. As a people, we must refuse steadily to admit that we have done everything in our power for India.

Government and Motor Industry

"The Government have been giving different reasons at different times for declining help," says Sir M. Visvesvarayya in a statement criticising the Government *communique*, explaining their difficulties in respect of automobile industries. The essential features of the scheme sponsored by the promoters have been made available to the public in two pamphlets, written with the authority and knowledge of one so experienced as Sir M. Visvesvarayya. Alike the practicability of the scheme and its immediate bearing on war effort have been clearly set forth. And yet months and years have been allowed to lapse without a sign of encouragement from the Government. The soundness of the scheme has not been challenged. Why cannot the Government in India do what is so common in Canada and other countries where the industry has thrived? India has thirty times the population of Canada, and we are "puzzled to find ourselves involved," says Sir Visvesvarayya "in an endless series of alleged difficulties in our endeavour to put through the first automobile factory projected in the country". And what time could be more propitious for this new industry than now when war-demands make it doubly invaluable?

The Finance Member to the Government of India is reported to have said that 5,000 mechanical trucks were purchased last year and that before the end of this year the purchases will go up to 60,000 vehicles. The cost of these vehicles will probably be of the order of Rs. 24 crores. The promoters have now asked for an order for mechanical vehicles likely to be needed for replacement purposes for the next three years at the rate of about 6,000 trucks per year.

It is not understood why a small portion of the order could not have been given to us. It is hoped that orders for the replacements at least will not be denied to the Indian Company. If we cannot share the food placed on the table, we will be content with the crumbs that fall from it.

Surely, this is a case for prompt and immediate attention from the Government, which has always been vociferous in its solicitude for indigenous enterprise.

Sir Sultan Ahmed's Wise Counsel

Sir Sultan Ahmed could hardly have chosen a more appropriate time nor a more fitting audience for his admirable discourse, than the convocation of the Muslim University. His striking appeal for Hindu-Muslim unity on the basis of mutual adjustment is in refreshing contrast to the suicidal cult of Pakistan of which we hear so much in certain quarters. Deprecating the present tendency to exaggerate whatever cultural differences there may be between the two communities, Sir Sultan aptly pointed out how the welfare of the two religions is consistent with a "United National evolution", for racially and politically we are all Indians.

There is no gainsaying the fact that racially and politically we are all Indians, we breathe in the same atmosphere and till the same land. We are inheritors of the same old proud civilisation and whatever we may privately think and aspire after, our destinies are linked together. Differences that there are I have already admitted but our foundations of life are the same. Our political and social salvation can only lie in both Hindus and Muslims pooling their energies together for the reconstruction of a better India. However much you try there is no other road to salvation. Any other road will lead India to chaos, anarchy, bloodshed and perpetual subjection.

From a practical view-point too, even taking for granted the pessimistic view of the irreconcilable difference between Muslim and Hindu cultures, there can be no other means of a better future for India. No amount of wishful thinking will perform the miracle of the total disappearance of millions of Muslims or Hindus from our landscape. For better or for worse "till death do us part"—that is our destiny. Even in such a situation the only sane and graceful thing is to arrive at some sort of working compromise, at any rate till the duration of the War. A compromise always indicates mutual generousities, a whole series of give and take, concessions and sacrifices. The peace and concord that a compromise like that begets is a sufficient reward for all self-denials. And I conjure you earnestly, all young men, both Hindus and Muslims, to remember this hard, sane and incontrovertible fact when you enter a larger sphere of life. You must try to promote mutual understanding, mutual trust and mutual love and

to remember your mutual obligations. Otherwise the example of Europe to-day is before you. What racial arrogance and racial intolerance can do is being vividly enacted before your eyes. Do not take up a defeatist attitude. With a broad-minded approach our domestic differences can be and must be solved.

These are wise words and timely. It is up to the young Muslims of the Aligarh University to prove that "a strong and vigorous nationhood is compatible with cultural diversity and freedom".

Sir Purushotamdas' Plea

In the view of the Indian commercial community, the Congress would not have refused the offer of an enlarged Executive Council if it had been a Cabinet responsible to the Legislative Assembly, observed Sir Purushotamdas Thakurdas in his presidential address at the 19th annual general meeting of the East India Cotton Association in Bombay.

Sir Purushotamdas said:

It is generally felt that the offer made by the British Government was unacceptable in the sense of not meeting what India wanted, and the Congress feel that they must mark their disapproval by a gesture of the treatment of India by the British Government, however much some of us may dislike such gestures which put some of the most self-sacrificing men of the country behind prison-bars at this juncture.

The Government should realise that the responsibility for the state of affairs that prevails at present is theirs, and it would be a travesty of truth to say that India wants any of the enemy countries fighting Great Britain today to have any chance of victory. Will the British Government still not see that they are creating trouble here avoidably and then they use their energies required in other directions to deal with this trouble? The commercial community throughout the length and breadth of India wonder what the British Government have in their mind to treat India in this manner at this critical juncture and despite their utterances and promises in the past.

Sir Purushotamdas wound up with a plea for a better treatment of political prisoners:

Until better understanding is brought about in this connection, the minimum that the Government can do is to see that those who court arrest and imprisonment in this matter are treated in a manner which will not leave any trace of bitterness in their minds when a better atmosphere prevails.

British Cabinet Changes

THE appointment of Viscount Halifax as the British Ambassador to the United States in succession to Lord Lothian has been welcomed in both countries as an appropriate choice. His experience at the Foreign Office and his great reputation as an elder statesman will prove of especial value at this time in America.

The appointment has been followed by important changes.

Mr. Anthony Eden, Secretary for War, returns to the post of Foreign Secretary, which he resigned in 1938, because of Britain's policy towards Italy and becomes a member of the War Cabinet.

Viscount Cranborne, present Dominions Secretary, and Mr. Eden's old colleague, who resigned with him the office of Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs, receives a Barony and becomes chief Foreign Office spokesman in the House of Lords.

Captain David Margesson, Government Chief Whip, is appointed War Minister in place of Mr. Eden.

The Late Lord Lothian

Lord Lothian's death has deeply shocked Britain, especially as it was totally unexpected and came while the Ambassador was so much in the public eye as a spokesman for the British cause in a country where its advocacy is just now of vital importance to the whole Allied cause. To us in India, his death recalls to the mind his past associations with India at the Round Table Conference as Under-Secretary of State and Chairman of the Franchise Committee.

It is said that despite his manifold preoccupations, Lord Lothian watched the India question closely and was known to be greatly concerned over the recent developments.

The Collapse of Italy

Italian forces have been beaten on all fronts, in Egypt, Libya and Albania. The following points are significant:--

1. Within 56 hours of the commencement of the operations by the British Forces in Egypt, helped by the Free French Forces, Sidi Barrani has been captured. Sidi Barrani, it will be remembered, is the base about 60 miles east of the Libyan-Egyptian frontier from which Marshal Graziani hoped by sending his forces in all directions to subjugate Egypt and capture the Suez Canal. The British forces have been helped by the Royal Air Force and the British Navy, and a wedge has now been driven by British penetration between Sollen and Sidi Barrani threatening to cut off Italian supply bases.

2. The Free French forces in Chad are harrying the Italians in Southern Libya.

3. The Royal Air Force is busy over foreign bases in Italy and in Albania and worrying the retreating troops in Albania.

4. The Greeks are thrusting deeply into Albania at numerous points. After the fall of Argyrocastro and Santi Quaranta, the whole of Southern Albania is in Greek hands. The Italians are now trying to hold the Elbasan-Berat-Valona line, taking up positions in the Tomoro Mountains. But the Greeks are relentlessly pursuing them. The oil supplies in Albania from which Italy is getting more than one half of its normal requirements, is now being threatened by the Greeks.

5. Italy now finds itself without many of the raw materials mainly owing to the effectiveness of the British blockade.

6. She is now cut off from the Dodecanese Islands and from Northern Africa.

Apart from the valour the Greeks and the fine exploits of the R. A. F., much may be attributed to the collapse of the Italian morale. It is clear the heart of the Roman soldier is not in this war into which he has been pushed against his will by the Duce and his ambitious colleagues.

President Roosevelt's Call to America

Addressing the American nation, President Roosevelt declared:

Some Americans believe that wars in Europe and Asia do not concern us; but it vitally concerns us that European and Asiatic war-makers should not gain control of the oceans leading to this hemisphere.

Referring to the Monroe Doctrine, the President declared that as between the United States and Britain, there has been



PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT

a feeling of neighbourliness and that they could settle any disputes peacefully.

Does any one seriously believe that we need fear an attack while Free Britain remains our most powerful neighbour in the Atlantic? But does any one seriously believe we could rest easy if the Axis Powers were our neighbours there?

"If Britain goes down," declared the President,

the Axis will control Europe, Asia, Africa, Australia and the High Seas, and it is not an exaggeration

to say that all of us in America will be living at the point of a gun loaded with explosive bullets, economic as well as military. We should enter a new terrible era in which the world (including the Americas) would be run by threats of brute force. To survive in such a world, we should have to convert ourselves permanently into a militaristic power on the basis of war economy. Frankly and definitely, there is danger ahead. We well know that we cannot escape it by crawling into bed and pulling covers over our heads.

The fate of nations who despite non-aggression pacts have been overrun and thrown into a modern form of slavery, tells us what it means to live at the point of the Nazi gun. The Nazis justified such acts by pious frauds like occupying a country to restore order or protect it against aggression. Would they hesitate to say, to any South-American country: 'We are occupying you to protect you from aggression by the United States'?

Belgium is to-day being used as an invasion base against Britain which is fighting for her life. Any South American country in Nazi hands would constitute a jumping-off place for a German attack on any of the other republics in this hemisphere.

Herr Hitler and Vichy Government

According to French quarters in London, Marshal Petain has firmly rejected the German demand for the surrender of the French Fleet, declaring that such a demand infringes the terms of the "honourable Armistice" granted to France.

It is believed that the message which Admiral Jean Darlan, Vichy's Minister of the Navy, has taken to Paris on Christmas day contained this refusal. Hitler's reaction to this spirited rejection is not yet known.

A strong appeal to French leaders to renew the fight on Britain's side was made by Gen. de Gaulle, Leader of Free Frenchmen, in a broadcast.

DIARY OF THE MONTH

- Dec. 1. Mrs. Naidu and Bhulabhai Desai are arrested in Bombay.
- Dec. 2. Air battle over Indo-China-Thailand frontier.
—Anglo-Spanish financial agreement is signed.
- Dec. 3. Sri Bulusu Sambamurti in Madras and K. M. Munshi and Nurie in Bombay are arrested and sentenced.
- Dec. 5. Mr. Subhas Chandra Bose who was arrested on July 2, is released.
- Dec. 6. Marshal Badoglio, Chief of the General Staff of Italian Armed forces, is removed.
—The U. P. Government demands security from *National Herald*.
- Dec. 7. Sir Maurice Gwyer is re-appointed Vice-Chancellor of the Delhi University.
—President Roosevelt pledges U. S. aid to Greece.
- Dec. 8. Mr. Kanungo, former Minister of Orissa, is arrested under Defence of India Rules.
- Dec. 9. Dr. P. Subbaroyan and Mrs. Subbaroyan are arrested.
—Britain agrees in principle to lend ten million pounds to China.
- Dec. 10. Herr Hitler attacks Britain in a long speech to German Arms Workers.
—British Drive in Western Desert.
—Mrs. Sarojini Naidu is released from Yerrowada Jail for reasons of health.
- Dec. 11. The Greeks capture Siddi Barrani with a large number of prisoners.
- Dec. 12. Lord Lothian, British Ambassador in Washington, dies of blood poisoning.
- Dec. 13. Rt. Hon. Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru issues a statement *re* settling the political problem.
—Hindu Gymkhana decides not to participate in the Pentangular Cricket Tournament.
- Dec. 14. Duke of Windsor meets President Roosevelt.
- Dec. 15. M. Laval is dismissed by Marshal Petain.
- Dec. 15. Britain requests financial help from United States.
- Dec. 16. H. E. Viceroy addressing the Associated Chambers of Commerce at Calcutta reiterates H. M. Government's objective *viz.* Dominion Status for India.
- Dec. 17. Bengal Security Prisoners give up hunger-strike.
- Dec. 18. Sardar Samparan Singh is expelled from the Party by the Congress President.
- Dec. 19. The Portuguese Government bans Rt. Hon'ble Jayakar's entry into Goa.
- Dec. 20. 50,000 German troops arrive in Italy.
- Dec. 21. Sir Sikandar Hyat Khan leaves for Cairo to visit Indian troops.
- Dec. 22. Nazis threaten America *re* sale of ships to Britain by United States.
- Dec. 23. H. H. The Maharaja of Travancore opens the fourteenth Music Conference at Madras.
- Dec. 24. Lord Halifax is appointed British Ambassador to U. S. A.
Mr. Anthony Eden becomes Foreign Secretary.
- Dec. 25. H. M. The King broadcasts message to the Empire.
—Fighting in Thailand-Indo-China frontier.
- Dec. 26. Movement of German troops through Hungary is reported.
- Dec. 27. The 22nd Liberal Federation meets at Calcutta.
—Greek troops capture Lin.
- Dec. 28. German ultimatum to Vichy.
—Sir Fleetwood Wilson is dead.
- Dec. 29. Vichy's firm answer to Hitler: no surrender of French navy.
- Dec. 30. President Roosevelt broadcasts a vigorous appeal to the American nation to defy the dictators.
- Dec. 31. Luftwaffe's attempts on Guildhall and the churches in London.
—23 well-known British women appeal for a new approach to Indian situation.



The WORLD of BOOKS



FINANCE UNDER PROVINCIAL AUTONOMY,
By C. N. Vakil and M. H. Patel.
Longmans Green & Co., Ltd., Calcutta.
Rs. 4.

This is a brief and largely descriptive study of Provincial Finance under the Government of India Act of 1935. The authors introduce their subject by a rather scrappy summary of its development in the pre-autonomy days, which is followed by a fairly long chapter on State and Economic Life in India. To the reviewer at least this chapter appears to be an unhappy interpolation. It does not concern itself with the fundamentals of Finance, some enlightenment on which the lay reader would have been grateful for. On the contrary, he is re-told the familiar story of the shortcomings of governments in India, their sins of commission and still more of omission. The learned authors regard the Government of India prior to 1920 as merely a Police State, though it seems to have done a lot in the way of building railways, digging canals, providing against famines, etc.—activities which hardly square with our conception of the Police State.

However, this lapse into polemics is made up in the chapters that follow, in which the authors entertain the reader with neat summaries of the powers, opportunities, difficulties and achievements of provincial governments. Here and there are interesting suggestions, *e.g.*, progression of probate duties, introduction of income-tax on agricultural incomes in combination with a minimum flat rate

land revenue, sales taxes, general and particular, etc. The fastidious reader, however, wishes that the authors had worked out the possibilities of some of these proposed measures and stated, at least in terms of their order of magnitude, the contributions they can make to the provincial fisc.

The authors seem to have small love for the Federal Government which, in their opinion, has been pampered at the expense of the provinces. But in spite of their limited opportunities, the provinces do not seem to have done so badly during the very short regime of autonomy they had. For instance, taken together, they increased their expenditure on social services by 23 per cent.—not a mean achievement for any popular government—while the share of the security services actually fell. On a number of occasions the authors posit a choice between security the special concern of the Centre and prosperity the particular charge of the provinces and complain that the New Constitution has sacrificed the one to the other. One would have thought that in these days of international insecurity, the two functions are more complementary than ever and that the task of the student of public finance is to discover ways by which they can promote each other. Perhaps the origin of the authors' animus against the Centre is to be found in its non-popular character. But surely one need not forget the fundamentals of the problem, because of the deficiencies of the contemporary arrangement,

THE REAL AND THE NEGATIVE. By B. K. Mallik. George Allen & Co. 21 sh.

The author of the volume under review has made an elaborate study of the import and validity of the *Negative* in the light of an interpretation of the law of contradiction. The position of the *Negative* was not examined by the traditional philosophers to the extent Mr. Mallik would have liked them to do. Traditional philosophy merely asserted that the positive and the negative could not co-exist. The presence of one always meant the non-existence of the other. But where tradition was confronted with the co-existence of the positive and negative, they explained that the law of contradiction referred only to the absolute positive and the absolute negative. They also held that the relatively negative could co-exist with the positive. Mr. Mallik has given us a re-interpretation of the law of contradiction.

On the epistemological side, Mr. Mallik's contribution is the fresh and acute analysis of the positive and the negative on the basis of a new interpretation of the laws of thought.

The second part of the thesis is a plea for the defence of individuality. Individuality is the core of reality. Man throughout the history of civilisation has either surrendered to the Demou as the governor of the universe out of his sense of helplessness, or to an omnipotent power for protection and help. According to Mr. Mallik, both the attitudes are neither accurate nor efficient enough to serve men. So he exhorts men not to mistake frustration and failure as the signs of the innate deficiency of human personality. The truth is that man is literally divine and nothing less.

REVISION OF DEMOCRACY. By Dr. Appadorai, M.A., Ph.D. Published by Oxford University Press. As. 12.

The booklet under review is the substance of the two extension lectures delivered at the University of Mysore. Democracy is the least objectionable form of government. It is not democracy that has failed but the misapplication of the democratic principles that has led to its decay. The author, expatiating on Mill's concept of liberty and principles of representative government, enumerates the inestimable blessings that political liberty has bestowed on the British people in the last few decades and the progressive improvement in the position of the working classes. The inequalities of wealth are being gradually ironed out by a steeply graded income-tax and death duties.

In the second half of the book, the author puts forward constructive suggestions for the reform of democratic institutions. He advocates a two party system based on broad difference of principles and healthy opposition. He is not enamoured of the devices of direct democracies like initiative and referendum which are superfluous in a proper representative government.

THE POET AND GOD'S WORD. By James Arthur. Published by the Theosophical Publishing House, Adyar, Madras. As. 6.

An interesting, if ingenious, attempt to prove by number-play, clock cypher or time count, that Francis Bacon took a hand in the final revision of the authorised version (1611) of the Bible, a revision, however, restricted entirely to emendations of a purely literary character so as to enhance its "unity of strength, rhythm and melody",

IRANIAN AND INDIAN ANALOGUES OF THE LEGEND OF THE HOLY GRAIL. By Sir J. C. Coyajee. Taraporevalla and Sons. Re. 1-8.

The volume under review formed the subject-matter of one of the six lectures delivered by Sir Coyajee to the Cama Oriental Institute in the capacity of a Research Fellow of the Government. The central point stressed by the author is that the Aryan legends on the subject of the Holy Grail or Royal glory have imparted a striking similarity to the Iranian tradition about the Royal glory.

The legend of the *Holy Grail* has been a topic attracting the scholars of the West. Various authorities like Miss Weston, Dr. Nitze and Mr. R. S. Loomis explain the legend of Holy Grail by resorting to the mysteries of Adonis Eleusis and Samothrace as throwing light on the origins of the legend.

BOOKS RECEIVED

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THE CASE AGAINST PACIFISM. By John Lewis. George Allen & Unwin, London.

THE APOSTLE OF CHARITY. By Theodore Maynard. George Allen & Unwin Ltd., London.

THE MADRAS GENERAL SALES TAX ACT : A study. By Dr. B. V. Narayanaswamy Naidu and S. Thiruvengadathan. Foreword by Sir K. V. Reddi Naidu, Annamalai University, Annamalai Nagar.

INDIA'S PROBLEM OF HER FUTURE CONSTITUTION. With a Preface by M. A. Jinnah, President, All-India Muslim League. Published by M. H. Saied, Mount Pleasant, Malabar Hill, Bombay.

AN OUTLINE OF THE MINERAL RESOURCES OF ANDHRA DESA. By Dr. C. Mahadevan, M.A., D.Sc., Andhra University Series, Ananda Press, Madras.

REPORT ON THE WORK OF THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT, LONDON, 1938-39. Office of the High Commissioner for India, London.

ANNUAL STATEMENT OF THE SEA-BORNE TRADE OF BRITISH INDIA with the British Empire and foreign countries for the fiscal year ending 31st March 1939. Vol. I. Manager of Publications, Delhi.

INSURANCE FINANCE. By B. N. Agarwala. Kitab Mahal, Allahabad. Rs. 2-8.

This neat little book gives a clear account of the financial methods followed by insurance companies. A great and growing business, insurance companies play an important part in our financial world through their large investment of funds. Mr. Agarwala gives a satisfactory account of these investment methods and gives wise hints regarding them. He is for a broader outlook in regard to investment; he would even recommend a diversion of a portion of his funds to relief of agricultural indebtedness and to financing of cottage industries. This is a bold recommendation indeed, and while it would greatly commend itself to persons like the present writer interested in the provision of greater funds in agricultural finance, the hard-grained bankers and other businessmen will look askance at it.

THE VICEROY AND GOVERNOR-GENERAL OF INDIA. By A. B. Rudra, Ph.D. Oxford University Press, Madras.

THE CHURCH AND THE WORLD. Vol. III. By Maurice B. Reckith, George Allen & Unwin, London.

SOUTHERN IDYLLS. By S. Uma Maheshwar. The B. V. Book Depot and Printing Works, Trivandrum

THE HANDLOOM INDUSTRY IN SOUTH INDIA. By K. S. Venkataraman, Ph.D. Bulletin of the Department of Indian Economics No. 4, University of Madras.

KARMANISM. By Swami Krishnanand. The Vidya Mandir Ltd., Connaught Circus, New Delhi.

THE VIJNANA DIPIKA. By Padmapadacarya. Edited by Umesha Mishra, M.A., D.Litt. Senate House, Allahabad.

PRACTICAL APPLICATIONS OF RECENT LAC RESEARCH. Edited by H. K. Sen, Indian Lac Research Institute, Ranchi.

Hyderabad

CONTEMPT OF COURT'S BILL

With a view to empower the Hyderabad High Court to deal with Contempt of Courts to the State, the Nizam's Government have drafted a Contempt of Courts Bill, which will be introduced in the Legislative Council shortly.

According to the Bill, the High Court can award punishment to a person who commits contempt of High Court and Courts subordinate to it. But before any proceedings are instituted against such person or persons, he or they would be asked to show cause why proceedings should not be instituted by a Bench of three Judges of the High Court.

When a person is found guilty, he will be awarded imprisonment up to 6 months or a fine of Rs. 2,000 or both. The imprisonment would be simple. On the whole, the Bill is on the lines of British Indian High Courts Contempt Act.

CIVIC IMPROVEMENTS

It is understood that the Hyderabad Municipal Corporation is launching its Four-year Plan for civic improvements out of the loan of Rs. 40 lakhs sanctioned by the Government. The amount will be utilised in laying dust-proof roads, constructing new drainage, providing quarters for the poorer section of the Corporation staff, constructing new markets, etc.

Nawab Mahdi Nawaz Jung Bahadur, Commissioner, who has already effected several changes in the Corporation so that work may be carried on more vigorously, is taking keen interest in improving the sanitary conditions of the City and providing various amenities.

Mysore

EDUCATION IN THE STATE

The latest report of the Mysore University discloses very many interesting details which bear ample testimony to the progressive outlook of Mysore under its benevolent and enlightened rule.

In 1930-40, the number of students continued to increase. As against 8,417 in 1938-39, the number was 4,289, including those studying in the School of Engineering. Thus there was a real increase of more than 500. This increase has been kept up by the admissions made to the classes of 1940-41, the total strength being 4,787 including 307 in the School of Engineering and 114 in the Diploma Course for Commerce.

Women's education made considerable progress during the year and the Maharani's College at Bangalore now requires additional accommodation and staff on account of increasing numbers. The number of women students in 1939-40 was 822 and the number in 1940-41 is 409.

SILK INDUSTRY

Mysore is reputedly the largest producer of silk in India. The progress achieved by Mysore in recent years should serve as a fine example to the rest of India. There were nearly 8,000 hand-looms engaged in the silk industry, mainly localised in half a dozen centres, of which Bangalore and Dodbhallapur were the chief. Till 1933, there were no power-looms at all in the cottages of weavers in these areas. The constant efforts of the Department of Industries, and the liberal attitude of the Government and the encouragement meted out to the weaver community, have been mainly responsible for the introduction of power-looms for silk weaving.

Travancore

ROAD TRANSPORT IN TRAVANCORE

The Administration Report of the Transport Department of Travancore State for the year 1114 M. E. (1938-39) states that the Department has under contemplation a daily goods lorry service from Cape Comorin up to Alwaye, connecting the northern and southern ends of the State and this will be started as soon as certain bridges and culverts on the M. C. Road, which are now in an unsafe condition, are rebuilt or repaired as the case may be. With the introduction of this service, together with the extension of passenger service now in contemplation, the various centres of industrial and commercial importance in the State will be linked together, and the public will be provided with a unique facility in the matter of road transport of goods.

The department was assiduous in providing all amenities for passengers. Many of the buses are equipped with saloon bodies to provide the maximum comfort. A high standard of tidiness is maintained in the vehicles and the seats are regularly sprayed with insecticides. Waiting-rooms are provided at all principal stations.

Indore

HOLKAR STATE BUDGET

His Highness the Maharaja Holkar has sanctioned the Budget Estimates of the Holkar State for the financial-year 1940-41, beginning from October. The Budget Estimates provide for an anticipated revenue of Rs. 1,21,31,100 and an expenditure of Rs. 1,17,85,100 chargeable to Revenue, showing an anticipated surplus of Rs. 3,46,000.

The finances of the State were subjected in 1939 to a comprehensive examination

and the result of it is traceable in the Budgets for 1939-40 and for 1940-41. In sanctioning the Budget Estimates for 1940-41, His Highness has emphasised that the policy of his Government should be to aim at universal compulsory education throughout the State at as early a date as possible and the extension of medical aid to all rural areas, especially the remote and interior parts of the State. The Education and the Medical Departments thus receive substantial additional appropriations during the year.

A revised financial policy has accordingly been laid down by His Highness, which is to be followed for the next five years beginning from 1940-41.

Cochin

TREASURY WORK FOR BANK

It is understood that the financial transactions of the Government of Cochin carried on at present in the State Treasury will be transferred to the Central Bank of India as from the 1st February 1941. The Accounts Department of the Treasury, however, will be retained by the Government while the cash receipts and payments section will be controlled by the Bank. The daily cash balance of the Treasury amounting nearly to Rs. 3 lakhs will be in the custody of the Bank, for which they will pay no interest to the Government as the funds will form no deposit and will be held as liquid resources required for meeting the day-to-day expenses of the Government that may become necessary.

For carrying on the transactions of the Government, the Bank will receive no commission, but it will be given an amount equivalent to the salary now paid by the Government to the officers in charge of the monetary transactions of the Treasury.

Baroda

BARODA'S RAILWAY PROGRAMME

The Baroda State, which claims to have the largest railway mileage in India for its size and population, is constructing more feeder railroads. One hundred and fourteen roads covering a length of 289 miles have already been completed.

To extend their programme further, the Baroda Government has sanctioned the construction of thirteen village and feeder roads in the Savili Taluka of the Baroda district at a cost of Rs. 1,46,250. The Government, as a special case, pay all the compensation for lands required for road purposes and contribute one-third of the cost, two-thirds of the remaining cost to be borne by the Baroda District Local Board.

NEW NAIB DEWAN

His Highness the Maharaja Sahib has been pleased to appoint Mr. Motilal C. Desai, an elected member of the Dhara Sabha, as Naib Dewan in charge of the Legal Section.

Kashmir

KASHMIR ADMINISTRATION

The total expenditure on the Meteorological Department during the year 1991-95 amounted to Rs. 10,091. The Department maintained eight observatories and the question of opening two new observatories was under consideration. The activities of the Department during the year were largely directed towards schemes for Services along the proposed Lahore-Jammu-Srinagar air route.

NEW COMMERCE MEMBER

His Highness the Maharaja has appointed Khan Bahadur Jafar Ali Khan, M.B.E., Additional Commissioner, Allahabad, as Commerce and Development Minister, Kashmir, *vice* Sir Abdus Samad Khan, retiring this month.

General

SATYAGRAHA IN STATES

Anti-war *satyagraha* is not to be resorted to in the States but the people of the States, if they are strong enough, can offer *satyagraha* on their own responsibility in order to have local issues and grievance redressed, said Mr. Gandhi when questioned by a deputation of workers from Mewar and some Rajputana and Himalayan States as to whether *satyagraha* in the States had also been suspended.

To another question, Mr. Gandhi replied that lists of Praja Mandal workers, who were also Congress Committee office-bearers, should be sent only through the Praja Mandal President, and workers could join in *satyagraha* if necessary after arranging for Praja Mandal work.

When asked whether *satyagraha* could be offered in British Cantonments, Mr. Gandhi said: "It can be, but I do not advise it."

Questioned as to whether *satyagraha* could be offered in railway trains, Mr. Gandhi replied: "No. This will be of a violent sort. My scheme is to offer *satyagraha* in villages while walking. The shouting of slogans in trains would disturb other passengers and it would be ungentlemanly to do so."

Gwalior

SCINDIA SCHOOL

No less than four royal visitors spent nearly two hours at the Scindia School, Gwalior, on Sunday morning, December 8th. Her Highness the Maharani Setu Parvathi Bai of Travancore, with His Highness the Maharaja of Travancore and His Highness the Maharaja of Bharatpur visited the school in the company of their host, His Highness the Maharaja Scindia of Gwalior.

INDIANS OVERSEAS

Ceylon

CEYLON NATIONAL CONGRESS

More than usual interest attaches to the 21st Session of the Ceylon National Congress which met at Misigama on December 21, as it was expected to clarify the position following the failure of the Indo-Ceylon talks.

Mr. D. S. Senanayake, Minister of Agriculture, one of the delegates to the recent delegation to India, referred in his welcome address to the difference between their proposals and those of the Government of India.

We proposed that franchise should be given to all Indians now in Ceylon who have permanently settled down here and full rights of citizenship should be given only to second generation of such Indians. Their proposal is that full rights of citizenship, with very minor restrictions, should be given to all Indians who lived for five years in Ceylon and have their families here.

The speaker commented:

Their proposals would practically amount to our having to confer full rights of citizenship on entire 900,000 Indians now in Ceylon irrespective of the fact that their real home is India and not Ceylon except to those who choose to leave Ceylon. We found it impossible to agree to these proposals and so the Conference had to end in an unsatisfactory manner. We suggested that the proposed Indo-Ceylon trade talks be taken up but representatives of Government of India said as no mutual goodwill had been established, they were not prepared to discuss the questions of trade between the two countries. He said although they had failed in the immediate purpose of their visit to India, it had served a very useful purpose. It has shown us clearly how we stand in relation to the present Government of India. It has also shown us that when we are faced with problems and dangers, it is useless our expecting others to help us to solve those problems.

Mr. Senanayake's speech thus giving details of proposals made by the Ceylon and Indian Governments at the recent talks in Delhi has naturally caused considerable surprise in important political and official circles in India. It was expected that no publicity would be given to such proposals until the Ceylon

Government had received and considered the report of its delegates. This premature publicity is certainly embarrassing as the speech makes it clear that the Ceylon delegates stuck to their proposals and were unwilling to come anywhere near a consideration of who could be considered as having an "abiding interest in Ceylon".

The President Mr. E. A. P. Vijeyeratne's address was conceived in a more optimistic vein. He visualised a future confederation of India, Burma and Ceylon, all the three forming independent units of one great self-governing dominion.

Remarking that quite apart from cultural ties that bind India and Ceylon, the question of political union has now advanced to a stage of practical problem, the President said that

a free India, whether she remains within the Commonwealth of British Empire or outside, will find in Ceylon a most valuable ally by reason of the safety of Ceylon's harbours. For Ceylon herself, it was not too far-fetched to visualise the future of an independent existence.

Stating that he included Burma advisedly in visualising the confederation of India, Burma and Ceylon in view of 300 years' warm and cordial relations and ties of common religion between Burma and Ceylon, Mr. Vijeyeratne declared that in the event of such an alliance, Ceylon too could gain by India's strength. Friendship between India and Ceylon, better understanding and sympathy were necessary for the future of both, perhaps more necessary for Ceylon than for India.

The Congress adopted a resolution sympathising with India's struggle for freedom:

This session expresses its sympathy with the people of India in their struggle for freedom; and expresses its disapproval of the punishments imposed on India's sons and daughters, who are participating in a movement of great moral significance to the whole world based as it is on the principle of non-violence.

The Congress also passed a resolution on Ceylon's freedom, considering it imperative that decisive steps should be taken to secure immediately for Ceylon such political status as would ensure for the people of the country the unfettered right to determine their domestic and foreign policies and frame their own constitution,

South Africa

HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR S. A

The following messages were exchanged between the Prime Minister of the Union of South Africa and H. E. the Viceroy on the occasion of the change in the status of the Agent-General for India in the Union of South Africa to that of High Commissioner for India in the Union of South Africa:

On behalf of the Government and people of the Union of South Africa, I wish to convey to Your Excellency and the Government and people of India our cordial congratulations on raising of the status of Indian Agent-General in the Union of South Africa to that of High Commissioner for India. In thus placing the status of the Indian representative on the same basis as that of the newly appointed representative of the Dominion of Canada in the Union, the Union Government desire not only to emphasise the importance of the post in itself, but also and more especially, to express to the people of India their sympathetic interest in their progress towards the attainment of free and equal partnership in the British Commonwealth of Nations. They venture also to express their confidence that India's conspicuous loyalty and outstanding service in her present war effort will hasten the achievement of that status.

Message from H. E. the Viceroy to General Smuts, dated December 22, 1940:

I am very grateful for your message of congratulation on the change in status of our Agent-General. The Government and the people of India share your view of the importance of the step and will warmly appreciate the sincere desire of the Union Government to greet India as an equal partner in the Commonwealth. They will particularly welcome your reference to India's war effort, which is being daily intensified. They have watched with admiration the contribution which South Africa, under your inspiring leadership, is making to the effort of the Commonwealth to defeat the challenge to individual liberty and free institutions.

The Government of India have selected Mr. Ram Chandra, I.C.S., for appointment as High Commissioner for India in the Union of South Africa, when Sir B. Rama Rau, I.C.S., vacates the post next May,

Malaya

INDIANS IN MALAYA

Discussing the various aspects of the condition of Indians in Malaya and the Government of India's ban on the emigration of unskilled labourers to that country, Mr. R. Gopala Aiyar of the Labour Department, Kuala Lumpur, in an interview with the *United Press*, said:

This ban is a real hardship on Indians. Malaya no doubt offers a splendid field for employment of Indians. Though the ban has been in existence for the past two years, it has not prevented several thousands proceeding to Malaya paying their own passages and it has never affected the wages of Indians on the other side. When countries like Burma and Ceylon are imposing restrictions on Indians' entry into those countries, it is a pity India should be blind to her own advantage of finding an outlet for her surplus population by a self-denying ordinance. Nothing is more cruel than this to the general welfare of our people of all classes and it is the peoples' look-out here to find out how it affects them and act accordingly. What I am more concerned about is that the ban works to the greatest disadvantage of the returning emigrants to Malaya. There are several Indian labourers working on the Estates there who have practically settled in Malaya. When such people visit India to see their relations or perform marriages, or take a holiday trip after a long time and when they wish to return to Malaya, they find it difficult to come back under the ban. It is all right with clerks, doctors or merchants, but it is different with labourers who have made Malaya their home, who have small plots of land, a hut and a few live-stock, etc., there.

Those Indians in Malaya who have been responsible for suggesting this ban to the Government of India, and who still cry hoarse for its continuance, are not the class of people who know anything of the real existing conditions and facts and who are in touch with the labouring classes.

But the mercantile community and a few others who are in constant touch with the mother country are dead against this ban. In my personal opinion the sooner it is lifted the better it will be for Indians both in India and Malaya. Till such time it is completely removed, a permit like that issued to Chinese emigrants proceeding to China and willing to return to Malaya may be issued by the Government, so that Indians returning to Malaya may not be handicapped.

I consider that in this matter the Government of India and more particularly the Government of Madras should be far more interested than the Malayan Government.



TOPICS From PERIODICALS



THE BATTLE OF LONDON

Reviewing the situation created by the persistent enemy attacks on London, the Editor of the *Nineteenth Century and After* observes that "it is untrue that Londoners are unafraid, that they are not suffering, that they are cheerful".

After a few days of the horror that has come upon them, their faces are tragic—not the faces of those, perhaps, who arrive from the west and suburbs, although these, too, have suffered—but the faces of those who live in the East End and other congested districts and spend night after night in crowded shelter or in the Underground. Every morning their eyes show the lack of sleep more and more, and every evening the constant skyward glances, and the hypersensitiveness to sound, reveal the nervous tension and the dread of the night to come. The nights are indeed terrible with the malignant droning of the German bombers above, the glittering brilliance of the shell-bursts, the swishing, whining descent of the bombs, the earth-shaking roar of the explosions, the red glare of the fires that follow, the chattering rain of the jagged razor-edged shell-fragments, the reverberations (the one comfort on such nights) of the anti-aircraft guns, the houses disembowelled and smashed and split into the deserted streets, the dead, and the injured.

No one who has lived through these nights will be the same when they are over. And yet fervent as the yearning is that they may be over soon,

the resolve that they shall not be over until the foe has been broken is more fervent still (there are prayers for peace in all the churches, and rightly so, but the prayers must be for peace and victory, never for peace alone). Awful as the horror and the tragedy are, and unendurable, almost, the apprehension of what is still to come, there is a pride and a glory in being a Londoner in London now—in London, greatest city that is and ever was, worthy successor to ancient Athens and Rome, heart of the Empire, and last stronghold of freedom in Europe.

If the Germans ever give up the idea of invading England and making themselves masters of its capital, "they will do so because they have been defeated, because the heroes of the Royal Air Force denied them the command of the air, and because the men, women and children of London, although frightened, could not be daunted".

WAR AND ITS REMEDY

"The only remedy for war is to abolish commercial competition and replace it with international co-operation, establishing a 'World Co-operative Commonwealth of Free Peoples' in which no nation or person can be subjugated or exploited by any other but where all enjoy the same liberty and status in a new world under the dynamic power of which will be 'The Golden Rule' instead of the rule of gold which contests the present system of so-called civilization," thus observes Mr. Francis Bell writing in the *New History*.

This means the end of all imperialistic ambitions—but it also will mean that the peoples of every nation will have "more than enough and to spare", and peace and plenty" will reign.

It will mean the breaking down of the man-made walls of separation—Tariffs, Creeds, Frontiers, Nationalities, Class and Caste.

It will mean that the machine will become the servant of man, instead of as at present a monster that is working for his destruction. It will mean that all that is being spent in men, wealth, and material for the mutual murder of mankind will be spent in construction purposes to improve the conditions of all.

It will mean the substitution of sanity for insanity. This can only be accomplished by a change in the ideology of the people, when success will not be determined or measured by the individual or national bank balance—such things should be entirely foreign in the new order—but in the happiness and improved conditions of the peoples of all countries.

For this condition to be permanent, says the writer, we must have the personal conviction of the common origin of all men in the Fatherhood of God—

Who or Which has been revealed to us as the Universal and Indwelling Spirit of Love and to harmonize with Which is the only hope for or of humanity, the only path to peace and the brotherhood of man.

This is not an impossible Utopia—it will materialize when mankind so desires and is prepared to abide by its conditions, the realization of the purpose of life, the goal of human progress,

FRENCHMEN DEFEATED FRANCE

George Peel, writing in the *Contemporary Review* for August, is strongly of opinion that France fell because the battle of France was a battle between Frenchmen. He goes on to say that during its life of seventy years up to 1940, the Third Republic may be credited with many splendid achievements.

But there was one vital thing which it could not or, at any rate, did not secure. It never had the loyal support of the nation as a whole.

During the forty years from the settlement of the Republican Constitution in 1875 up to the war of 1914-18, political instability prevailed, the world being treated to the spectacle of no less than fifty-two phantom governments within that space of forty years. During that period the real business of Parliament, that is, the condition of the people and the conduct of public finance was practically neglected.

The numerous so-called parties were really only two. There was the Left which was for a maximum and there was the Right which was for a minimum of the Republic. This was an abstract controversy fought in the air and, as such, was at any rate more respectable than the personalities which otherwise occupied Parliament.

From 1914 to 1940, however, a new factor and a new force emerged into the field of politics with momentous consequences for France. Slowly and silently a new party began to rear its head which, this time, meant business. It believed neither in a maximum, nor in a minimum of the Republic; it did not believe in the Republic at all. This party was that of the Communists.

The rise of this new party after the war of 1914-18 was, however, very slow. But when the world economic crash came in 1929, France, though she resisted longer than any other country, presently began to feel the pinch and turn restless.

To the question how was it that the French Government and the General Staff adopted doctrines so obviously fatal to success in the war, the writer says that it was

probably because they must have known that the French people and the French army were unwilling to do more than sit tight at home and fend off the aggressor.

And the final reason why they were bent on adopting an attitude so utterly alien to their traditions and instincts, as well as so opposed to common sense, was that France had long been eaten out and exhausted by her internal animosities and, as a fighting force, was dead. Thus when the war really began and the tocsin sounded, though the gallant sons of France still existed, "France" did not.

HOW TO CHOOSE YOUR READING

Writing on the above topic, Mr. O. Graves points out in the *Rosicrucian Digest* that everybody reads to-day for better or for worse. Compulsory education and the desire for recreation have made the reading habit practically universal. Suppose one desires strictly to do his own selecting of books on what principles shall he depend?

The American transcendentalist, Emerson, originated three: "Never read any book that is not an year old. Never read any but famous books, and never read any book but that which you like." J. N. Larned, famous author and librarian, gives his rule for the choice of books: "Does the book leave any kind of a wholesome and fine feeling in the mind of one who reads it?" Van Dyke first would have one read the general books of culture, then to "read only the texts of your profession", as well as "everything that in any way has even a remote bearing upon it". John Ruskin says: "Avoid especially that class of literature which has a knowing tone: it is the most poisonous of all." Leslie Stephen would have us to be certain of reading the great masterpieces. Criticism of books is not at present an exact science and probably never will be. Keen discrimination in the choice of books is the ultimate reward of much reading and full living. It is always wise to consider the advice of older and more experienced readers, then form your own conclusion.

When the individual reader realizes the true value of books, he will be more discriminating in his choice. The writer concludes:

In the final analysis it is true that out of the millions of books there are only a few thousand which are important. Recognizing the value of such selected lists, authorities have from time to time chosen certain books which they believed were among the best. Perhaps the most famous of these is Sir John Lubbock's list of the best one hundred books. Too many people of to-day read no books at all giving as their excuse "there are no worth while books any more".

The realization of the inestimable value of books will create the reading habit and will place one in noble company. The great bibliophiles of history such as Cicero, Bacon, Lamb, Hazlitt, and Emerson all had great passions for books. The picture of Milton—blind, white-haired, a living shadow, sitting stroking and kissing the books he could no longer read is altogether disparaging to the modern reader's calloused and desultory spirit.

THE CABINET MINISTER AND ADMINISTRATION

The position of a Cabinet Minister as the head of a department under Parliamentary Government is the subject of an interesting article by MacGregor Dawson in the September number of the *Political Science Quarterly*. The Minister's position is justified on two broad grounds: he holds his office as a representative of the people and it is his paramount duty to see that the popular will is carried into effect. Secondly, as he is in supreme charge of a department yet not member of its permanent staff, he is expected to bring to the work of administration "a freshness of outlook, a stimulus to action, and a breadth of view" which a permanent official cannot supply. Mr. Dawson examines the position in the light of the experiences of three noted Cabinet Ministers who were all equally successful. These distinguished British Ministers—Lord Oxford and Asquith, Mr. Lloyd George and Lord Curzon—are chosen "not only because of their exceptional capacity as Ministers but also because each presents entirely different qualities and equally dissimilar methods in dealing with administrative difficulties".

Asquith, Lloyd George and Curzon, while differing from one another in many ways, all followed the British cabinet tradition in the qualities they brought to their respective posts. Although they were amateurs and generally unable to compete with their officials in technical expertness, each was nevertheless an expert in another sense: he was a skilled administrator who was fully competent to run a department well. The Cabinet Minister, if he is to perform his functions adequately, needs a varied rather than a specialized equipment; he should possess such qualities as a discriminating judgment, a knowledge of men, sound common sense, an ability to make decisions, a willingness to work exceptionally hard, and an understanding of organization. Most of these a Minister is likely to have in fair measure at the time of his appointment, for the hard proving-ground of the House of Commons develops and trains its members along precisely

these lines, and there is a reasonable assurance that only the best of the survivors will be given portfolios. The lack of any technical or narrow skill on the part of the Minister makes him unusually adaptable, and he is consequently able to move from department to department with comparative ease and, as a rule, little loss in efficiency. This adaptability may be, of course, easily overstressed; for no Minister's talents are so catholic that they will not be better suited to some departments than to others. Mr. Lloyd George, for example, chose the Presidency of the Board of Trade in preference to the more remunerative Postmaster-Generalship, because the latter "offered him neither scope for initiative nor a challenge to enterprise," both of which he hoped to find—and did find—at the Board of Trade. Asquith as Home Secretary and Prime Minister, Lloyd George as Minister of Munitions and War Prime Minister, Curzon as Foreign Secretary are further examples of the same happy result obtained by matching personal traits to a congenial office.

Curzon was, of course, the antithesis of Lloyd George in his reluctance to delegate any power or responsibility. Each had a flair for organization; but the one built it about himself as the source of all energy and direction, while the other was content to make his immediate contribution only when the circumstances were so urgent that his special intervention became imperative. Curzon's methods and painstaking industry undoubtedly had a bureaucratic taint; but he protected himself by his imagination and breadth of vision, and there were times when his ordered control of detail seemed closely allied to genius. But his passion for keeping a careful watch on every activity constituted a serious fault, for it made his administration unduly dependent on its head.

Each Minister will naturally rely on those qualities of mind and character, which have already served him well and to which in large measure he owes his existing high position.

The judicial Asquith will bring exceptional care and discriminating judgment to his administrative problems; the impulsive Lloyd George will approach his task with his well-known vigour and imagination; the bureaucratic Curzon will direct every detail with a painstaking thoroughness which has become his second nature. Each will affect his civil servants in an equally characteristic fashion: an Asquith by a calm confidence in their ability and co-operation, a Lloyd George by fair words and an appeal to their resourcefulness, a Curzon by scathing rebuke and personal example. Yet the general psychological effect may be much the same in all these cases. The civil servant will be given a stimulus and a new point of view; he will be brought into immediate and frequent contact with a mind quite different from his own in training, outlook and experience, yet one which is by no means inferior in either shrewdness or capacity.

BRITISH INTERESTS IN INDIA

"Britain conquered India for the economic advantages her occupation offered it," says Mr. Asoka Mehta, writing on 'British interests in India' in the December number of the *Modern Review*.

From the days of the East India Company to our times they have made many adjustments to extract fuller advantages from changing circumstances, but their essential character has remained consistently harmful to Indian interests.

They set foot on the Indian soil as a corporate body with unified control and monopoly rights in the form of the East India Company. Since then, they have always striven to maintain that unity and monopoly and to widen the field of their activities.

In the eighteenth century, trade with India was very profitable. To take advantage of it the Britishers came to India, not individually as merchants or even adventurers, but as a corporate body with monopoly rights. The unity and monopoly helped them not only to make huge profits but gradually to acquire control over the country. The Flag followed the Trade.

The large profits had far-reaching effects on the politics and the economy of Great Britain. The Industrial Revolution swept through Britain and made it "the workshop of the world". This workshop needed growing markets for manufactured goods and later for investments and expanding supplies of raw materials.

Britain determined to keep India an agricultural colony, supplying raw materials and absorbing British manufactured goods. The economic development of India could be thus "arrested and even reversed", because of the political control Britain exercised over her.

Ruralisation of India was adopted almost as a policy. Indian handicrafts were ruthlessly destroyed. Even agriculture was neglected except that sector of it that was needed in Britain's interests, such as the commercial crops like jute and cotton. In scholarly language all this was called *laissez faire*.

Crores of rupees were sunk in India to open her up for British goods and investments. But scrupulous care was taken to arrest her industrial development. The rules for the purchase of the Indian Government's stores, issued in 1870 and 1875, forbade the purchase of most industrial goods in India and required all contracts to be made in London. The Government strangled our industrial expansion to benefit the British interests.

Over Rs. 700 crores were spent on railway construction in India, spanning her vast distances for the quick transport of British goods and troops, but not a bolt or a nut was sought to be produced in the country.

When development of some industries in India appeared to be inevitable, the British interests, always alert and well-organised entered the field themselves. The industries were developed under British control and safely planted behind the rapidly rising tariff walls.

The luxury of protection has cost the Indian people about Rs. 500,00,00,000 but its main benefit has accrued to the British interests that dominate Indian industries.

In the railways not only the nine major lines (Capital Rs. 700 crores) are owned or operated by the British, but even of the thirty-one minor railways, twenty-eight (Capital Rs. 11,00,00,000) are in British hands. Of the hundred Jute Mills (Capital Rs. 23,00,00,000) working in India, over 50 (Capital Rs. 17,00,00,000) are under British control. Even in the Cotton Textile industry, which is popularly believed to be a monument of Indian enterprise, over 20 per cent of it is in British hands. In coal mines and tea and coffee plantations the British predominance is patent to all. In sugar, cement, paper, matches, they have significant shares. The deposits with British-owned and controlled banks are much larger than those with the Indian banks: Exchange Banks Rs. 75 crores, *Quasi-Indian Banks*: Rs. 155 crores, Indian Banks: Rs. 84 crores. In Insurance, 147 foreign companies draw an annual premium of Rs. 7 crores while 232 Indian Companies draw an annual premium of Rs. 8,75,00,000; but not all the latter are *swadeshi*. India has thus been reconquered behind the tariff wall.

These industries are controlled by a handful of "trusts": Bradys, Killick Pixons, Sassoons in Western India, Andrew Yule & Co., Martin & Co., McLeod & Co., etc., in eastern India. Every one of these trusts has many industrial concerns under it: Andrew Yule and Company, for instance, controls 54 concerns spread out in fifteen different fields of industrial activities.

FUNDAMENTALS OF DEMOCRACY

The theory of Democracy is not a definite system of political philosophy like Communism or Fascism, says Mr. P. Nagaraja Rao in the *Aryan Path* for December. It is a collection of principles that are generally regarded and accepted as intrinsically valid. They are accepted by the Democrat as self-evident.

What are the democratic principles? First, that the individual is of the greatest value in life and that the success of any civilisation or the efficiency of any government should be measured in terms of the scope provided for individual development.

The production of "the splendid individual and not the mechanically efficient society" is the aim of the Democrat. To a very large extent a Democrat is an individualist. The individual for the Democrat is not to be treated as "a drop of blood in a racial purity, nor as a cog in a proletarian or totalitarian machine, nor as an ant in a social termitary", but as a self that must live and grow according to the highest law of its being.

The second important principle of democracy is the belief in the principle of freedom as fostering the tender plant of individuality.

Freedom is the thing for which the individual lives and without it he is no better than a robot, an automaton. The denial of freedom is the denial of all that makes life worth living. A systematic denial of freedom reduces men to the level of brutes. The denial of freedom produces in men listlessness and cruelty together or in alternation. Passive adaptation is impossible for the individual; so the individuals that are denied freedom turn out to be grotesque and distorted specimens. In the long run their powers of endurance are also at an end. Endurance is the outcome of freedom. Without liberty an individual will not be able to learn to endure. Thus the denial of liberty would stand in the way of the achievement of true strength, which is valuable and real only where it is self-developed.

From these twin concepts of the sacredness of the individual and the necessity of freedom, all other minor tenets of Democracy follow.

The Democrat has no faith in the cult of the superman. The Democrat would never consent

to sacrifice the manifold personalities of the different individuals for the production of the more powerful or more imposing Leviathan. Democrats disbelieve in the principle that "the few must guide and the rest must follow". The Democrat believes that all men reach their best in different ways. The ordinary man is neither wicked at heart, nor weak in head; he is not even malleable clay to be properly shaped into form. The Democrat believes that the individual in a free environment has the greatest chance of rising to his full stature.

No true Democrat ever claims that Democracy is a final form of Government; but it is, as the writer truly observes, the least objectionable form of government that is practicable.

In the long run the Democratic principle makes for civilisation. It is not a mere form of government, it is an ideal philosophy of values. It is the secret of social peace. If human beings form one vast family, it is through the principle of Democracy that we may teach them, educate them to love one another and to pursue, in their common interests, the highest good of which mankind is capable. Call it enlightened self-interest if you like—but remember, it is enlightened—and therefore intensely human and not unworthy of men.

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N. GOPALA IYER,

Secretary.

Jan. '41.

INDIAN ECONOMY AND NATIONAL GOVERNMENT

Dr. C. R. Reddy, writing on the above subject in the *Twentieth Century* for December, points out that "the economic sovereignty of England over India must cease as much in the interests of England as of India. If India continues to be the weak link that she is today, the Imperial chain will scrap". Hence he urges that in India the State must undertake the primary responsibility for economic reconstruction.

For this it is not necessary, though it is desirable, to democratise the constitution. It is enough if the Central Government is nationalised by the constitution of a Cabinet of the nominees of the leading political organisations in the country so that they may fire the administration with our national ambitions and rouse the moral enthusiasm of the people. An economic planning inspired by the ambition to be a first-class State and equal Imperial Unit is best achieved by a Government in which the leaders of Indian opinion play a directing part. As things are, the popular feeling is that the Central Government as now constituted and functioning touches only the pockets of the people and not their hearts.

During the war, of course, the only right course is to invest our monies in fields that yield the quickest and best results; for we cannot afford to lose time preparing slow, undeveloped fields for a production which might not arrive in time for meeting swift mechanised attacks. So, I for one am not in the least opposed to the policy of buying or getting tanks and planes made in America or wherever they could be got in good quality and very good time. But this cannot be made the permanent policy of the State, leaving India for ever an impossible country for war industries with the exception of perhaps light munitions.

Indian industrialists complain that the shipbuilding, aviation and motor industries proposed to be started by them are not receiving the consideration due from the Government. Mr. Walchand Hirachand

has shown what an amount of help had been given by the British Government to Cunard and other shipping companies and how the attitude of the Indian Government to Indian shipping has been almost the reverse of helpful.

Since the immediate War policy of the Government must aim at quick and good results and cannot, except to a limited extent, concern itself with the slow process of preparing India for war production and other factors of national efficiency, it is necessary to create confidence in the people that the future would not be neglected or hampered as in the past; and this can be done only by nationalising the Central Government without reference to constitutional controversies. It is enough if for the present India is put under a strong and capable cabinet of National Leaders.

PRICE CONTROL

An informing article on "Price Control" is presented in the *Half Yearly Journal of the Mysore University* by Mr. Tirumalachar, who traces the history of the present price control scheme by the Government of India since September 1939. No scheme of Price Control, however perfect, can effectively cure all the evils of a soaring price level during period of war. For,

it can achieve its purpose only as a part of a co-ordinated and comprehensive policy of war economy. The roots of the problem lie deeper in the financing of increased Government demands by inflationary methods and in the physical shortage of goods. The cure must consequently be radical. Taxation must be high enough to prevent people from offering high retail prices. The compulsion to pay taxes has to be accompanied by the persuasion to lend to the Government with similar results. And a system of rationing will have to be introduced on a sufficiently wide scale to give a turn to the normal trading processes, which in war-time make retail shops the perfect centre for the activities of profiteers.

Price control will, therefore, be politically successful and economically sound only if it is regarded as one of the aspects of general economic policy. If, however, the present war is financed by inflationary means, then no measures of Price Control, however stringent, can prevent prices from rising. Indeed in these circumstances, it is not desirable to keep prices down. For if the Government does not raise the resources, it needs either by taxation or by the borrowing of genuine savings, then a rise in prices is the only way in which the consumption of the people can be reduced in order to set the necessary labour, materials and capital equipment free for the purposes of war.

CHRISTIAN INDIANS & NATIONALISM

Dr. H. C. Mookerjee, writing in the *New Review* for December, points out that the greatest hindrance to a happy and united India is the regrettable appearance of the spirit of separatism, which has most unfortunately manifested itself in some form or other in every part of the country. Almost everywhere, interested motives alone account for differences of opinion which interferes with the growth of our national unity. Practically every community, he says, claims a definite percentage of services and clamours whenever it feels dissatisfied with the proportion of Government patronage it enjoys. It is surprising to notice the grounds on which such claims are advanced.

Some communities base their claims on the fact that they constitute the backward, depressed or scheduled castes, others on the fact of their superior wealth, education or vested interests. Communities are not wanting which claim special treatment on account of their loyalty and services to the Empire and stress their value as recruits to the army. Political predominance in the past, fancied superiority as a fighting race and what amounts to their nuisance value are also put forward as reasons for special treatment. These claims for preferential treatment are dictated by the desire to have a larger share in the loaves and fishes of office than a particular community is entitled to on the basis of efficiency.

Speaking broadly, probably with the exception of the Anglo-Indians and Domiciled Europeans, all minority communities form part of a single nation. In no sense of the term can they be regarded as aliens.

The Muslims, the Sikhs, the Indian Christians and other minority communities, to all intents and purposes, are members of the same great nation. And yet mutual distrust and suspicion

mark the relations of the different communities. Communalism has been found to pay with the result that many who, in their heart of hearts, are aware of its evil effects, are taking advantage of the present situation for the sake of immediate gain.

Speaking for the Christians, Dr. Mookerjee deplores that the so-called Communal Award has forced them to become a separate political entity. By no stretch of imagination could it lead to national solidarity. Hence he pleads for a revision of the constitution eliminating this anomaly.

Some change in the constitution is bound to come as soon as the present war is over in which we all hope that Britain will be victorious. For all we know, such changes may come even earlier. Now is the time for all of us to come together and to put in a united demand for either the annulment of the Communal Award altogether or, if that is regarded as too drastic a step, which I do not admit, to at least demand a substantial modification of it in the shape of joint electorates.

It is quite true that if we seek inclusion in the general electorate, it will imply our social, economic and political absorption or rather assimilation by the majority communities or, if you prefer it, our extinction as a separate and independent political entity. From this will follow the loss of that importance which some of us enjoy to-day as the leaders of the prominent members of a comparatively small group. The utter worthlessness of this artificial importance, which some of us are enjoying at present, is a matter of such common knowledge that it deceives no one.

I would, therefore, most earnestly entreat every Christian Indian to think over this matter earnestly and to come to a just and correct decision. Let those of us who are thinking ahead of the times continually and without any intermission agitate for the acceptance of this principle and educate our brothers in faith in political wisdom, so that the transition from the communal to the general electorate may be natural and an easy one, and the demand for it may emerge so naturally, spontaneously and universally as to be almost automatic.

VEDANTA DESIKA

Brahmachari Bhaktichaitanya writes about Sri Vedanta Desika, the great South Indian Vaishnavite Saint in the December number of the *Prabuddha Bharata*. The Brahmachari says that Desika was a versatile genius and a true philosopher who did not divorce philosophy from the realities of life. In those days of religious fanaticism, he combined in himself the most generous tolerance to the views that were not his own with the courage of his fundamental convictions. The writer continues:

The life of Desika impresses one with the contraries; he was a Kavi and a Tarkika, a saint and a savant, a stern ascetic and a householder. One sees him as a merciless debator with dialectical skill in great controversies, fighting with the lightning shafts of reason; another sees him as an Acharya expounding the scriptures with authority; for the third he is an ideal saint with innate beauty of character; for the fourth he is a mystic in whom boundless Para Bhakti to the Deity and burning love for his spiritual teacher are blended in perfect symphony.

Desika's great service to the cause of Sri Vaishnava Philosophy is recounted in the following words by the writer:—

Desika's great service to the cause of Sri Vaishnava philosophy was the saving of the *Sruta-prakasika*, the great gloss on the Sri Bhashya of Sri Ramanuja, by the famous Sudarsana Bhattarya, from destruction when the army of Malik Kafur, General of Allauddin sacked Srirangam in 1327 A.D. Sri Sudarsana Bhattarya, before he was killed in the general massacre, handed over to Desika his work as well as his two children. Desika with the precious gloss and the two children fled to Mysore territory where he stayed for a time. After some years having come to know that Srirangam was freed from the ruthless hands of the vandals, he returned to the holy city and resumed his old office.

Desika spent much of his time at Srirangam and Tiruvahindrapuram as an ideal householder living a life of absolute poverty. He spent the last years of his life in quiet meditation retiring from all philosophical wranglings. It is chronicled that he passed away after completing the full span of life.

VAISHNAVITE REFORMERS OF INDIA. By Prof. Rajagopalachari. Re. One. To Subscribers of "Indian Review," As. 12. G. A. Natesan & Co., Publishers, Madras.

TIMES OF INDIA ANNUAL

This Annual for 1941, which is priced Rs. Two, fully maintains its high standard alike in printing and get-up. Eight full plates in colour, besides numerous reproductions of photographs, make a sumptuous volume. "Shivaji at Aurangzeb's Court" is a fine picture depicting a well known scene in Indian history. The Mahratta Chieftain's indignant protest against the Emperor's insult is vividly portrayed. There are interesting articles on a variety of subjects of equal interest to the layman and scholar. H. H. The Maharaja of Nawannagar recounts his shooting experiences. Other articles of note are: "The Power of Iron" by Verrier Elwin, "The Marwari Marionette Man" by A. Duarte, and "The Chitrakathi (The Picture Showmen of the Deccan)" by B. G. Murdeshwar. Altogether the Annual is replete with things to instruct and entertain the reader.

INDIA IN PERIODICALS

INDIAN MUSEUMS AND CULTURAL RECONSTRUCTION. By H. Goetz. [The New Review, December 1940.]

GOVERNMENT AND RURAL RECONSTRUCTION. By Clifford Maushardt. [The Indian Journal of Social Work, December 1940.]

A LIFE PICTURE OF SWAMI PARAMANANDA. By Sister Devamata. [Message of the East, September 1940.]

AGRICULTURAL MARKETING IN INDIA. By Rajani Kanta Das. [The Modern Review, December 1940.]

INDIA'S RIVER OF ROMANCE. By St. Nihal Singh. [The Times of India Annual 1941.]

THE ASIATIC SOCIETY OF BENGAL. By Dr. Kalidas Nag. [New Asia, December, 1940.]

PLAN OF LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT IN INDIA. By Sir A. P. Patro. [The Calcutta Municipal Gazette Anniversary Number.]

DEVELOPMENT OF TRAVANCORE FISHERIES. By Dr. C. C. John. [Travancore Information, November 1940.]

MULTUM IN PARVO

NEWS * DEPARTMENTAL * NOTES

Questions of Importance

DR. SAPRU'S STATEMENT

In a statement drawing attention to the present political situation in the country, the Rt. Hon. Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru offers the following suggestions to end the dead-lock and bring about a National Government:—

1. (a) That Mahatma Gandhi, in whom all the powers and functions of the Congress are at present centred, and Mr. Jinnah should meet and meet promptly and discuss things in a free, open and large-hearted manner with the fixed determination that they must come to some sort of a settlement:

(b) That, not only should they meet between themselves, but they should also invite one or two leaders of the Hindu Sabha, the Sikhs and the Depressed Classes, etc., and I would make an earnest appeal to them just as I would to Mr. Jinnah, that, in the larger interests of the country, the spirit which should permeate them in their discussions should be different from that which permeates in public discussions. It will do no good at this juncture and certainly not promote the objective of unity or settlement to ask whether it is right or wrong to make the future of India dependent upon the will or the veto of the minorities. We must take the situation as it is at present.

(c) They must also see the Viceroy and press on him—1. to reconstruct for the period of the war his government so as to give it in substance the character of a National Government. From a practical point of view, it is entirely immaterial by what name you call it, whether you call it a 'national government' or a 'national executive' or merely an 'executive council', the essence of the whole thing being, that the number of non-official Indians, who command the confidence of large sections of the people, in whose honour and judgment the country can trust, should be preponderantly large.

2. That with the advent of the new Commander-in-Chief, or even before, an Indian Defence Member should be appointed as the moral effect of that on the imagination of the people will be immense, and in my opinion, Government in agreeing to it will be reviving the faith of the country and removing the sense of frustration, which, in the last analysis, is affecting the entire psychology of the country.

3. They should press on the Viceroy that heavy industries, particularly those connected with the war, including the manufacture of aeroplanes

should be started at as early a date as possible, even though Whitehall may be unwilling for one reason or another, and tell him plainly that the plea that technical experts are not available or cannot be got elsewhere is looked upon even by the friends of Government as a plea of obstruction or delay, which can bring no conviction to the Indian mind.

4. They must also draw attention to the present constitutional position in the provinces and tell him that if the old Ministries cannot be revived or cannot work smoothly, an attempt should be made with the goodwill of all to establish mixed or Coalition Ministries and even if this attempt fails, non-official Advisers to be associated with the administration of the provinces simultaneously with the reconstruction of the Central Government, and, lastly, that the War Board, which alone can at this stage bring British India and Indian States together on a common platform, be established provided it is going to be a live and active Board.

BRITISH M. P.s' APPEAL TO INDIA

A letter to the people of India from friends in the House of Commons has been published in the press. The signatories include some well-known members belonging to different parties in the House. They underline the Viceroy's offer and plead for a provisional settlement.

The British people desire that the advance towards Indian political freedom should be made as rapidly as possible. Realities must, however, be faced. India will certainly appreciate that it is hardly possible for the British Government to take part in a complicated constitutional settlement in the midst of war. Mr. Gandhi has recognised this. But the war must not be made an excuse for indefinite delay. We are clear that the new Constitution must be set up immediately after the war and we think that the interval ought not merely to be a blank period. Why should not Indians get together? Is it not possible to find men in India with the necessary qualifications who will agree to settle down together to a period of hard work, striving to design the framework of a plan which will be the best not merely for one community or party or political organisation or class or caste but for India as a whole and for her 40 crores of people? Such seem to us the fundamentals,

MR. AMERY'S SLOGAN: "INDIA FIRST"

Mr. L. S. Amery, Secretary of State for India, applied the slogan "India First" when speaking at a luncheon in London on December 12. He said:

Let me say to begin with what I mean by the word "India". By India, I mean India as a whole; India as nature and history have shaped her; India with her infinite diversity and underlying unity; India as she is today and as we wish her to be in the years to come.

India, like our own island, has submitted to many influences from without.

The last, but in some respects the most potent, of all these external influences has been that of this country exercised upon India, now for nearly three hundred years. Its effect upon India's racial composition and internal social structure has been negligible. But in the political domain, the effect has far exceeded that of any of its predecessors.

The British rule alone succeeded in giving India that political unity which is the indispensable condition of her free and peaceful development. It gave to India what the Norman conquest gave England, a strong ordered administration. It gave what England won for herself in Magna Carta, the reign of law and a legal system, which Indian judges and lawyers have progressively contributed to administer and to enrich. It gave, above all, in the English language not only a common medium but a common foundation of political thinking among Indians of every class or creed. In that sense at least, the British influence in India has become an integral part of her national life, and India and England are today in political outlook and aspiration, if not in race, members of one political family.

What I want to emphasise is that in these things the political unity of India and the development in India of British conceptions of individual freedom and national self-Government are intimately connected.

What then do I mean by India first. I think that I can best convey my meaning in alternative ways, putting myself in the place first of one and then of another of those to whom I wish to commend this watchword.

Let me begin by placing myself in the position of a British Indian, a member of the Hindu community, a believer in Indian freedom from outside control and in democracy—shall I say a follower of the Congress or of the Hindu Mahasabha. What should 'India first' mean for one in that position? How in that case should I interpret it for myself? Would it not be in some such sense as follows? If I put India first, then must I not win over to my conception of India's future my Muslim neighbour who is as essentially and necessarily a part of India as I am? I may prefer a democratic system on the simple majority basis that prevails in England and a closely knit centralised constitution.

Putting, himself in turn in the position of a follower of an Indian Muslim, a Ruler of an Indian State and an Englishman, Mr. Amery declared

that the slogan "India first" demanded from every element comprehensive tolerance and compromise; acceptance of the real India as it exists today, not the uncompromising insistence upon the immediate and complete realisation of the theoretical India which any particular element or party had inscribed upon its banner.

Believing as I do that the highest interest of Britain lies in the strength and permanence of the British Commonwealth, I know that the strength of that Commonwealth and the permanence of that Commonwealth can only be based on the fullest freedom, the fullest developments, the fullest variety of individual lies in each of its parts.

It was from that point of view that the Viceroy made his statement three months ago. That offer had for the moment been rejected, not because it was itself inadequate but because the spirit of "India first" was not strong enough to overcome the insistence on impracticable demands on the one side or undue suspicion on the other.

I am not prepared to believe that this will be India's final reaction to the offer which is still before her.

Mr. Amery continued that

there must be many of every party and every community in India, younger men with ideals and yet wide-eyed for reality, practical men of affairs who between them should be able to find a way out of a dead-lock between contending Indian claims which could not serve either India or that common cause in the present conflict which every Indian knew was as much his own as it was ours. It is to them above all that I would commend the watchword of "India first".

MR. CHURCHILL ON "WAR AIMS"

"When this war is won as it surely will be—it must be one of our aims to establish a state of society where the advantages and privileges which hitherto have been enjoyed only by a few shall be far more widely shared by the men and youth of the nation as a whole." This statement was made by Mr. Winston Churchill, Prime Minister, speaking at his old school of Harrow.

SIR KUNWAR ON COMMUNALISM

In the very brief but impressive address that Kunwar Sir Maharaj Singh delivered at the Lucknow University, he deplored that there is too much of communalism in India and "it has increased rather than diminished". He made a fervent appeal to the young men of the University to stop this insidious disease.

I am convinced that the main obstacle to political advance in this country is communal ill-feeling. The solution is not easy. But I suggest that it is only by having intimate friends among the followers of another creed, by appreciating their point of view, and above all by a spirit of compromise on which, Burke has said, "all Government, indeed every human benefit and enjoyment, every virtue and every prudent act is founded", that Communalism can be successfully attacked. Should you for this purpose need inspiration, I invite you to study, as I did last cold weather the writings of the mystics: Hindu, Christian and Muslim, and learn from them the eternal truth of the fundamental unity of man transcending all diversity.

He revealed that while entertaining Mahatma Gandhi and later Mr. Jinnah in his house in Simla, he took the opportunity "to beg of them in all humility to see each other and to discuss ways and means for ending the present tension". And he wound up by saying "men and women of our generation have failed to solve this question. May you succeed when we have failed"!

MR. JINNAH'S SLOGAN

"Pakistan is not far off. Every Mussalman in every town and village is ready to sacrifice for Pakistan," declared Mr. M. A. Jinnah, President of the All-India Muslim League, addressing a public meeting at Ahmedabad on December 27. He said that Dr. Moonje talked of Hindu nation, Hindu rule and Hindu kingdom. While the Hindu Mahasabha spoke plainly, the Congress spoke subtly, but they both spoke the same thing in substance and letter.

INDIA AND THE WAR

Sir S. Radhakrishnan, Vice-Chancellor of the Benares Hindu University, in the course of his address to the Convocation of the Patna University, declared:

The finest anti-Nazi material is in India, and it is nothing short of a tragedy that she is still mainly unreconciled. If freedom of all people is the aim of this war, as it should be, then those who were conquered in the past must be set free. To win the war will not mean much if it does not remove the great wrongs of the present world. We must demonstrate even to the enemy that we reverence the ideals of justice and freedom which we condemn him for rejecting. British statesmen do not seem to realise sufficiently that new forces are at work which require a new outlook and interpretation.

There are many injustices, added Sir Radhakrishnan, in the British system which are corrupting but that should not betray us into blurring the distinction between unfulfilled justice and a clean negation of justice. Every individual is obliged to choose one rather than the other. Even for those who suffer from the injustices of the British system, the duty is clear. It is to defend the cause of Britain and at the same time assist Britain to remedy the injustices which are manifestly inconsistent with her professed ideals.

MR. BOSE AND CONGRESS PRESIDENT

In the course of a long statement commenting on the disciplinary action taken by the Congress President against the Deputy Leader and 13 other members of the Bengal Congress Parliamentary Party, Mr. Subhas Chandra Bose characterises it as *ultra vires* of the Congress constitution and indulges in a personal attack on Maulana Abul Kalam Azad. Mr. Bose says that since the Working Committee has handed over all its powers to Mahatma Gandhi, the only single individual who can speak in the name of the Congress is Gandhiji and not Maulana Azad. What more, it is the Working Committee and not the President by himself that can take disciplinary action.

OSMANIA UNIVERSITY CONVOCATION

Sir Maurice Gwyer, Chief Justice of India, delivering the Convocation Address to the Osmania University, said that he was anxious to see the Universities taking a more useful and prominent part in Indian public life, and it was on this account that he had been led to suggest directions in which their activities would find ample scope. He was not advocating that they should plunge into party politics, but rather that they should give an impulse to political thought based upon historical knowledge, instructed sympathy and that sense of proportion which he had ventured to single out as the most valuable gift which a University can confer upon its children.

HINDI CONVOCATION

"Your study of Hindi is really symbolic of the coming change, of the new social order that will very soon be established in this country," said Dr. B. Pattabhi Sitharamayya addressing the new graduates at the Tenth Annual Convocation of the Dakshina Bharat Hindi Prachar Sabha at Madras.

The Convocation was held in a specially erected pandal and the new graduates, nearly 50 in number, including four women, marched in a procession.

Mr. M. Satyanarayana, General Secretary, said the Sabha had been conducting three grades of examinations since 1922 and so far nearly 116,823 candidates have sat for the examinations, the number this year being 19,023. In the Rashtra Basha Visharad examinations, of 3,453 candidates who had appeared till now, only 1,676 had passed; this year 141 candidates had passed this examination.

NAGPUR UNIVERSITY CONVOCATION

The Convocation of the Nagpur University was held on December 7, H. E. Sir Henry Twynam, the Chancellor, presiding. Four-hundred and eighty-three graduates were admitted to their respective degrees: of these 44 were women. Sir Maneckji Dadabhoy and Sir Moropant Joshi were admitted to the Degree of Doctor of Laws *honoris causa*.

Addressing the Convocation, His Excellency paid a glowing tribute to the successful and vigorous administration of the University under the guidance of Mr. Kadar. He continued:

I am very glad to hear that a degree in commerce has now been instituted. I feel that there is bound to be increasing scope for the employment of men with degrees in commerce. The formidable competition which now obtains in the legal and medical professions makes it desirable that an increasing number of young men should make themselves eligible for employment in the higher ranks of commerce and industry by securing commerce degrees.

To the students in particular, His Excellency said:

Cultivate a philosophic mind and you can smile not only at adversity but at all the petty irritants which are the inevitable companions of daily existence. When you find difficulties on your studies, when things do not go just as you would like them to go, and, especially when you feel overworked, there is no better remedy than I know of than to repeat to yourself the words of Marcus Aurelius: 'Our lives are what our thoughts make them.'

STUDENTS AND SATYAGRAHA

"I will be too willing to take all the students in the *satyagraha* movement but I do not believe in half-hearted measures. If you want to join the movement, you should leave the colleges altogether and get permission of your parents. But on the other hand if you want to continue your studies in the colleges, you should do nothing which would amount to a breach of the college discipline."

This in brief was the message given by Mr. Gandhi to the Madras students who sought his advice at Wardha.

THE DEBT RELIEF ACT

The Federal Court by a majority consisting of the Chief Justice and Sir S. Varadachariar dismissed the appeal, questioning the validity of the Madras Agriculturists' Debt Relief Act.

Sir Maurice Gwyer in his judgment said: "It must inevitably happen from time to time that legislation though purporting to deal with a subject in one list, touches also on a subject in another list, and the different provisions of the enactment may be so closely intertwined that blind adherence to a strictly verbal interpretation would result in a large number of statutes being declared invalid, because the Legislature enacting them may appear to have legislated in a forbidden sphere. Hence the rule which has been evolved by the Judicial Committee whereby the impugned statute is examined to ascertain its pith and substance or its true nature and character for the matter of that.

I am clear that the pith and substance of the Madras Act whatever it may be, cannot at any rate be said to be legislation with respect to negotiable instruments or promissory notes, which are central subjects. And it seems to me quite immaterial that many or even most of the debts with which it deals are in practice evidenced by or based upon such instruments. That is an accidental circumstance which cannot affect the question.

Suppose that at some later date money-lenders were to adopt a different method of evidencing the debts of those to whom they lend money, how could the validity or invalidity of the Act vary with money-lenders' practice? I am of opinion therefore that the Act cannot be challenged as invading the forbidden field of List I (the Federal Legislative Lists) for it was not suggested that it dealt with any item in that list other than No. 28."

THE T. N. & Q. BANK CASE

The curtain was rung down on the Travancore National and Quilon Bank case when, on December 9, Justices Sankarabubbier and Madhavan Pillai delivered separate but concurring judgments in the appeal preferred by the former Directors of the Travancore National and Quilon Bank against the conviction and sentence of the Trivandrum Sessions Court on charges of falsification of accounts, etc.

Their Lordships confirmed the conviction against accused (1) to (4) but modified the sentences as follows: The sentence on the first accused K. C. Mammen Mapillai, ex-Chairman of the Bank, was reduced to three-years' simple imprisonment and the fine to Rs. 1,000, the sentence on the second accused K. C. Eapen, ex-Vice-Chairman of the Bank who died recently was abated consequent on his death except for the fine of Rs. 500 which was maintained. The sentences on the third accused, C. P. Mathen, ex-Managing-Director of the Bank, and the fourth accused K. M. Eapen were reduced to five years' rigorous imprisonment and a fine of Rs. 2,000 each. The fifth accused, K. V. Verghese was acquitted.

VITHALBHAI'S LEGACY

Sardar Vallabhai Patel recently wrote a letter to Maulana Abul Kalam Azad stating that he had sent direct to the treasurer of A. I. C. C. a cheque for Rs. 1,00,000, being a bequest under the will of the Sardar's brother, the late Mr. Vithalbhai Patel.

The Sardar has requested the Congress President to form a committee to spend the amount as it may think fit.

The President has replied thanking the Sardar and asking him and other heirs to create a trust named after the late Vithalbhai Patel and have it registered.

MYSORE GOVERNMENT INSURANCE

Notwithstanding the generally adverse conditions prevailing in the country, during the year ending 30th June 1940, 6,904 policies of the Public Branch, of the Mysore Government Insurance Department were issued for an assurance of Rs. 58,61,900.

The total business in force at the end of the year was 12,280 policies assuring Rs. 3,88,31,300, while the closing balance of the Fund at the end of the year 1939-40 was Rs. 1,01,38,600.

As a result of the actuarial valuation of the Fund as at 30th June, 1938, a simple reversionary bonus of Rs. 20 per thousand per annum was declared on all with profit policies in force on the date of valuation.

Mysore State is the pioneer in throwing open life insurance under its guarantee to its subjects. The assurance amounts are guaranteed by the State Revenues and as the business of the Branch is managed with the utmost economy, it has been possible to afford the maximum assurance cover consistent with security at a minimum cost. Started in 1915, after 25 years' experience with compulsory insurance for its officials, the Public Branch of the Department, though open only to Mysoreans (by birth or domicile), has within the short period of its existence been able to achieve remarkable results and thus to secure a fairly high rank among the foremost life offices in India, both as regards the progress of business and its utility to the general public. Though a Department of Government, the Public Branch is in its dealings with constituents conducted on up-to-date lines of a commercial concern.

NEW BRITISH SCHEME

The whole adult population of the United Kingdom is covered by a scheme of compensation for injury or death due to enemy action. The scheme announced by Sir Kingsley Wood, Chancellor of the Exchequer, provides for weekly payments varying between 35 shillings and 7 shillings according to the category of the person injured.

Reuter's lobby Correspondent says that it is claimed that no other Government or country has made such ample provisions for such cases in the present war. Pensions will be payable in cases of long term disablement while the widow of a civilian worker, whose death was due to enemy action, may receive 50 shillings weekly for the first 10 weeks following her husband's death.

INSURANCE ACT AMENDING BILL

It is understood that according to present plans a Bill to amend the Insurance Act will be introduced in the budget session of the Central Assembly. The Bill which embodies proposals discussed at the Conference of Insurance interests and Government of India representatives held at Simla last summer seeks *inter alia* to make the office of the Superintendent of Insurance self-supporting.

COMPULSORY INSURANCE

The *United Press* understands that the Government of Bengal are examining a scheme for compulsory life insurance of all Government servants.

THE ASSOCIATED CHAMBERS

The annual meeting of the Associated Chambers of Commerce met at Calcutta on December 16.

Welcoming His Excellency the Viceroy, H. E. the Governor of Bengal, the delegates and the guests, Mr. H. J. S. Richardson, President of the Associated Chambers of Commerce, said that in the background of the present terrific events, India's failure to secure unity at a time like the present must be fraught with consequences which had not been sufficiently considered by political India.

Mr. Richardson referred to the setting up of an Export Advisory Council as a most welcome endeavour on the part of the Government of India to find a solution of the many difficult problems arising out of the abnormal circumstances.

His Excellency Lord Linlithgow, addressing the meeting, reviewed the events of the past year at considerable length and referred to India's contribution to war effort and the industrial development resulting therefrom and wound up with a *resume* of the efforts made by His Majesty's Government to solve the constitutional dead-lock. Appealing for support in solving the constitutional problem, His Excellency reiterated that His Majesty's Government's objective was to lead India to the proclaimed goal of Dominion Status and that as early as may be.

There is nothing more that we can do than we have done. We are entitled to claim, we do claim, and I claim today that it is for the Indian parties themselves, for those communities' interests and political leaders concerned to get together and to see what they can do by way of reaching an accommodation with one another against the background which I have just mentioned.

His Excellency then referred to the *satyagraha* movement and remarked that while he had every respect for genuine conscientious objection, the Government had

a duty to this country to see that India's war effort is not in any way impeded, that not a single sepoy is deprived of the arms and ammunition that he needs, whether by speeches or by more active forms of opposition.

A cable from the British Federation recognizing "the increasingly vital part which industries co-ordinated by the Eastern Group Conference will play in the future conduct of the war" was read. In reply, the Associated Chambers reaffirmed their determination to assist to the full with India's contribution towards the defence of the Empire.

One of the two resolutions, moved by W. J. Yannie of Bengal Chamber, urged upon the Government of India the need for an immediate amendment of Section 10 (2) (VII) of the Indian Income-Tax Act.

Mr. H. S. Town of Madras Chamber of Commerce seconded the resolution which was carried.

The second resolution was moved by Mr. R. R. Haddow of Bengal Chamber of Commerce and seconded by Mr. A. Macintosh of Bombay Chamber of Commerce. The resolution urged that all taxes and royalties, however calculated, payable to Provincial Governments or local authorities should be allowable as a business expenditure, as the Association was convinced that these were in fact expended wholly for the purpose of the business and urged that Section 10 (4) of the Indian Income-tax Act should be suitably amended.

The Bengal Chamber of Commerce was elected to nominate the President of the Association for the year 1940-41.

Mr. R. D. Denniston, Deputy President of the Chambers and delegate from the Madras Chamber of Commerce, proposed a vote of thanks to His Excellency the Viceroy.

BRITISH WOMEN IN GERMANY

In the course of a question relating to the exchange of British women detained by German Government, Colonel Evans asked the Foreign Secretary to bear in mind a letter received from one of these persons, dated October 1st, alleging that there had been no change of clothing for five months, they had not received any parcels or letters of any kind and were fed on potatoes and had no occupation. In view of these circumstances and the small number of British women involved, Col. Evans asked if the Government would take steps to see that representations were made to proper quarter at the earliest moment.

Replying, Mr. R. A. Butler said that Government realised the seriousness of the position and were aware of the difficulties existing in putting things right.

On October 31, the total number of persons detained in Britain under Defence Regulations was 1,371.

The figure is given in a white paper dealing with the subject, which also states that during that month 33 persons were detained, all being British subjects although 16 of them of enemy origin.

SATYAGRAHA AND WOMEN

A report seems to be current, says Mr. Mahadev Desai explaining Mahatma Gandhi's instructions that the Mahatma has prohibited the offering of civil disobedience by women. This is obviously based on some misunderstanding. When *satyagraha* was started, he had permitted some women, who were outside the classes of M. L. A's Central and Provincial, and A. I. C. C. members, to offer civil disobedience as an exception.

All he has done now is to restrict the civil disobedience for the time being only to the members of the three classes who satisfy the requisite conditions. As a result, some women from Gujarat, who were originally permitted but who do not belong to any of the three classes, were asked not to offer civil disobedience. This seems to have given rise to the current misleading report. It was never intended to debar women who are members of the Legislatures or of the A. I. C. C. All those who are outside the three classes, whether they are men or women, have to await their turn.

MRS. RANGANADHAN

An important addition to the Royal Indian Navy has been made with the launching of a new warship from a British ship-building yard recently. The naming ceremony was performed by Mrs. S. E. Ranganadhan, wife of Diwan Bahadur S. E. Ranganadhan, adviser to the Secretary of State for India, who was also present.

MRS. SAROJINI NAIDU

It is understood that Mrs. Sarojini Naidu has not been permitted by Mahatma Gandhi to offer *satyagraha* again.

Mrs. Naidu will be recouping her health while devoting herself to Congress work in Bombay and might undertake a tour, her health permitting. She will go back to Hyderabad and rest there.

MRS. KRIPALINI

Mrs. Sucheta Kripalini, wife of Acharya Kripalini, was sentenced under the Defence of India Rules to one year's simple imprisonment and a fine of Rs. 100 at Fyzabad where she was tried.

THE PHILOSOPHICAL CONGRESS

The twenty-sixth session of the Indian Philosophical Congress met at Madras on December 20, Dr. Sen Gupta of the Lucknow University presiding.

Sir Mahomed Usman, Vice-Chancellor of the Madras University, welcoming the delegates to the Congress said that it was twelve years since the Congress met in Madras. During that period they had a decade of peace and were looking forward to its continuance. But unfortunately they were now in the grip of another merciless war brought on by the "wicked, brutal and selfish ambition of Hitler". The need for philosophy was never greater than at present.

In his presidential address, Dr. Sen Gupta observed :

People must 'live by bread' and must fasten a firm grip on the world of things. At the same time, the social and the cultural stimuli must be permitted to operate on the mind. Civilisation and its progress represent a nice balance between these two divergent lines of evolution.

When people are out to exploit others in order that they themselves may have a place under the sun, when they impose their will upon others by reason of their animal prowess, they force life and mind, their own and of others, to the low level functions. When men regress to the life of naked impulses, to the primal stage of restless hunger for material gain at the cost of others, they commit a crime against nature and culture alike.

There was a general discussion on "Nationalism" and the papers submitted by Prof. A. R. Wadia, Mr. J. F. Butler and Mr. J. C. Banerjee formed the basis of discussion.

MR. K. NATARAJAN

A Committee, with the Rt. Hon. Dr. M. R. Jayakar as President, has been formed in Bombay to give expression to the public appreciation of the services rendered to the country by Mr. K. Natarajan through his fifty-year old weekly—*The Indian Social Reformer*. The appeal issued for funds is an admirable estimate of Mr. Natarajan's character and work. "He was always free, frank and fearless in the expression of his views, but never unfair. He willed to be heard and was heard with respect." It is proposed to endow a scholarship for journalism in the Bombay University for which at least Rs. 10,000 will be required. If funds permit, other memorials will be considered.

DR. C. R. REDDY

Dr. C. R. Reddy, Vice-Chancellor of the Andhra University, was the recipient of numerous tokens of tribute on the occasion of his Shastibadapoorthi on December 10. Glowing tributes were paid by prominent men in different walks of life, who met at a public meeting in Vizagapatam under the presidentship of Sir C. V. Raman who referred in eloquent terms to his contribution to the public life of India in the field of education and especially to Andhradesa.

The Committee formed to commemorate the occasion presented a bronze bust of Dr. Reddy to the University. It was unveiled at the University pavilion by H. E. the Governor of Madras.

SIR WILLIAM BEARDSSELL

By the death which occurred in England, on December 6, of Sir William Beardsell, Madras, has lost one of its distinguished former citizens, and a well-known business-man in the province.

The late Sir William Beardsell came out to India in 1887, joining Messrs. Hajee Mahomed Abdul Azeez Badsha Sahib and Co. as an assistant. Fifteen years later he founded the firm of W. A. Beardsell and Co. continued to be its Managing Director till September 1939.

For two successive years, 1913 and 1919, the late Sir William Beardsell was Sheriff of Madras. He was Knighted in 1919.

PRINCE ALI KHAN

Prince Ali Khan, son of H. H. the Aga Khan, now holds an emergency commission in the British forces. The announcement of his appointment as Second Lieutenant in the Wiltshire Regiment has been gazetted.

SARDAR SAMPURAN SINGH

Sardar Sampuran Singh, Leader of the Congress Assembly Party in the Punjab, has been expelled from the Party by the Congress President, Maulana Abdul Kalam Azad, for his conduct in court after his recent arrest.

A SURGICAL FEAT FOR CANCER

Curing cancer by even complete amputation of a lung has now become a definite success.

Six years ago a Pittsburgh physician was having cancer of the lung and experts gave up his case as hopeless. The patient went to St. Louise and met a famous surgeon Evarts Ambrose Graham. Dr. Graham decided on a desperate measure, never before tried in the history of surgery. Complete amputation of the cancerous lung in one stage—that was the surgeon's decision.

An incision was made down the sick man's back, beside and below his shoulder blade. Carefully Dr. Graham slit through tough chest muscles, removed sections of seven ribs, neatly severed the lumpy grey lung high up where the windpipe separates into two branches.

Then he tied the stump with a tight catgut knot. Finally, he stitched up the chest muscles. To his great joy, his patient survived.

Since then hundreds of lung amputations have been performed in America with great success. "In suitable cases," says Dr. Graham, "where the cancer is not too far advanced, the operation can be done with a mortality of only 10 per cent."

PULLED TOOTH RESTORES VISION

The remarkable case of a woman of 53, who had the sight of one of her eyes restored by the removal of a tooth is recorded in *The Optician*.

The sight of her right eye started to fail, and vision became blurred, it says. She had been indulging in a lot of needlework and put it down to this cause; but the sight became gradually worse until she consulted an oculist. He diagnosed a burst blood vessel in the eye.

Sometime later the woman became conscious of a pain in her upper jaw. This was rather unaccountable, for she had all her teeth removed some years before. She went to a dentist, who discovered a complete tooth embedded in the upper jaw.

He removed it, and from that moment, the eye began to regain its sight.

CURARE

South American Indians have killed many of their enemies with arrows dipped in poison. What was the deadly concoction they used? Long ago it was discovered that the arrow-poison was curare obtained from certain plants, but the formula for its manufacture remain a closely-guarded secret.

Two Americans, a surgeon and an explorer, have discovered the secret. They won the confidence and friendship of some of the natives of Ecuador—the explorer was elected a witch doctor to a tribe—and were shown how curare was made. Their purpose in seeking this information was not, of course, to learn a new method of poisoning enemies. They wanted to know how to manufacture curare in the treatment of various diseases.

It is claimed that curare has brought relief from pain cases of spastic paralysis, which is more prevalent and more deadly than infantile paralysis. In some instances relief came almost immediately.

HEART BEATS AND LONG LIFE

The pace of your heartbeats is an indication of your expectation of life, according to American doctors who examined 2,332 adult males for life insurance purposes. A man in early middle age whose heart beats 72 times a minute has a better average chance of long life, they consider, than a man whose heart beats faster.

But if you find your heartbeats exceed 72 a minute, you can take consolation from the doctors' rider that any person may be an exception to the average.

BIRTH-RATES IN EUROPE AND ASIA

According to the current *Statistical Yearbook*, the birth-rates of the leading countries of Europe and Asia are as follows:—

France	14
Britain	15
Germany	19
Italy	23
Japan	30

India's birth-rate is 48, according to Tietze (Dr. Christoph Tietze of Vienna).

CURRENCY BATTLE IN CHINA

A 'currency battle' between the Japanese-sponsored National Government in China at Nanking and Chinese Government at Chungking has begun with the organization of a central reserve bank issue by the Nanking Government, states the Domei Agency.

The new Central Bank starts operating from January 6, with headquarters at Nanking and branches at Shanghai and in other cities. Capitalized at a hundred-million, the new central bank will have its note issue covered with gold and silver specie for 40 per cent. Circulation of the currency of the new bank will be limited to three provinces: Kiangsu, Chekiang, and Kwangsi. The Chungking dollar, now in circulation, will be withdrawn by the new bank which will exchange the Nanking for the Chinese National dollar at par.

THE TRAVANCORE NATIONAL BANK

The Full Bench of the Travancore High Court, consisting of the Chief Justice, Mr. Abraham Verghese, and Justices Nokes and Ramakrishna Iyer, on the 9th last month, delivered judgment in the petition filed by Mr. T. R. Venkatarama Sastri on behalf of the Committee of Inspection, Travancore National and Quilon Bank creditors, praying for co-operation between the courts of Madras and Travancore in the matter of equal distribution of assets. Their Lordships delivered different but concurring judgments.

INDIGENOUS BANKERS

The Publicity Officer, Assam, recently issued the following Press Note:

For indigenous bankers to avail of the concession rates of remittance notified by the Reserve Bank of India and published by a Press Note No. 39, dated 5-10-40, they were required to apply to the nearest treasury or sub-treasury officer for enlistment. For the benefit of those who may not like to apply to a treasury or sub-treasury officer for confidential reasons, it has further been arranged that such bankers will be permitted to send their applications direct to the Reserve Bank of India.

RESEARCH ON RAILWAYS

The Standing Finance Committee for Railways at its recent meeting is understood to have approved a scheme for the creation of a permanent research organisation for Indian Railways.

It was explained that the necessity for continuous experiment and research in all technical matters had been repeatedly stressed by several expert committees who had reported and advised on subjects connected with the working of Indian railways in recent years.

Under the proposal, individual railways would refer their problems to the central research organisation. The Committee is still discussing proposals relating to expenditure on open line works.

MR. S. PURNAIYA

Mr. S. Purnaiya, Deputy Chief Commercial Superintendent, South Indian Railway, has been appointed Chief Transportation Superintendent in the place of Mr. J. F. C. Reynolds, who has been appointed Agent and General Manager. Mr. Purnaiya is the first Indian who has been appointed to this place.

ASSAM-BENGAL & B. B. & C. I. RAILWAYS

It has been decided to terminate the contracts of the Bombay Baroda and Central India Railway Company and the Assam-Bengal Railway Company and notices have been being served accordingly.

The railways will be taken over for management by the State from January 1, 1942.

E. B. RAILWAY

A communique issued by the Traffic Manager, Eastern Bengal Railway, announces that the dismantling of the Kalukhali-Bhatiapara branch line of the Eastern Bengal Railway is suspended for the present and the booking of such traffic to and from the branch as had been stopped is being resumed with immediate effect.

THE MUSIC CONFERENCE

The Maharaja of Travancore declared open the 14th Music Conference at the Senate House, Madras, on December 22. The Maharani of Travancore, mother of the Maharaja, was also present.

An address was presented by the members of the Music Academy, Madras, to the Maharaja on the occasion. The Music Conference has been organised by the Music Academy in co-operation with the Indian Fine Arts Society.

The Maharaja in his speech said that the aims which they of the Music Conference had set before themselves were precisely those which also animated them in Travancore. They in Travancore were the inheritors of a great tradition and it was no small responsibility to hand on to succeeding generations the torch lit by Maharaja Swati Tirunal. But, in all artistic matters mutual exchange of thought and sympathetic criticism were of the utmost value, and he felt that they would not be asking in vain for these.

Following the opening of the Conference, the President, Mr. Vedanta Bhagavathar, delivered his Address.

TYAGARAJA CELEBRATION

A month's programme for celebrating the memory of Tyagaraja, the great singer and composer of South India, is a welcome feature of the season in Madras.

The celebrations commenced with the unveiling of a portrait of the saint and composer in the premises of the well known Rasika Ranjini Sabha, Mylapore.

Sir C. P. Ramaswami Iyer, who unveiled the portrait, mentioned the interesting fact that Tyagaraja and the Ruler of Travancore, Swati Tirunal, were contemporaries in the middle of the 19th century. The latter himself being a composer exchanged ideas on musical science with Tyagaraja. The Maharaja composed in Telugu, Tamil, Malayalam, Hindi, Urdu and Marathi, and his manuscripts were being discovered in Poona and Agra and are being collected. A school for the cultivation of music has been started and it is to be hoped that more of them will follow.

PENTANGULAR FINAL

In the Pentangular Cricket final at Bombay, held on December 21, between the Rest and the Muslims, the Rest were all out for 202 runs in their first innings.

There were two changes in each side, Masud Salauddin and Dilawar Hussain displaced Hakim and Chippa in the Muslim side, while Richards and A. C. Pereira stood down for A. K. Bhalerao and B. P. Kadam in the Rest's side.

The teams:-

Muslims: Wazir Ali (Captain), M. Salauddin, K. C. Ibrahim, Amir Elahi, Dilawar Hussain, K. S. Nasruddin, S. M. Kadri, Saeed Ahmed, Mushtaq Ali, Abbas Khan and Y. Sheikh. Reserves: S. Heptulla, U. R. Chippa and Daud Khan.

The Rest: J. Harris (Captain), M. Cohen, S. R. Arolkar, J. O. Gonsalves, A. K. Bhalerao, W. L. Mascarenhas, V. S. Hazare, E. Alexander, P. P. Fernandez, A. Fernandes and B. P. Kadam. Reserves: V. Alexander.

Umpires: Messrs. J. R. Patel and H. D. Billimoria.

CEYLON VS. MADRAS

Ceylon beat Madras by three wickets in one of the most exciting matches, played on Chepauk grounds, Madras. Ram Singh scored a brilliant century for Madras, though in vain.

Acknowledging the congratulations of a Madras Sporting reporter, S. S. Jayawickrama, the Ceylon Captain, prior to the departure of the Ceylon team for Calcutta, said that this was one of the most exciting matches he had played so far and that all the players enjoyed the match very much.

THE RANJI TROPHY

Madras beat Mysore by 3 wickets in the only innings played in the Inter-Provincial Cricket match in the South Zone for the Ranji Trophy. From 89 for 4 wickets, Madras rallied on a wicket which was none too encouraging for batsmen and hit up 174 for 7 passing Mysore's total 171 with 3 wickets to spare. This was mainly due to the steady batting of M. Swaminathan and M. J. Gopalan.

X-RAY PHOTOGRAPHS

X-ray photographs, a useful but hitherto expensive aid in diagnosing diseases and injuries, can now be made at a cost of about a penny apiece. A New York doctor has devised a method that employs a miniature 35-mm. camera fitted with an F/1.5 lens and enclosed within light-tight box almost three feet long. A shaft extends from the camera and is used to turn the film after each exposure, making it unnecessary to open the camera box. In use, the camera shutter is always left open, X-rays streaming from their source through the body of the patient and the light-proof box on to the supersensitive film. For viewing the developed film, a projector mounted on a wooden support magnifies the film image by projecting it into a paper screen for examination. The apparatus is expected to be of special value in making low-cost X-ray photographs of the human chest and abdomen.

ELEMENT 85

From Switzerland and from America it, is reported, that physicists have discovered a new chemical element, Number 85. The elements are numbered according to the electric charge on their nuclei. Element 1 is hydrogen, because it has a charge of 1 unit; at the other end of the scale is uranium, with a charge of 92 units and therefore known as element 92.

The discovery of element 85 completes the range of discovered elements from 1 to 92, though there is some doubt about number 61. The Swiss scientist has given the name of helvetium to the element he claims as number 85. The Americans so far have not named their find. They obtained the new substance which they believe is 85, by means of the instrument known as a cyclotron, from which they bombarded bismuth with particles charged with an energy of 82 million volts.

THE NEW 35-TON TANK

No known anti-tank gun can penetrate the thick hide of the new 35-ton tank now being used in the British army.

Britain pushing ahead fast with her output of tanks and men to man them in a terrific bid to make up the leeway in a type of warfare she originated and Germany developed.

"VOICE OF SATAN"—A WAR FILM

The "Voice of Satan" produced by Wadia Movietone from a story by Ezra Mir is a one reel war publicity film exposing the lies behind the German-Hindustani broadcasts.

The film opens with a family scene in a typical well-to-do house. Opinions in the household are divided on the subject of India participating in the war. One of the two sons explains the direness of India's plight should Britain lose the war, pointing his moral by reading out the passage from Hitler's "Mein Kampf" which reveals that in his opinion Asiatics are only fit to be slave peoples. But the father says that according to German broadcasts, India would be better off under Nazi rule. The son then says that a friend of his who has escaped from Germany, will come in and tell them of his experiences in that country.

When the student arrives and tells the interested family exactly how he was brutally beaten by the Gestapo before appearing before the microphone, where he was handed his script ready written for him by Goebbels' Propaganda Department. To ensure that he read only what was written without any interpolations of his own, there were Gestapo men standing by with loaded revolvers and an interpreter.

When his shocked friends have heard his story, the father switches off the radio which is just beginning the German-Hindustani hour and the sad student wonders aloud if some other wretched compatriot is being ill-treated so that the Nazi propaganda machine can go grinding on. As a result of these disclosures, we leave the family with the two sons in uniform since they have passed their examinations for the Indian Air Force and are off on active service with the full consent of their parents.

THE FILM—BAGHI

The Madras Government, after perusing the suspension order of the Madras Board of Film Censors, have directed that the film entitled 'Baghi' produced by Sree Vishnu Cinetone Company, Bombay, and passed by the Bombay Board of Film Censors shall be deemed to be an uncertified film in the province of Madras.

MODERN MOTOR CAR DESIGN

"Modern automobile design may make an aesthetically pleasing car, but many of its features detract from a car's safety," said Dean A. Fales, Associate Professor of Automotive Engineering at Massachusetts Institute of Technology, at a meeting of the Society of Automotive Engineers.

Steeply sloped windshields and rear windows are objectionable, because they gather more dirt and in some cases even cause double vision—interior reflections produce two images of a traffic light. They may even cause blinding reflections of the sun for drivers of other cars. Rear vision is so limited in many recent cars that backing becomes difficult. The large blind spots in the rear quarter prevent drivers from seeing overtaking cars.

The use of sealed beam headlights gives better illumination of the road at night, but by placing the driver closer to the road subjects him to increased glare.

He further observed "the lower cars give the driver a false sense of security and no passenger car can be built low enough that some drivers cannot leave the road and turn over. Seating positions in the older cars and busses and trucks give the driver better vision and enable better manoeuvring in congested traffic as well as place drivers out of the headlight glare zone".

CARS AND TYRES

The faster you drive your motor car, the shorter will be the life of the tyres—this is a summary of part of an address given recently by a tyre manufacturer to a group of engineers. One driver, he said, may get 35,000 miles from a set of tyres while another, using the same kind of tyres, gets only 5,000 miles of service. It was largely a question of speed.

According to his experience and the results of tests, front tyres lasted nearly half as long again, and rear tyres gave twice as much service at 55 m.p.h. than at 70 m.p.h. Too rapid acceleration and faulty driving around curves, in the opinion of this expert, were two of the chief factors responsible for the premature wearing out of tyres.

WORLD'S LONGEST AIR ROUTE

The longest commercial air service in the world, a continuous route of 17,853 miles, will be operated by British organisations directly the Newfoundland base is free from ice and able to accept the North Atlantic air link.

Meanwhile, Britain's great war-plane industry is to be made ready to be turned over to civil aviation as soon as peace comes. Firms producing large military types of aircraft have been instructed to keep constantly in mind the possibility of civil variants and, the Air Minister proposes to set up a strong civil aviation advisory committee to plan for the future while Britain is still at war.

Empire air services are carrying on without interruption by the war and have now come under the unified control of the newly established British Airway Corporation.

PLANE FIRE RESEARCH

One of the gravest of air perils—fire starting in a plane's motor—may be eliminated with an extinguisher under development. An automatic detector in each engine housing warns a pilot of the outbreak of fire by flashing a red lamp on the instrument panel. Simply by turning a small valve, the pilot releases a stream of carbon dioxide gas, carried in small steel bottles under high pressure. Piped to the engine, the fire-smothering gas escapes from tiny holes in a ring shape tube encircling the cylinders. After an oil fire had been allowed to burn for twenty seconds in a recent test, the gas extinguisher put out the flames in five seconds.

WHIRLWIND

A new British fighter plane named "Whirlwind" which, as Lord Beaverbrook revealed, is now in action, is one of the fastest planes in the world.

Details concerning this new fighter are still secret, but it is newer than the eight gun Spitfire which has a speed of 400 miles per hour and a "ceiling" of about five miles. The "Whirlwind" incorporates new features and may soon be as famous as the Spitfires and the Hurricanes.

TWELFTH INDUSTRIES CONFERENCE

The Twelfth Industries Conference was opened by H. E. the Governor of the United Provinces on the 17th of last month at Lucknow.

The Conference supported the proposal to send trade delegations to Africa, South America, Australia and New Zealand and such other countries as might be necessary for the purpose of discovering new markets or expanding the old ones, both in connexion with raw materials and manufactured goods.

The question of the supply of dyes for hand-loom and cottage industries was discussed, and it was decided that such Provinces and States as desired to participate in the Government's scheme for the distribution of dyes should put their requirements before the Government of India.

It had been urged by the representatives of Bombay that an institution something on the lines of the British Standard should be set up in India. The Conference considered, however, that so far as technical standardisation was concerned, it was not possible to set up any body during the war. In so far as commercial standardisation was concerned, however, the Conference thought that the matter should be examined in consultation with the industries concerned and the Export Advisory Council.

The Commerce Member, Sir A. Ramaswami Mudaliar, made a statement concerning the establishment and purpose of the Board of Scientific and Industrial Research and it was agreed by the Conference that there was no longer any necessity for the Industrial Research Council to continue in existence.

NATIONAL INDUSTRIES

"However may the opinion of the leaders differ on political issues, it is time enough that they should fully unite for the development of national industries," said Sir P. C. Ray in a statement to the United Press on the great opportunity presented to India by the war for developing her industries,

IRRIGATION IN INDIA

Crops worth Rs. 1,04,94,00,000 are being raised in British India on areas receiving State irrigation. From about 10,500,000 acres in 1878-79, the area annually irrigated by State Works alone has now risen to 32,433,000 acres over one-seventh of the total cultivated area in British India.

The total capital outlay on irrigation and navigation works amounts to over Rs. 1,50,28,00,000, the working expenses to Rs. 4,62,00,000, and gross annual revenue to Rs. 13,51,00,000, with a net return of 5.91 per cent.

There are some 240 irrigation schemes in operation in British India, of which 61 are of a major description. Nearly a third are classified as productive and the rest are unproductive, i.e., as works constructed primarily for the protection of tracts with precarious rainfall.

These are some of the facts revealed in the review of Irrigation in India for 1937-38.

Of the provinces with extensive irrigation works, the Punjab is easily the first with an irrigated area of 12,292,000 acres, Madras comes second with 7,565,000 acres followed by the United Provinces and Sind with about 5,000,000 acres each. But in the percentage of area irrigated to the total area sown, Sind leads with 89.1 followed by Punjab with 38.3, Madras with 20.5 and the N.-W. F. P. with 18.3.

As in the previous years, the Punjab got the largest return on capital invested in productive works, namely, 14.99 per cent. followed by N.-W. F. P. 11.3, Bombay with 9.4, Madras with 6.36, and the United Provinces with 5.3.

CANNED GRASS FOR COWS

Canned grass for cows during winter is the latest innovation in America.

Freshly mown grass is hustled through a silage cutter and dry ice is mixed with it as it goes into the cans. The ice cools the grass, changes it to gas, drives out the air and stops fermentation. Sliding rubber-edged tops settle down with the grass and allow the air to escape around their edges but prevent the entrance of outside air.

WORKERS' TRAINING

The Government of India, Labour Department, has, it is learned, now allotted quotas to various provinces to send candidates for technical training in England under the Bevin training scheme.

Bombay, Bengal and Madras have each been allotted 18 vacancies, the United Provinces 16, the Punjab 12, Bihar 10 and the Central Provinces 8.

It has been decided that the first batch of candidates should consist of 50 and that it should sail from India by the middle of next month. The selected candidates will be provided with an outfit in India, inter-class railway fare in addition to one rupee a day from the place of residence to place of embarkation, a subsistence allowance of Rs. 20 a month during the journey to and from England and an allowance sufficient to cover the cost of board and accommodation while under training in the United Kingdom, and in addition eight shillings a week.

It is further learned that the selection of candidates will be made by the National Service Labour Tribunals in consultation with the regional inspectors of technical training and large industrial employers including the Railway Administration. Candidates will be taken from the working classes, preferably from those in the engineering trade.

On their return to India, the men will be at the disposal of the National Service Labour Tribunals concerned, which will decide how best their services can be utilized.

TECHNICAL TRAINING IN INDIA

Arrangements are rapidly going forward with regard to the training of eight thousand technical workers in different selected institutions. From such details as are available, it seems that out of approximately one crore which had been sanctioned for the entire scheme, 33 lakhs will be spent on equipment of these institutions and 45 lakhs will represent the amount of stipends payable to apprentices while under training. The scales sanctioned are Rs. 20 a month for non-matriculates and Rs. 25 for matriculates.

NEW BROADCASTING HOUSE

A Broadcasting House is to be built in New Delhi as headquarters for the All-India Radio. The expenditure of approximately Rs. 9,30,000 for this purpose was sanctioned by the Standing Finance Committee, which met in New Delhi on December 16 and 17, under the chairmanship of the Finance Member.

The need for the All-India Radio to have more extensive and properly equipped headquarters has become imperative with the expansion of the Delhi station and the setting up of the central news organisation and for the efficient working of the new 100 kilowatt transmitter for external broadcasts.

The new Broadcasting House will accommodate the office of the Station Director of the Delhi station, the central news organisation, the headquarters office and the installation and research department together with the studios and will do away with the necessity for hired accommodation.

OLDEST MS. OF VALMIKI RAMAYANA

The Nepal Government have made a gift of 1,500 photographs of a very ancient manuscript of the Ramayana of Valmiki to the International Academy of Indian Culture, Lahore.

It is said to be the oldest palm leaf manuscript in existence in India. It is dated 1075 Vikrama Samvat (1018 A.D.)

The photographs will now be utilised by the Academy in the preparation of an edition of this great national epic.

THE GENIUS OF SWATHI THIRUNAL

A notable event in the history of the Rasika Ranjani Sabha, Madras, occurred on December 25, when Her Highness the Maharani Sethu Parvathi Bai of Travancore unveiled the portrait of Maharanja Thirunal at the Rasika Ranjini Sabha, Mylapore, before a large and distinguished gathering of artistes and patrons of music.

BUDDHA VIHARA

Sir D. B. Jayatilaka, Home Minister, Ceylon, laid the foundation-stone, on December 22, before a large gathering, of Buddha Vihara and the Bouddhashrama to be erected on the site granted by the Government of Mysore in Gandhi Nagar, Bangalore.

The Scindia Steam Navigation Company, Ltd.

Speech delivered by the Chairman, Mr. Walchand Hirachand, at the 21st Ordinary General Meeting of the Company held on Thursday, the 12th December 1940, at "Scindia House", Ballard Estate, Bombay.

GENTLEMEN,

AS usual, I hope you will agree with me that the Report and the Accounts which have already been in your hands for some days past, should be taken as read.

Before I review the working of the year, I shall deal with a few items in the accounts. The amount of Rs. 44,000 being the face value of the bonus shares of the Eastern Bunkers, Ltd., has been credited to the Investments Reserve Account. That account, therefore, now stands at Rs. 5,50,787-12-8. The sum of Rs. 1,00,000 appropriated out of the profits of the last year, and the sum of Rs. 68,320 being the amount of the premia on the risk of 15 per cent. carried by the Company, were added to the Marine Insurance Fund. That Fund, therefore, now amounts to Rs. 11,17,456-12-4. The Company is now carrying, as stated in the Report, 20 per cent. of the marine risk. It is, therefore, essential that larger additions should be made to this Fund. In view of the necessity for making sufficient provisions for meeting the growing burden of taxation and the call in other directions, we have not been able to recommend the appropriation of any amount out of the profits to this Fund, during the year under review. A sum of Rs. 3,50,000 was credited to the Bad Debt Reserve Account as appropriation out of the profits of the last year. That amount was further increased by Rs. 2,02,505-18-10, being the amount transferred from the Interest Suspense Account to this account, and consequently, that account stands at present at Rs. 7,82,137-3-0. After crediting the sum of Rs. 12,35,278, of which Rs. 11,70,000 is the amount of depreciation provided for the fleet of the Company, about which I shall have to say something later, and after writing off the amount of Rs. 3,778, the Depreciation Fund now stands at Rs. 94,86,500.

The compensation which the Company had to pay, as already referred to in the

Report, to avert the threatened rate war in the Burma trade, by obtaining the control over the policy of the Company from which the threat emanated, and by becoming its Managing Agents, has been debited to the Coastal Competition, in the accounts of the Company. In addition to what has been stated in the Report, I might add, that the Bombay Steam decided to enter the Burma rice trade in October, 1937, and the Agents of that Company were authorised by its Directors, to "take whatever action they may consider necessary, to carry this decision into effect". They gave notice to terminate their Agreement with the B. I. Co. Sir Phiroze Sethna, one of the Directors of the Company, observed in January, 1938: The Bombay Steam Navigation Co. had, of course, to face a powerful combine represented by the Conference Lines, the British India Steam Navigation Co., The Scindia Steam Navigation Co., and the Asiatic Steam Navigation Co. 'The Bombay Steam, however, would put up a good fight.'

Both the B. I. and the Asiatic were concerned at the prospect of a rate war in the Burma trade, and although Sir George Campbell assured me, that "neither I nor the B. I. have in any respect given support to the intrusion of the Bombay Steam in the Burma trade nor have we any intention of doing so", the Bombay Steam continued to take effective steps for undermining the position of the Scindia Company in its important Burma trade. Shippers were approached and cargo was actually booked, and the Chairman of the Bombay Steam stated at its annual meeting in October 1938, that: Your Directors are now possessed of adequate data to enable your Company to enter the Indo-Burma trade, as soon as the situation warrants it. They are further assured of good response from the shippers as soon as your Company enters the trade, but they must necessarily retain discretion as to when it would be in the best interests of your Company to take this action.

You will, therefore, I have no doubt, agree with me, that the action which we took in obtaining the control over the policy of the Bombay Steam by becoming its Managing Agents, for safeguarding the vital interests of this Company, and

the compensation which we had to pay so that the threatened rate war may not take place, was far-sighted, and now that peace is not disturbed in that important trade from that quarter, the policy underlying that action has been fully vindicated. You will also be glad to learn that since the Company has been appointed the Managing Agents of the Bombay Steam, it has also established peace in the Konkan trade, and it is anticipated that the mutual co-operation that we have been able to promote amongst different national shipping companies operating in the coastal trade of India, is bound, in due course, to advance the interests of the national shipping industry and enable that industry to fight for the recognition of a national shipping policy, in their common interests in this country.

As regards the large amount standing to the credit and the debit of the unfinished voyages, as compared to similar credit and debit in the last year's accounts, I have to point out to you, that the large credit is mainly due to the comparatively larger quantity of coal and salt carried by these voyages and the higher rate of freight collected on the cargo thus carried. It is also due to the higher rate of freight at which rice and general cargo were carried during that period of the year. The longer lead of the voyages and the higher cost of operations are also responsible for the larger debit under this head. It is not necessary for me to add that the difference between the credit and the debit does not represent the profit on the voyages concerned.

You will have also noticed from the Balance Sheet that the market value of the investments of the Company showed a difference of Rs. 6,73,154, between the cost price and the market value. According to the rates obtaining now, however, the market value is higher than the cost value, by about Rs. 88,520.

The investment in gold and silver has unfortunately created a wrong impression in certain quarters. As pointed out in the Report, the financial and the international situation was extremely grave and uncertain at the end of May last. The Company had nearly Rs. 97,00,000 invested in Treasury Bills and placed at deposits with different Banks. It was, therefore, considered advisable to have a variation of the

investments and as decided by the Directors, a part of the cash funds of the Company was invested in gold and silver to secure the funds of the Company. It was considered the right step to take during the critical period, through which all were passing. Since then the Company's investment in silver has been sold and the Company has come out almost square in connection with that investment.

I shall now review the working of the Company during the year under report. Two outstanding factors which have affected the working of the Company, during the year under review, are the difficulties which shipping had to face as a result of the international situation caused by the war, and the rising cost of operations in the running of the ships.

Ships had to deviate from their normal course and they, therefore, took a longer time than before, to complete their voyages. Some of the ports on the coast were occasionally closed to shipping. This also lengthened the normal voyages of the ships. Deviation and delays added to the normal cost of running the ships. There was also a sudden and unexpected drop in the volume of exports of rice from Rangoon, during the busiest part of the year. This also caused delay in the quick turning round of the ships. The adverse effect thus caused on the economic working of the Company, was considerably mitigated by two fortunate circumstances in the situation, namely, the timely employment of the steamers for the carriage of coal and salt in a larger quantity than before, and the good despatch which the steamers obtained at some of the ports on the coast.

I have remarked that the growing cost of operations in the running of the steamers was another serious difficulty which shipping had to face, during the year under review. The Company had to cover its ships for war risk insurance. The expenditure under this head remained at a reasonable level during the first four months of the war, but it began to rise from January last. It went up from sh. 1.6 per cent. to sh. 10 per cent. and then to sh. 20 per cent. and its present rate is sh. 40 per cent. The increase in the wages of Officers and Crew also made a substantial addition to the cost of running the ships. As I observed in my speech last year, the continuous and the efficient service

which the crew had been giving, fully justified a permanent increase in their basic pay. This pay was increased by 20 per cent. from the 16th September, 1939. A war bonus to the extent of 20 per cent. on their pre-war salary was sanctioned from the 1st November 1939, and it will remain in force throughout the period of the war. Only very lately a further increase has been made in their basic pay by 5 per cent., and a further war bonus, also of 5 per cent., has been sanctioned. I have always held that the services which our Indian seamen render deserve better appreciation, and I believe that this 25 per cent. increase in their basic pay is fully justified. I welcome in this connection the appreciative remarks, made the other day, by Mr. Ernest Bevin, British Minister for Labour, when he said:

I am not going to allow them to be called 'lascars' any more. They are Indian Seamen. If you get rid of the term 'lascar', you will get rid of the conception that they are just cheap human fodder.

May I say that not only has Mr. Bevin shown by his observations a human understanding of the problems of the Indian seamen, but he has also given them their proper place in the economy of British shipping; and may I commend them for the sympathetic consideration of, and appropriate action by, the British Shipowners, to whom the services of the Indian seamen have proved to be of the greatest benefit during all these years?

The wage bill of the officers and engineers, also, has increased from time to time. With the increase in their basic salary of 20 per cent. from the 1st September 1939, and the good service bonus equivalent to a monthly salary, from the 1st September 1939, and certain other facilities granted to them, their annual wage bill has gone up by nearly 83 per cent. War risk money of Rs. 67 per month for officers and Rs. 184 per month for Captains was sanctioned from the 15th June, 1940. The result has been that the rise in the wages of officers and engineers will amount to about 63 per cent. from the beginning of the next financial year. I have no doubt, you will agree with me, that all this expenditure is justified in view of the fact that the officers and the engineers in our fleet, of whom 65 per cent. are Indians, as well as the seamen, are maintaining the high traditions of the

sea service and are helping in the running of the ships as efficiently in the days of war, as in the times of peace.

The growing expenditure of the Company, under the heads referred to above and in other directions, and the adverse factors which affected the economic working of the Company, already mentioned by me, necessitated increase in the basic rate of freight on the carriage of rice from Rangoon to Bombay, from time to time. It was increased from Rs. 10 to Rs. 12-8 from the middle of September 1939, to Rs. 15-6, from the beginning of January, 1940, and to Rs. 17 from the beginning of May. This timely and appropriate increase in the basic rate of freight, coupled with the carriage of coal and salt at fairly economic rates, as contrasted with the comparatively low rates at which these commodities were carried in the past, largely helped the Company in obtaining the results which appear in the Balance Sheet of the Company.

There is one circumstance of supreme importance, however, to which I consider it my duty to draw your special attention. The results which appear in the Balance Sheet have been arrived at after providing only 5 per cent. as depreciation on the original cost of the steamers. You are all aware of the tremendous rise of over 100 per cent. in the cost of the replacement of ships. It is, therefore, obvious that if proper provision for depreciation is to be made, it should not be less than 10 per cent. on the original cost of the steamers. I may here point out to you that British shipping has recognised the imperative need of making provision for depreciation on the basis of the replacement cost of the steamers. This view of the British shipping industry was expressed in the following striking observations which Lord Essendon, the recognised authority on British shipping, made in February last, at the Annual Meeting of the Chamber of Shipping. His Lordship said:

The cost of building has already increased to something like 50 per cent. during the last few months, and it is quite certain that there will be a further increase before the war is over. After the last war, prices increased two or three times. Such depreciation as owners have been able to provide in respect of existing ships has been based on their original cost, "but at the enhanced cost of replacement, obviously, these depreciation reserves will be hopelessly inadequate, and if we are not allowed to make earnings sufficient to

provide fully for replacement—which involves also the question of employment—the ultimate decline of the Mercantile Marine is inevitable.”

I wish it was possible for us to provide depreciation on the fleet of the Company on the basis of its replacement cost. The results of working of the Company, however, I regret to say, do not allow us to make such a provision which I consider is quite imperative.

There is yet another special aspect of this important question of depreciation, to which I must draw your serious attention at this stage. You are aware that 4 per cent. on the original cost of vessels was fixed as the rate of depreciation in the United Kingdom. It has been recognised that climatic and other considerations justify a higher rate of depreciation in India than the one which obtains in the United Kingdom on similar assets. The rate of depreciation on ships in India was, therefore, fixed at 5 per cent. on the original cost of ships as against the rate of 4 per cent. fixed in the United Kingdom. The rate of depreciation of 4 per cent was, however, increased in the United Kingdom by 1/10th, by Section 18 of the Finance Act 1932. In other words, it was increased from 4 per cent. to 4.40 per cent. This increased rate of 4.40 per cent. was further increased by Section 22 of the Finance Act 1938. The result is that depreciation at 4.80 per cent. on the original cost of ships has been calculated in the United Kingdom from 1938, and onwards. All these years the rate of depreciation was, however, not increased in India and even today, depreciation is calculated only at 5 per cent. on the prime cost of vessels. Shipping is an international industry. The reasons which justified an increase in the rate of depreciation in the United Kingdom, between 1932 and 1938, would justify a similar increase in the rate of depreciation in India also. It is, however, an irony of fate, that while all our important Statutes are modelled on the Acts enacted by the British Parliament, the privileges which are granted under the British Acts, do not find their place in the Indian Statutes, but they are always loaded with the burdens which the British Acts embody. I want you, therefore, to note that there ought to have been an increase in the rate of depreciation on Indian ships during the last decade, on the same basis as the increase in the United

Kingdom, after making due adjustments for climatic and other considerations. As this has not been done, the Indian shipping industry is placed at a disadvantage as compared to the British shipping industry which has been seriously competing with it in India's maritime trades.

During the last war, the normal rate of depreciation on ships in the United Kingdom was increased by 50 per cent. As the cost of replacement has risen very high and is likely to rise still higher in the future, British shipowners demand a similar increase in the rate of depreciation during the continuance of this war also. I am now authoritatively informed that in response to the demand of British shipowners 6 per cent. on the prime cost of the vessel has now been fixed as the rate of depreciation on British ships. Profits on which income-tax and the excess profits tax will have to be paid in the chargeable accounting period will also be arrived at after providing for depreciation on the original cost of vessels at 6 per cent. Unless similar action is taken in this country; that is to say, unless the rate of depreciation is raised from 5 per cent. to 7½ per cent. on the prime cost of vessels in India, Indian shipping industry will be placed at a serious disadvantage. If depreciation is allowed only at 5 per cent. in the chargeable accounting period for the purpose of determining the profits on which income-tax and the excess profits tax will have to be paid, instead of at 6 per cent., as is now allowed in the United Kingdom, and instead of at 7½ per cent., as it should be allowed in India, not only will it impose an unjustifiable burden on the Indian shipping industry, but it will also impair its staying power and its competitive strength. We have, therefore, decided to submit a representation to the Central Board of Revenue on this subject, and we hope that that Board will recognise the justice of our claims and will take such appropriate action as is necessary for that purpose.

The point, however, which I wish to emphasise, is that had we debited depreciation at 10 per cent. on the original cost of vessels, not only would the profits shown by the Company have considerably dwindled, but the Company would also not have been able to declare any dividend, after making the necessary

provision for the growing burden of taxation imposed on the industry in this country. As the profits stand today, we have also not been able to make any provision, as I have stated above, for increasing our marine insurance fund, in view of the 20 per cent. risk that we have been carrying ourselves. Under the circumstances, you will agree with me, that the working results of the Company have to be looked at in their proper perspective and that what we have been able to achieve is after all not unsatisfactory in view of the times and circumstances through which we have been passing.

You will naturally expect me to give you some idea as to what the future has in store for us. It has been stated in the Report that the full effect of the rise in the cost of operations will be reflected in the working of the coming year. I need not add that it is not easy, when we are passing through critical times, to forecast the extent of the rise in the cost of operations in all the important items of the Company's expenditure. Since the Report was published, as I have stated above, an increase of 5 per cent. in the basic pay and a 5 per cent. in the bonus to be given to the crew has already been made. It is estimated that there will be a rise of about Rs. 7,50,000 in the wage bill of the floating staff, in the coming year, as compared with that bill before the outbreak of the war. I cannot say how far either the coal bill or the expenses under surveys and repairs are likely to go up in the coming year. The marine risk and the war risk on the fleet of the Company—even if the rate of premium on war risk is not increased—are estimated to add about Rs. 23,50,000 to the expenditure of the coming year, as compared to what we have spent under those heads during the year under review. It is difficult to say how the terms of requisition will affect this cost of insurance.

Some kind friend has remarked that I am taking a pessimistic view of the situation. I may say that I have always been optimistic. I, however, consider it my duty to place the facts as they are before you, and leave it to you to draw your own conclusions. Apart from the increase in the cost of operations of the Company, about which I have given you

some indications in the remarks that I have made, there are still two other important factors which are bound to have a far reaching effect on the working of the Company. A ship of the Company was commandeered just after the outbreak of the war, for the purpose of naval defence. It is to be regretted that although it is over 12 months since that ship was taken, neither the rate of hire nor the amount to be paid for the ship, in case it is lost, have been settled yet. Since the closing of the financial year under review, eight more ships of the Company have been requisitioned by the Government of India. In spite of several discussions and representations, we do not yet know how the Government of India intend to compensate us for depriving us of the services which those ships were giving to the Company. We have pointed out to the Government of India that it will be a case of grave injustice to, and an unprecedented misfortune of the Indian shipping industry, if they were to fix the amount of compensation to be paid for these requisitioned ships, on the same basis on which it is fixed by the British Ministry of Shipping for British ships. We have emphasised the fact, that the conditions under which Indian shipping has to struggle for its existence and to fight for its growth, are strikingly different from those under which British shipping prospers under the powerful patronage and protection of its own national Government. British Shipowners have expressed their keen disappointment at the rates of hire which are to be paid to them by the British Ministry of Shipping for their requisitioned ships. They have, however, reconciled themselves to that position because they have to fight for their country and because they are authoritatively assured that when war comes to an end, and peace is established, such financial assistance will be given by the British Parliament to British shipping as will enable the British mercantile marine, to maintain itself “in adequate strength and in a position of full competitive efficiency”. I have given the details of the enormous amount of financial assistance which Britain has given or proposes to give to British shipping, culled from authoritative sources, in an article which I have recently contributed to the Bombay Investors' Year Book, published by the well-known House of Messrs. Devkar and Nanjee & Co., to which, you will

permit me, to invite your kind attention. British shipping is considered as a great national asset, by the Government of the United Kingdom. Neither is Indian shipping looked upon as a national asset by the Government of India, nor is Indian shipping assured of any financial help, even at the end of the war, so that India may be able to carry the major portion of her maritime trades in her own national ships. In view of these glaringly dissimilar circumstances existing in the two countries, and having regard to the national outlook in connection with the British shipping industry which exists in the United Kingdom—an outlook which is entirely absent at the seat of Government in this land—you will agree with me that it will be preposterous to impose burdens on Indian shipping which Britain may have imposed on British ships, or to expect Indian shipping to undergo such sacrifices as Britain can justifiably ask British ships to make. The trend of discussions which we had so far, with the representatives of the Government of India, on this subject, fills us, however, with grave apprehensions, and we do not know whether Indian shipping will get the justice which it really deserves. Both the ships which have been commandeered for the purpose of naval defence, as well as the ships, which have been requisitioned for carrying men, materials and munitions, have been playing a very important part in the prosecution of the War. We, however, do not know if the Indian shipping industry will even be allowed to maintain a standard of profits which other industries engaged on war work have been making in this country. Well may we feel helpless—I was going to say almost desperate—and be compelled to give expression to the bitter truth that Indian industries, when they come into clash with the British vested interests,—which receive all the necessary protection from their own Government, and are always able to exact all the unwarranted patronage from our Government also—have hardly any friend in the Government of India to protect them, to encourage them and to ensure their prosperity, growth and development.

It is, therefore, impossible for me to tell you how the earnings of the Company will be affected in the coming year by the requisitioning of the ships of the Company by the Government of India. I can only

hope that the Defence of India Rules under which these ships are requisitioned will not be used as if they were dealing with the offence of the Indian shipping industry, which has been empanelled for the prosecution of the war.

Apart from the policy of requisitioning the ships of the Company by the Government of India affecting the working results of the Company, in the ensuing year, it will also seriously disable the Company from maintaining regularly its usual services and vitally affect its ability to carry the quota of the trade, to which it is entitled. This policy of the Government of India of empanelling a large number of ships of the very small Indian mercantile marine, for the purpose of the war, is in singular contrast with the solicitude and concern, which the British Ministry of Shipping and their representative have shown in enabling the British shipping companies to carry their quota of the coastal trade of India, despite the fact that all the British ships have been requisitioned for the purposes of war by His Majesty's Government. These British ships based on India, have built up large fortunes for their companies, by dominating the coastal trade of India, at the cost and sacrifice of the development of the national shipping industry, for decades past. The Government of India would have been, therefore, justified if they had, in the first instance, requisitioned all these British ships for meeting the requirements of the war, before they commandeered the services of the small Indian mercantile marine, on whose services, for obvious reasons, they could have no moral claims whatsoever. The Government of India, however, did nothing of the kind. On the contrary, they appointed a European as the Indian Shipping Adviser to safeguard the interests of these British shipping companies, and to ensure, that they were able to carry their share of the coastal trade of this country. Let not the Government of India, however, forget the truth of experience that while absence of encouragement might lead to philosophic resignation, actual disservice will create serious disaffection if not desperation.

The second serious factor which will affect the working of the Company in the coming year is the new policy of

discrimination in favour of British ships and against Indian ships, recently inaugurated by the Government of India. Two Notifications were issued by them in September last. Not only are the movements of the ships on the Indian Register to be controlled, but they are also to be deprived of their freedom to fix the rates of freight and fares as they like. These Notifications do not apply to the ships on the British Register plying in the coastal trade of India. They will be free to go where they like and quote such rates as they please. As if this discrimination between Indian shipping and British shipping was not a sufficient punishment to the Indian shipping in this country, further humiliation is heaped upon national ships by discriminating between the ships on the Indian Register controlled by Indian interests, and the ships on the Indian Register controlled by British interests. The ships of the Mogul Line are on the Indian Register but are controlled by British interests. They are regularly employed in the trade between Calcutta, Bombay, Karachi and Red Sea ports. The Notifications issued by the Government of India do not, however, restrict their movement or control their power to fix their own rates of freight and fares. As a result of several representations, the Notification in regard to the freedom of fixing the rates of freight and fares has been cancelled; but the Government of India have intimated to the Indian shipping companies that they propose to issue a fresh Notification, and it is difficult to say how the earning capacity of the purely Indian shipping companies will be affected by this new policy of determination. I do not know why the Government of India are so anxious to control the rates of freight and fares to be charged by national ships only, when even His Majesty's Government have not controlled the rates of freight and fares to be charged by the ships, already requisitioned by them. I am told that the Government of India take these steps in the interests of the consumers. May I inquire, in all humility, whether the Government of India would watch the interests of the consumers when the goods are carried by national ships only by controlling the rates of freight to be charged by those national ships, but leave them to be looked after by the Almighty God, when these goods are carried by British ships,

and when those ships have increased the rates by over 100 per cent?

I have given you some idea as to how the policy of requisitioning and how the policy of discriminating against Indian ships, both in regard to their movements and their freedom to fix the rates of freight are likely to affect the working of the Company. We are, however, urging upon the Government of India with all the earnestness of which we are capable, to do justice to Indian shipping in both these matters. The manner and the extent to which the Government of India will respond to our fervent appeals will affect the lights and shades of the picture that I have drawn before you. One or two redeeming features of the situation, however, are that the Company has been able to lift coal and salt during the first half of the year at fairly good economic rates, and it is expected that there will be a brisk movement of rice from Burma to India during the busy season of the next year. I can only assure you that your Directors will continue to watch and safeguard the interests of the Company with constant vigilance and discerning care, and will lose no opportunity to press the claims of the Indian shipping industry on the Government of India during the anxious times through which all of us are passing at present.

I shall now refer to the latest position in regard to the Company's participation in the carriage of pilgrims between India and Jeddah. As the attitude of the Government of India towards the Scindia Company had made it impossible for that Company to resume its pilgrim service even during the current Haj season, a report has been circulated by interested parties that the Scindia Company has retired from the pilgrim trade, and has been employing its ships in other lucrative business. Let me assure you and the Muslim public, that the Scindia Company has not gone out of the pilgrim service and does not propose to get out of it, but it has been unfortunately driven out of that trade at present. The communique issued by the Government of India last year gave rise to a misunderstanding that the reason why the Scindia Company did not berth its ships in the pilgrim trade was, that the Government did not agree to its proposal for an increase in the rate of passage fare to be charged to the

pilgrims. Although there was no justification for this impression and although I had made the position of the Company quite clear, in my speech last year, I may add that with a view, to prevent any misunderstanding whatsoever on this subject, the Company, in response to the letter of the Government of India, wrote to the Government that the Scindia Company would carry the pilgrims to the Hedjaz during the present Haj season at such fares as would be fixed by the Government of India. There was no question of the Company's employing its ships in other lucrative business. As you are all aware, the s. s. "El Madina," the most popular ship in the pilgrim traffic, has been requisitioned by the Government of India. The Company, as I say, is practically driven out of that service. The Government of India have told the Company, that it was impractical to allot any quotas to Companies interested in the trade. The Government maintained that it would also not be possible to allow the Companies to determine the number of ships that they could send to the Hedjaz. The Government decided that the policy of fixing the number of ships would be entirely controlled by them. The Government themselves would, therefore, determine the questions as to the number of ships that would be sent and as to the Companies whose ships would be allowed to go. Instead of recognising and implementing the just claims of national shipping for participating in the Haj service, it was called upon by the Government of India to agree in advance, to their policy of control, the implications of which, it was difficult to understand. The result was that the Company was practically driven out of the Haj service. The Government carried on negotiations with the Mogul line alone. It will be the ships of the Mogul Line that will be sent to the Hedjaz. Although this, in itself, is a serious grievance of the national shipping industry against the Government of India, their recent action of subsidizing the ships of the Mogul Line controlled by British interests when the Scindia, a national concern, was compelled to remain out of the field—another glaring instance of their recent policy of discrimination against national shipping—has only added insult to injury. "Let me not be misunderstood in any way. I welcome every step that the Government of India have

taken for providing our Muslim brethren with such facilities as might enable them to perform their pilgrimage in these anxious days. I have no quarrel with that policy. I also recognise that State aid to protect the interests of national shipping is necessary. I would welcome that policy, as I have demanded it all these years. State aid to national shipping is one thing, but State aid to ships controlled by British interests, at the cost of national shipping, is altogether a different proposition." Last year the rise in the cost of operations did not concern Government of India in any way, when the rates of passage fares for pilgrims were fixed. The reason was that the Scindia Company was also in the field. This year, when the Government of India knew that the Scindia ships were not to be sent to the Hedjaz, negotiations were carried only with the Mogul Line and they decided not only to raise the passage fares by 13 per cent. but they promised the Mogul Line to give them a subsidy—a substantial financial aid for reimbursing them the cost of war insurance and all other expenses which they might incur by abnormal delays etc. during their voyages under the present circumstances. "It is against this policy of discrimination that we have protested and shall continue to protest. Such an unwarranted, unjust, and unnatural treatment is not going to scare away any national shipping from a field of service, which we maintain, belongs to India and Indian shipping, as a matter of right."

Let me now turn to our project for the establishment of a Shipbuilding Yard in India. It is a matter of great pride and satisfaction to your Directors and myself that you readily and willingly responded to our call and oversubscribed the sum of Rs. 75 lakhs which was required for financing the project and for strengthening the financial resources of the Company. Need I assure you how grateful we are to you all, brother shareholders, for the confidence which you have shown in us, and the co-operation which you have given to us, in the starting of a new industry which was once the glory of India. We are told that Indian capital is shy and Indians lack the spirit of enterprise. You have effectively disproved by your co-operation and help the hollowness of these charges. Shipbuilding industry was not assured of

any protection—discriminating or stimulating—from the Government of India. We all knew that we had to stand on our own legs. The ready flow and quick investment of such a large capital at a short notice, in this industry, will remain, therefore, as an important landmark in the industrial development of India by Indians themselves.

I told you in my speech last February, that the sympathetic interest which was evinced by the Commerce Member in our proposal and the readiness with which he was good enough to inspect the site for our proposed Yard at Calcutta filled me with hopes of the possibilities of good progress in the near future. Little did I then realise, that even the active interest of an Indian Commerce Member will be of no avail in making the European Chairman of the Calcutta Port Trust look at our project from a broad national point of view or realise the urgent need of establishing a Shipbuilding Yard in India, even when ships after ships were lost by the action of the enemy. Negotiations lingered on. I was told that Sir Thomas Elderton would be called at Delhi and all questions connected with the obtaining of a site at Calcutta would be satisfactorily settled. I lived in hope. The climate at Delhi was becoming warm. I understood Sir Thomas Elderton would surely respond to the request of the Commerce Member and see him in the cool heights of Simla. Sir Thomas never came. Most valuable time was lost. I was losing all hope for starting the Yard at Calcutta. Optimistic as I was, my patience was exhausted. I turned to Vizagapatam for a site and am glad to inform you that as a result of my conversations in Simla with the Departments of Commerce and Communications, the Company was able to obtain a site for the establishment of a Shipbuilding Yard at Vizagapatam. I lost no time in proceeding to that port and completed all our preliminary investigations. You will be happy to learn that our choice of Vizagapatam for our Shipbuilding project was endorsed by the Company's Consulting Engineers, Sir Alexander Gibb and Partners. A senior representative of that firm, specially came out to India, and as stated in the Report, the site that was selected has been finally approved by Sir Alexander Gibb and Partners, from every point of view. We have taken

possession of the site thus selected, and are now proceeding with the laying of the foundations of the two slips with which we have decided to make a start, in accordance with the advice and direction which we have been receiving from Sir Alexander Gibb and Partners, Orders for machinery of the value of about Rs. 5 lakhs and timber of the value of about Rs. 4 lakhs have already been placed. We have thus made the beginning for the building up of an industry which India urgently needs. We are, however, fully conscious of the great difficulties that lie ahead.

We are experiencing unusual difficulties, as stated in the Report, in obtaining steel from India or from other countries, and importing machinery and technical personae from the United Kingdom or from other sources. I was advised, when I was in Simla, that it would be better, under the existing circumstances, to secure the bodily transfer of a Shipbuilding Yard from England to India. I am glad to remark that I was encouraged in this move by the Government of India. Strenuous efforts were made to secure such a Shipbuilding Yard in the United Kingdom. I was told that His Majesty's Government would not allow the shifting of such a Yard from England to India, unless ships to be built in such a Yard in India were placed at their disposal. I assured the Government of India that if such a Shipbuilding Yard were allowed to be transferred from England to India, the Company would place the ships to be built in that Yard, on reasonable terms, at the disposal of His Majesty's Government, during the period of the war. It is a matter, therefore, of keen disappointment and deep regret, that the Board of Trade do not consider our project and our assurances as helpful for the purpose of the war, and are not, therefore, prepared to release such a Yard, if obtainable, for being transferred from England to this country. Mr. Ronald Cross, British Minister of Shipping, in the broadcast speech which he made in August last welcomed the starting of Shipbuilding Yards in the Dominions and elsewhere. He remarked:

Our resources are great but they cannot be too great to meet the needs of the future, and we should frankly welcome all means of increasing, our shipping, by the aid of the shipyards of the Dominions or elsewhere.

Great Britain has already placed orders for the building of 18 large merchant vessels in Canada. Australia with its national policy of subsidizing its own shipbuilding industry, is going ahead with its shipbuilding programme. Mr. Cameron, Minister for Navy, announced in July last, that Australia was concentrating on war-ship construction for Britain. It is stated that the construction of Shipyards in Turkey will be entrusted to a British enterprise, and the cost of about 2 million pounds sterling is payable in accordance with the terms of Britain's credit to Turkey. In view of Great Britain thus doing all it can to help the Shipbuilding projects in other parts of the Empire and even in the foreign countries, why does it look upon the project of a Shipbuilding Yard in India with suspicion, if not hostility? May I, in this connection, recall the wise words uttered by the Vice-Admiral Herbert Fitzherbert in his broadcast speech in August last? He remarked:

It is obvious to me and, I think to a great many other people that the sooner a Shipbuilding industry is started, the better for India. That all these are present in India is a fact that cannot be denied.

I can only hope, that such wise counsel, coming from one who is responsible for the defence in the eastern waters, will not be lost upon His Majesty's Government, and I yet entertain the hope, that self-interest, if not the spirit of a solid Empire maritime policy, will make the authorities in England take a just and proper view of the situation and not place difficulties in the path of this Company in going ahead with its project for the building of ships in this country.

After all my recent conversations at Simla and after the significant appeal of the Vice-Admiral referred to above, I must confess, that I was not prepared for the chilling announcement made by Sir Alan Lloyd in the Council of State on the 29th November, that

Government are not proposing to encourage actively the merchant shipbuilding industry in India as part of their war effort.

It is really a great tragedy in the relations between India and England, that while England welcomes and encourages the building of ships in the Dominions and even in foreign countries, in her own interests, both His Majesty's Government and the Government of India who have to echo the voice of their masters across

the seas, for protecting the British vested interests or creating new British interests in this country, do all they can to discourage the building of ships in India, and look upon all efforts in that direction not as 'part of war effort' as they do when the Dominions and other countries are concerned.

This will give you some idea of the insuperable difficulties that we have to face in building ships in this country. With faith in our mission and with the support and sympathy of you, brother shareholders, we shall continue to put forth our most strenuous efforts to achieve the object on which we, all of us, have set our heart and God willing, before long, India will be building ships in our own Shipbuilding Yard owned, controlled and managed by Indians themselves.

I shall now say a word or two in regard to the Tripartite Agreement which vitally affects our national shipping. I told you last year how I had to run from India to England, from Bombay to Calcutta and thence to Delhi and Simla, and back to Bombay, in my efforts to remove the shackles and fetters of Indian shipping and to secure for it the freedom to grow and expand in India's maritime trades. I did not succeed. I could not succeed. We had no other alternative. We were compelled to give notice for the termination of the Agreement. In the meantime, the war broke out, I was told by common friends that I should allow the Commerce Member to do his duty by national shipping. I should, therefore, give further time to him to do so.

One further year has passed. I have seen the Commerce Member several times at Calcutta, at Bombay, at Delhi and at Simla. No progress was made. I, therefore, interviewed the Viceroy on the 21st June last, and sent to His Excellency a long telegram on the 19th July. In the meantime, the position of Indian shipping was going from bad to worse. Ships were requisitioned. Shipbuilding industry was not encouraged. Further restrictions were imposed on the movements of Indian ships only. I was told that the Commerce Member was in communication with the Principals of the British Companies in England and was awaiting their reply. Optimistic as I am, I am again living in hope. In view of the above position we have not taken any action to terminate

the Agreement. "The revision of this Tripartite Agreement is a question of supreme importance to all of us. It is now over 20 years since we are restricted only to the coastal trade of India, Burma and Ceylon. We cannot, therefore, in the new Agreement, accept less than 50 per cent. as our share in India's coastal and adjacent trades. National shipping has not been allowed to participate in India's overseas trades all these years. That shipping can no longer agree to keep out of those trades. It must have its proper place and its legitimate share of those trades also. India hopes that the Commerce Member has now heard from those British Shipping Companies from England and that he will rise equal to the occasion and do his best for helping the cause of national shipping."

Some critics have observed that I should not press for the claims of national shipping during the period of the war. Whatever the motive of such kind friends, I must say that I cannot share their views. Others have advised that I should wait till the proposed offer for more power at the Centre materialises, and press forward my claims even during the war. The fate of Indian industries is not to hang on the passing vagaries of expected constitutional advance or threatened political set-backs. I was prepared to go to the farthest limit possible and was agreeable to settle the terms of the Agreement now, but to bring them into force at the end of the war. I became as reasonable as it was possible for me to be, without sacrificing the interests of national shipping. If it is possible for His Majesty's Government to declare their intentions, during the course of the war, as to what the constitutional status of India should be at the end of the war—whether it was acceptable to India or not is another story—I wonder what difficulties there could be for the Commerce Member to arrange for an Agreement between the British shipping interests and the national shipping interests, which might begin to operate when peace is established.

It was only the other day that the Secretary of State, eulogising the efforts of the Eastern Group Conference, remarked that

the Delhi Conference has been laying for India the foundations of increased industrial and defensive power which are essential conditions to-day of true self-government.

If that is so, how can India lay the foundations of true self-government without a national Navy to defend her shores, and without a national mercantile marine to shape her national economic policy and to serve as a second line of defence? Whatever may be the outcome of the Eastern Group Conference and the so-called pooling of the resources of those parts of the Empire, which met at Delhi, India would never agree to the enunciation of a policy which would prevent her from establishing and developing her own key and defence industries or which would militate against India's industrial development on national lines. India has to guard herself against the possible danger of a further intrusion of foreign capital and against non-Indian enterprises further exploiting India's resources. The timely warning given in wise and pregnant words, in response to a question about national industries owned and controlled by Indians, by Mr. Jehangir R. D. Tata, who presides over the great House of Tatas and controls the capital of the people entrusted to that House exceeding Rs. 62 crores, deserves repetition. He said:

Indian industry will, however, have to face competition not only from foreign countries but also from foreign owned or controlled industries entrenched in this country, under the shelter of protective tariffs. The growth of such foreign controlled interests is a serious threat to India's industrial progress and it is all the more necessary, therefore, that Indian enterprise should be given every possible encouragement to build up national industries in the true sense, and to retain in Indian hands, the control of country's industrial economy.

It is, therefore, clear that so far as shipping industry is concerned, what India really and urgently needs, is a Merchant Navy owned, controlled and managed by Indians, able to carry India's overseas trades. The Indian mercantile community has been urging for the building up of such an Indian Merchant Navy all these years. National economic policy makes it imperative for India to bring such a Merchant Navy into early existence. Even the Secretary of State has now made it clear, that it is essential for true self-government that India should lay the foundations of the defensive power which, you will all agree with me, in view of the geographical position of India and

her position in Asia, it is impossible to develop without a proper Navy of defence and a proper Navy of supply. Look at the question from any point of view and we all will be driven to the inevitable conclusion, that India must have a Merchant Navy of her own. How can India build such a Merchant Navy when Indian shipping companies are yet working under the fetters and restrictions which are imposed upon them by such agreements as the Tripartite Agreement? Unless that Agreement is revised and Indian shipping is allowed to grow and expand as a free economic unit of this great country, we shall not be able to achieve the object which India has in view, and which the Secretary of State is of the opinion that we cannot achieve, without building up all our sea power. That is the reason why I have attached the greatest importance to this vital question of the revision of the Tripartite Agreement, for which I have been working so strenuously for the last 18 months and more. Let not the British shipping interests forget, that they will have to count on the goodwill of the Indians in general, and the Indian shippers in particular, in coming to an agreement with the Indian shipping interests. May I in this connection recall with pride and satisfaction what the President of the Bombay Rice Merchants' Association, Sheth Devji Tokersey, remarked in January last. He said:

In fact I am voicing the feeling of you all, Gentlemen, when I say that we, the Merchants of India, are awaiting the day, when the Scindia flag will be regularly seen in the far away waters,

on the coasts of Africa and the Far East, nay, in the seven seas of the World: and that the Indians will have the privilege of visiting and trading with the different ports of the World under the National Flag.

That is the goal which we are all anxious to reach, and I am sure, that with your usual sympathy, support and encouragement, we shall march forward with courage and determination, and shall have either a Tripartite Agreement which recognizes our rights, or shall have to work without such an Agreement, shaping our destiny as we consider best in the interests of India, and in the interests of a great Key Industry—the Indian Shipping Industry of the future.

Before I conclude, let me express my deep satisfaction for the very able and efficient manner in which both the staff afloat and ashore have carried on their duties throughout the year. The work of the Company has been growing. The Company has also to look after the work of the other shipping companies of which it has become the Managing Agents. All this has added to the strain of work on your senior Officers, and the fact that they and all their other colleagues have discharged their duties so strenuously and so cheerfully entitles them to the thanks of the Company, which, I have no doubt, you would permit me to offer them, on your behalf.

With these words, Gentlemen, I beg to move that the Directors' Report and the Audited Statement of Accounts for the year ended the 30th June, 1940, already sent to the shareholders, be and are hereby approved and adopted.

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The Decline of the New Roman Empire

BY MR. G. A. JOHNSON

GENERAL Sir Archibald Wavell's campaign in Libya has been compared to the victorious campaign of Field-Marshal Lord Allenby in Palestine, a campaign which led to the elimination of Turkey from the war in 1918. Gen. Wavell served on Allenby's staff and has been his biographer. Careful preparation, rapid movement, feints, encirclement and the massing of overwhelming strength at points chosen for attack, have marked this like the earlier campaign, which has been described by a leading military critic as "one of the masterpieces of military history, as perfect in design as in execution". The design and execution of the present, Libyan, campaign (which incorporates the newest as well as the oldest lessons of warfare and supplies a remarkable example of that co-operation of all arms and all services which is the dream of every subaltern) seem to justify the repetition of Captain Liddell Hart's tribute to Allenby.

The success of the Nile Army also recalls an older, decisive success, Nelson's naval victory of 1798. (For students of coincidence, it may be of interest to notice that General Wavell, like Nelson, is blind of one eye). Both these successes emphasise the important lesson that no country at war with a Naval Power can safely undertake expeditions abroad

without command of the seas. Italy, with bases in Libya and the careful preparations of years, should have been better off than was Napoleon in Egypt in 1798. The growth of air power should have facilitated supply. Indeed, British problems of supply would appear to be far more formidable than Italian. But, as in 1798 so in 1940-41, naval fighting strength has proved more important than geographical propinquity. It is the fleet of Admiral Cunningham that has made possible the success in Libya. For some time past, it has been obvious that Italy's power in north and east Africa is doomed unless, by her own efforts or the efforts of her ally, she can undo the effects of the British blow to the Italian fleet at Taranto. Recently, almost certainly too late, she has made the attempt.

The attack on a heavily-protected British convoy bound for Greece may be regarded as an earnest of the new policy. A succession of blows like this would be inconvenient, to say the least. In terms of money, labour or warlike usefulness, a dozen dive bombers are poor compensation for a cruiser sunk and an aircraft carrier damaged. However, the prompt and repeated action taken by the R. A. F. over Sicily, coupled with the stout resistance of the Fleet and the defences of Malta should make the Germans hesitate before they

commit themselves to the constant aerial reinforcement of their Italian ally. Moreover, the convoy got to its Greek destination and neither German nor Italian air power has had the least effect on the advance in Libya and East Africa. The British Navy continues to dominate the Mediterranean and to give powerful assistance where required.

Sidi Barrani, Bardia, Tobruk have fallen to the Imperial Forces in succession. In Eritrea, the Italians are on the run. In Abyssinia, their authority is being rapidly undermined. Hatred of the Italian oppressor, combined with British aid and arms, has created a spirit of Abyssinian unity which certainly did not exist in 1935. The Emperor and his eldest son, the Church, the dissident chiefs all seem to have sunk their differences for the purpose of driving out the Italian. The disappearance of the whole Italian Empire in Africa seems imminent and, since it is under the spell of its doubtful glory that Mussolini has diverted the attention of the Italian people from domestic hardships and grievances, its disappearance would logically seem to demand the disappearance also of the Fascist regime.

Reinforcement of the Italian forces in Albania continues, under difficulties. The British and Greek air forces will need to give the Albanian ports, particularly Durazzo, a further pounding. But, in spite of their fresh troops, the Italians have, at the time of writing, nowhere obtained even local success. The Greeks continue, slowly, to advance. The Italian morale, in Albania as in Africa, is reported to be bad. But masses can do much to make up for morale. The number of Italian troops employed in all theatres of war overseas must still be far short of a

million. What has happened to the "8,000,000 bayonets" which Signor Mussolini represented as offering an olive branch in 1936? Are they keeping order at home, preparing to resist a British invasion, keeping an eye on France (or on Germany), or do they simply not exist? The state of some of the Italian equipment suggests that there has been a great deal of bluff in Italy's martial appearance of recent years.

The German attitude towards Italy is not easy to understand. There may be truth in the stories of Nazi jubilation over Italian discomfiture. But dislike or contempt does not adequately explain why Germany has not gone earlier to the aid of her ally who is performing the important task of tying up British ships, aircraft and men in the Mediterranean area and preventing the free use of the Mediterranean as a British commercial highway. Professed help may have been declined but Germany cannot readily afford to let Italy make a separate peace or, still worse from the German point of view, overthrow the present regime and, under its successor, not impossibly, passively or actively assist the traditional friend, Britain.

Occupation of Italy by German troops is considered likely by some commentators. Advance units are active there already. But, although Germany has done herself comfortably so far by "boarding out" her armies and so saving their upkeep at home, the process may be carried too far. In none of the occupied countries have the Germans been accepted, except by a small section of the population, in their proclaimed role of deliverers and apostles of a new order. It is very important to maintain communications with these

armies, to be able to reinforce them at need and to keep central control—a matter in which the German High Command was not conspicuously successful either in 1870 or in 1914.

An Italian collapse seems to be on the way, but it would be unwise to put a date to it in advance. Germany may consider that Italy will hold out until she has time to prepare and launch her diversion. The most obvious forms of diversion are:

1. a flank attack on Greece,
2. an attack on the Suez Canal,
3. an attack on Gibraltar,
4. the invasion of Britain.

Greece might be attacked either by the shorter, but hilly, route through Yugoslavia or by way of Bulgaria and the Thracian plain. The second route gives opportunity for the use of Germany's mechanised forces and has the advantage of taking Greece in the rear. (A third form of "flank attack," persuading the Greeks to accept an armistice, has also been discussed.) A march through Bulgaria, Turkey, Syria and Palestine would bring the Germans to the Suez Canal. But this ambitious programme would be resisted by the Turks and probably also by the French forces in Syria. Allowing for the difference of climate, it would seem to have all the disadvantages of Napoleon's march on Moscow. Moreover, it would have to be undertaken very quickly if it was to give relief to Italy's armies in Africa. An attack on Gibraltar might offer better prospects of a quick diversion. These plans are conditioned to some extent by the attitude of the Spanish in one case, of the Balkan States not yet at war in the others. If two or more of the plans were combined (and, perhaps, a threat to Iraq

thrown in) the force of the conditioning factors would be greatly increased.

The situation in the Balkans is, as usual, complicated. Recent and at the time of writing, still obscure, developments suggest that Rumanians may be getting tired of kissing the rod. The attitude of Bulgaria to the passage of German troops is equivocal. The Bulgarian Premier's speech which, in the summary cabled to this country, appeared to be an invitation to the Germans to march in, had an unexpectedly favourable reception in Greece. Russia continues to assert her neutrality. But it seems unlikely that she would sit idly by if her interests were threatened. But, again, what are those interests? And who can be sure that, if Germany makes a move, Russia's interests will not have been secured by prior arrangements between them?

It would be a mistake to regard German strategical ingenuity as limited to the three forms of diversion already discussed or the fourth which will be considered later. There is, for example, the possibility of a diversion, not in Italy's interest, but of interest from Italy. The situation at Vichy may be cleared up by the time this article appears in print. Will the egregious M. Laval be restored to office? It is not, perhaps, widely known that, at the outbreak of war in 1914, M. Laval, then a Socialist, was one of the people whom the French Government had marked down for arrest for disloyal activities. If Laval gets back, will Germany get control of the French fleet and the French colonial armies? In such circumstances, the Italians might be let go their doom. France would be at least equally capable of sustaining the task of diverting British attention to the Mediterranean. But it is

very doubtful whether even Laval could work a voluntary transformation of French policy on these lines.

There remains: invasion. Many people doubt whether the invasion of Britain has ever been seriously contemplated and ask whether the massing of troops and the concentration of barges in continental ports are not mere bluff. Others contend that the opportunity for invasion has passed and that the Germans know it has passed. Moreover, the influence of sea power is even more important in the North Sea and English Channel than in the Mediterranean. But it is plain that Germany's sole hope of defeating Britain lies in a successful invasion. The aerial attacks and the war on shipping—there is at present a lull in both forms of activity—have brought Britain no nearer defeat, serious though both have been and may be again. Even an attempt at invasion might be calculated to have the effect of diverting British effort from the Mediterranean. But is it worth sacrificing German lives in a hopeless enterprise simply to save the Italian Empire?

Both Italian difficulties, and the probability of a large increase in American aid to Britain, suggest that, if the attempt is to be made, it must be made soon. Recent comparative quiescence in German activities (due, in part at least, to bad weather) should not deceive us. Experience between the end of the Polish campaign and the launching of the "Blitz" through the Low Countries indicates that the Germans employ such pauses to prepare themselves for a major effort.

There is an interesting resemblance between the present situation and that which prevailed in Europe in 1801-02:

then France, now Germany, all-powerful on land; Britain in command of the seas. The result of the deadlock in 1802 was the Treaty of Amiens. There is no possibility of such a treaty now; but it is possible that Hitler would be pleased to let the war die of inanition, resuming it when it suited him. We have no means of measuring the war-weariness in Germany. It may be supposed that failure to carry out the programme of defeating Britain according to schedule has not been without its effect. However this may be, it is certain that Germany is in urgent need of time to digest her continental gains. As an additional argument for slowing down the *tempo* of the war, it may be reckoned that, given time for reflection, both Britain and America would begin to doubt the value of the outpouring of vast sums of money on the continuance of the war for the sake of whom—countries which have ceased fighting! Moreover, an easing up of the aerial attacks on Britain would give American isolationism an opportunity to make up some of the ground it has lost under the influence of the vivid sympathy for British air-raid victims.

Here is a possible German policy, given for what it is worth—not very much, perhaps. But the German leaders are good psychologists and it must now have become clear to them that the problem of breaking down the British will to fight requires methods totally different from those used in other countries now within their grasp. The method of inanition, as it can be called, may be used now or later. The chief argument for using it now is that the United States Lease and Lend Bill is still under discussion and British preparations for counter-attack in Europe are incomplete. But Britain cannot afford to let her strategy or her tactics be imposed on her. The moment she is ready and an opportunity presents itself, she must attack, as the R. A. F. is already doing on an increasing scale.

THE HANDLOOM INDUSTRY

BY MR. V. G. RAMAKRISHNA AIYER, M.A.

[The personnel and terms of reference of the "Fact-finding" Committee referred to in this article, have since been announced. The Committee consists of Dr. P. J. Thomas, Professor of Economics, University of Madras, Chairman, Rai Bahadur Hrishikesh Mukherjee, Custom House, Calcutta, Member, and Mr. B. P. Adarkar, Reader in Economics, University of Allahabad, Secretary. The terms of reference of the Committee will be as follows:—(1) To make a survey with the assistance of the Provincial and State Governments of the extent of the handloom industry in each province and of the kinds of handloom products produced and the number of persons engaged in the industry; (2) to make a report on the marketing organisations both for the purchase of yarn by the handloom weavers and for the sale of the handloom products; (3) to compare the nature of the products of the handloom industry in each area surveyed with the corresponding mill products and to find the nature of the competition between the two; (4) to investigate the kinds of yarn used in the handloom industry and the types of production for which different kinds of yarn are used; and (5) in particular to investigate how far an enactment prohibiting the mills from using yarns of low counts would help the handloom industry in maintaining its production.—Ed. I.R.]

THE Conference summoned recently by the Commerce Member of the Government of India in New Delhi, to consider possible measures to assist handloom weaving has referred the question to a Fact-finding Committee. The question is of such vital importance to small-scale industries in this country that it is well to draw attention to a few cardinal facts.

The handloom already enjoys certain advantages which ensure a steady, if relatively limited market for it. One is, that it is free from the labour troubles which have frequently dislocated the mill industry. Another favourable factor is that, even in the absence of any restrictions on mill production, handlooms practically enjoy a monopoly with regard to certain types and styles of cloth. Thus handlooms are able to contribute 26 per cent. of the total volume of piece-goods consumed in India. It is seen that in 1939-40, out of 5,960 million yards of cotton piece-goods available in India, 1,600 million yards were supplied by handlooms. It should be possible to maintain and expand the trade if handloom weavers reduce their costs. They can do so by more continuous production. At present many work only during certain seasons or for a certain number of days in the month and then wait until their goods are sold, expecting for their labour wages sufficient to maintain them even during the period when they are idle. They should be helped to establish handloom factories where they can work steadily, or those working in their own homes should be attached to commercial organisations which can market their goods.

The handloom is peculiarly suited to the sentiments, habits and caste organisation

of the Indian worker. It may be said also that the mill industry and the handloom industry are not really antagonistic. The amount of direct competition between them is very restricted and the handlooms provide a large market for yarns produced by mills and in the case of khadi, its position in relation to mill cloth is noteworthy.

Let us examine in particular the position of Khadi *versus* Mill cloth. In 1937, the total approximate number of labourers employed in the production of khadi cloth was 217,498. This number has considerably gone up. As against this, the cotton textile mill industry gave employment to 417,276 workers. In 1937, the total khadi production was 725 million, the corresponding mill production being 3,571 million yards. A million yards of khadi cloth were produced by 80,000 labourers; the same amount of mill cloth requires only 117 labourers. A million rupees of capital invested in khadi-making employs 43,499 workers; the same amount invested in making mill cloth employs 1,485 workers.

Factory production is said to bring about a lowering in the cost of goods which is likely to widen consumption. Admitting that factory production is cheaper than handloom production, the problem before the workers would be to choose between 'employment and a little costly goods' and 'unemployment and cheaper goods'. Any worker would prefer the first alternative, because in the second case the worker has no means to purchase goods, however cheap they may be. The position would have been tolerable if the wages of the displaced workers were added to the earnings of

those that are left. What actually happens is a contraction in the wage bill. In khadi production the wage bill constitutes 70 per cent. of the total cost of production, while in a modern cotton factory it comes up to only 20 per cent.

The difference in the cost of production of khadi cloth and mill cloth is not very marked, while there is a difference of two and a half times in the labour costs. In one case in Madras, it was shown that the cost of production in mills was even higher than the cost of production in the handloom industry.

The vast difference in the labour costs and the slight difference or even parity between the total cost of production of cloth in mills and that on handlooms is explained, in spite of the external and internal economics of mass production by the huge initial capital cost in the form of machines, their renewals, repairs and depreciation, high management costs and profits. In other words, rent, interest and profits account for this difference. It is to be further noted that the greater part of the money goes to swell the profits of the iron and steel magnates of Europe. On the other hand, paying higher prices for khadi is equivalent to withdrawing purchasing power (to the extent of the additional prices) from the consumers of cloth and rent, interest, profits (which are unearned increments) and taxes, and transferring all this money to the half-starved workers and peasants in rural areas.

The increase in the expenditure on cloth incurred by the well-to-do sections and the urban communities owing to the higher price of khadi would be a net addition to the purchasing power of the villagers, as well as the savings of the amount paid as interest and profits included in the price of mill cloth. As far as the substitution of mill cloth by khadi in the case of villagers themselves is concerned, there would be some increase in the clothing bill; but this would be more than counter-balanced by the additional wages provided for them through khadi. In 1937, 177,496 spinners employed by the All-India Spinners' Association set apart Rs. 2,07,119 of their earnings for the purchase of

khadi and actually purchased 273,481 square yards of it.

Why the progress of the mill industry, after 75 years of existence and with ample protection, has been so stunted in comparison with the khadi industry, which has enjoyed no official protection and which is but 20 years' old, is explained by the fact that mill production contracts the purchasing power of the masses, while khadi not only expands it but diffuses it very widely and equitably.

The measures calculated to improve the position of the handloom are bound to strengthen Indian agriculture inasmuch as the handloom industry is carried on in India predominantly as a subsidiary activity of the agriculturists. This probably accounts largely for the partiality which Mahatma Gandhi has for khadi. According to the reports obtained by the 1932 Cotton Textile Tariff Board from all the provinces, the number of handlooms in India is as under:

PROVINCES.	NO. OF HANDLOOMS.
Assam	425,000
Bihar & Orissa	125,000
Bengal	200,000
Bombay	100,000
Central Provinces	100,000
Delhi	450
Madras	225,000
N.-W. Frontier Provinces	500
Punjab	75,000
Hyderabad	140,000

If we include figures for Kashmir, Mysore and other Indian States, the total figure would come up to 2½ millions.

The Special Tariff Board of 1935 estimated the amount of yarn consumed in each province as given in the following table:—

PROVINCE	QUANTITY IN MILLIONS OF LBS. YARN CONSUMED		CLOTH PRODUCED
	COTTON	OTHERS.	
Madras	78.8	...	315
Bengal	48.2	...	235
Bombay	50.2	3.2	291
United Provinces	49.5	6.4	401
Bihar & Orissa	31.1	...	...
Punjab	60.1	4.0	...
Delhi	2	...	7
N.-W. Frontier	1.0	...	9
Central Provinces	15.5	...	...
Assam	4.3	...	22

The provincial distribution of the total amount of yarn available for consumption may be indicated from figures in regard to road and river-borne trade. The production of cloth on handlooms and the total quantity of cloth available for consumption in the country is estimated by the Bombay Mill-owners' Association as under:

YEARS	QUANTITY OF CLOTH TURNED OUT ON HANDLOOMS (APPROXIMATE).	TOTAL QUANTITY OF CLOTH AVAILABLE FOR CONSUMPTION IN THE COUNTRY.
1929-30	1,679	5,744
1930-31	1,655	4,888
1931-32	1,808	5,360
1932-33	2,056	6,325
1933-34	1,725	5,256
1934-35	1,793	5,970

END THE DEADLOCK

MR. AMERY has spoken again; or to be more correct, Mr. Amery has repeated his previous declarations. For in his interview with Sir Alfred Watson, he is reported to have said:

I still maintain that the offer of August last is a generous and far-reaching one. It still remains open, as the Viceroy has made plain in his recent statement to the Bengal Chamber of Commerce. The approach can come at any time now from the Indian side.

There is nothing in this that has not been said before and said with disgusting re-iteration. If this is the end of all his cogitations over the political impasse in India, we must despair of a settlement in the near future.

It is now sixteen months since Congress went into the wilderness over the question of what are called the national demands which, put in concrete form, were no more than the right to free and whole-hearted participation in the defence of the country without prejudice to her self-respect. The offer of August last has been repeatedly declared to be inadequate by every party that counts in the country. Liberals and Mahasabhis took strong exception to

It will be seen that the handloom supplies nearly a third of the Indian market for cotton goods. With the adoption of electric power-looms in their cottages, the ability of the weavers to hold their own will be much strengthened. Even as it is, there are certain fields in which the handloom weaver is quite able to compete both with the indigenous mill and the foreign importers. In the case of finer qualities of cloth for richer classes, and in the case of coarse varieties of cloth, the Indian mills will not find it easy to dislodge the handloom worker. It is, therefore, necessary by official policy to keep the mills from competing with the handlooms in spheres which may be regarded as their special field.

the minority bogey which is always put forward as an excuse for withholding power and asked for a clear time limit for the conferment of Dominion Status. Mr. Jinnah definitely told the League Council that "the British Government appear to have no intention to part with power". In his letter to Mr. Jinnah, Mr. Fazlul Huq, Premier of Bengal, says bluntly of the constitution he is trying to work so whole-heartedly:

The present Government of India Act is absolutely rubbish. It gives us responsibility but no power; it gives all the power to the Governor and the Governor-General-in-Council but all the responsibilities to the Ministers.

And Congressmen went a step further and resigned their offices in protest and are now seeking a desperate remedy in Satyagraha and imprisonment. The remedy may be worse than the disease but it is there however deplorable, as an unmistakable gesture of Congress reaction to Government's intransigence. Hundreds of Congressmen are now in jail and hundreds more are awaiting arrest. These include men who have held offices of power and responsibility in the late Government and whose influence

in the country can by no means be ignored. And yet Mr. Amery, who must have been watching this strange reaction to his offer, tells the House of Commons coolly,

that there had been no further discussions and no substantial change in the political situation since November 20.

It is sad to contemplate this aimless drifting which, if allowed to proceed, will spell disaster to the future of England and India. Mr. Amery himself tells us that "upon essentials there is no disagreement". What then if not a false sense of prestige should have stood in the way of a satisfactory settlement? "The real problem today is one that only Indians can solve for themselves," says Mr. Amery with pontifical air. Why then should he add a rider which has become a canting phrase with officialdom that "the British Government has after all the responsibility for the peace and welfare of India, inherited from the past". That same sense of responsibility ought to impel them to find ways and means to end the dead-lock which, in the light of the life and death struggle in which the world is engaged, seems singularly unimaginative.

"Too late" has often been the curse of British statesmanship all through history—in America, in Ireland, in India—and let it not be said that at a time when all India is waiting to throw the whole weight of its force against Nazism British statesmen were so lacking in imagination as to ignore the hand of friendship.

It is absurd to plead that the "new approach" should come from the Indians themselves. It is the strong that must be generous, and Britain's position in India is such that she can afford to make a "new approach", not in a timid, hesitating way but in a spirit of magnanimous goodwill. The time for vague promises and long-winded declarations is past. There should be no more talks about "the goals".

It is a mistake to think that it is only the Congress and the Muslim

League that cannot see any thing in the Viceregal declaration. In a recent memorandum, leading Liberals in the country have expressed in unmistakable terms their regret at the turn of events following the unfortunate policy of drift. A leading Liberal in Madras, Sir P. S. Sivaswami Ayyar, puts the nation's demand in definite and unambiguous terms. The demands are simple, but think of the wholesome effect such a pronouncement will have on the situation. Government are asked to make their intentions known on these points:

(1) The nationalisation of the defence force of India; (2) that in the policy of industrialisation of India, India shall have from this moment the same freedom to shape her policy as Australia or Canada, the paramount consideration being the development of Indian industries and the attainment by India of as much self-sufficiency as is possible and, (3) that the attainment of Dominion Status shall be effected within a year or two after the termination of the war.

What is there in this to deter the Government from making such a declaration? If this could end the dead-lock and make way for a common and determined war effort, what a pity that such an opportunity should be lost!

For, when all is said, it looks odd that Britain fighting for freedom in Europe should refuse the demand for freedom at home, that is to say, within the Commonwealth itself. Such a policy is bound to have an unwholesome effect on world opinion of Britain's good faith. The case for India can hardly be put more vividly than in the words of Prof. Laski, a democrat, who cannot be accused of being partial to India against the interests of England—

We are fighting against a German-Italian attempt to impose imperialism of the kind we practise in India upon Europe. All its ingredients are there. The Viceroy is our gauleiter; we have the puppet Government; we keep all the vital powers and posts in our own hands; we have an armoury of repressive legislation to prevent any effort at national self-determination we happen to dislike; we exploit all the divisions in the Indian community for our own advantage; we offer, in response to agitation, a shadow of real power while we keep the substance in our hands. This is how Germany governs Denmark and Slovakia. This is what we are fighting against in Europe.

RESEARCH IN SOCIAL SCIENCES

By DR. A. APPADORAI, M.A., Ph.D.

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It is a familiar remark that the progress of social sciences has lagged behind that of the physical sciences. This unbalanced development explains some of the fundamental drawbacks of the present social order—the unequal distribution of wealth (the accumulation of which has been made possible by a series of scientific inventions) and the ever present sense of insecurity caused by the frequent recurrence of war (obviously helped by man's enormous control over forces of nature and the increasing scientific perfection of the forces of destruction). The central idea of this rather miscellaneous collection of Essays: "Men and Ideas" by Graham Wallas (Allen & Unwin, 8s. 6d. net) is a call to social invention by one of the most original minds of his generation, to the invention of 'patterns of social behaviour which men may choose to follow rather than merely to discover laws of social behaviour which they must inevitably follow'. Whether Graham Wallas is writing on Bentham or on Universities, the key-note is the same. All the world is now calling for social invention and intellectual leadership. The social inventors deserve our unstinted admiration. Bentham, for instance, in seventy years of uninterrupted toil made inventions which have transformed our legal procedure, substituted competition for patronage in the Civil Service and introduced a logical relation between our Central and Local Governments; he made scientific health administration possible by the creation of social statistics and introduced a hundred minor improvements, whether in savings banks and money

orders, or the ordnance survey or office architecture. The need for such inventions has only grown greater since Bentham; for during the last hundred years in all the civilized communities of the world, the functions of government have changed from being mainly negative into being mainly positive, that is to say, governments have come to be engaged not merely in preventing wrong things from being done, but in bringing it about that right things shall be done. A negative government only requires courage and consistency in its officials; but a positive government requires a constant supply of invention and suggestion.

The end of all research in social sciences is human happiness. But there are difficulties in such research. In the natural sciences experiment is easy. "A few hours' or weeks' work in their laboratories told Ramsay or Helmholtz whether a new idea was well or ill-founded. Before any one of Bentham's ideas could be tested, he had to persuade an unwilling Parliament or Cabinet to undertake a new and troublesome task." The inventor should also have imagination and the capacity to put in very hard work—it is said of Bentham that throughout his seventy years of intellectual production, he wrote from ten to sixteen folio pages of manuscript every working day. He has to overcome opposition from vested interests. He will be told by them that every proposed reform in social organisation is 'against human nature'. The true inventor, however, knows that facts about human nature as apparently permanent as the belief in magic or the sentiment of

monarchy have proved capable of change. These difficulties and several others should not deter the student of social sciences from pursuing his task; they are a challenge to him to put forth his best effort and produce useful results. The improvement of democratic institutions to overcome their admitted defects, the right type of education to suit democracy, the removal of unemployment and poverty, and the avoidance of war are some of the directions in which social invention is urgent. Indeed as Gokhale said: "On every side whichever way we turn, only one sight meets the eye, that of work to be done, and only one cry is heard, that there are only few faithful workers."

If the work of social invention is supremely necessary, how are we to secure that a sufficient number of suitable persons shall undertake it under sufficiently favourable conditions? "Political inventors," says Wallas, "are not more popular among politicians or functionaries than were the inventors of textile machinery among the textile operatives of a hundred years

ago"—for, invention means the breaking up of comfortable habits and interference with vested interests. The creation of a sort of administrative General Staff attached to administrative departments on the lines of Lord Haldane's suggestions, intensive research by Universities and other learned bodies devoted to social welfare and the creation of a more general recognition of the need of invention as a safety valve in our artificial civilization are essential. Wallas also suggests that the League of Nations 'Committee on Intellectual Co-operation' could start a world-wide scheme of research. The student should also be trained to acquire contact with first-hand material; an organized scheme of 'teamwork' should be possible to avoid overlapping of subjects. These Essays remind us of the importance of well directed and properly organized research in social sciences in our own generation; they also provide useful hints to the student to enable him to proceed on the right lines and contribute to the sum total of human happiness.

HELP FOR CHINESE DOLLAR

BY MR. P. M. GEORGE

Chinese military resistance to Japan has astonished the outside world, the resistance of the Chinese dollar is equally noteworthy. The Chinese currency has been on the verge of collapse many a time, but it has survived all crises and is still tacitly accepted by the vast masses of the people. However, the dollar has depreciated sharply during the three years of war with Japan.

The strength of the currency is a matter of vital importance to the war, for its

exchange value represents the ability of the government to obtain foreign supplies. I shall make this clearer. The exchange value of the rupee we know is 1s. 6d. Supposing the rupee were to depreciate in terms of sterling, say to 6d., we would have to give three times the amount of rupees to obtain the same quantity of foreign supplies as we got before. Such a catastrophe is unthinkable.

Yet that is exactly what has happened to China. The Chinese dollar was quoted in

the London market at 14 to 14½d. at the outbreak of the war. The present rate is slightly below 4d.

How did this happen? One reason for the steep decline was flight of capital. The Chinese currency was converted by foreign holders into American and British currency. This is a usual phenomenon in war time. Flight of capital took place even in England at the outbreak of the present world war, as a result of which the sterling-dollar rate declined from 4'68 to 4'02½ to 4'03½, which is the present controlled rate.

INFLATION

Another important reason was inflation. Inflation had set in even before the war. At the end of October, 1935, the total note issue of the four leading Chinese banks was 486 million Chinese dollars. By July 1937, the total note issue exceeded 1,400 million dollars. Between August, 1937, and March, 1938, the note circulation went up by 234 million dollars (first eight months of war). War meant more and more money and Government had to borrow from the banks; so the banks had to issue more notes. By June, 1938, there was a further rise of 48 million; by June, 1939, another 900 million and by the end of 1939 another 535 million dollars. So between October, 1935, and December, 1939, the total note circulation had increased by 2,681 million dollars.

One of the avowed objects of the recent American and British credits to China is to stabilise the currency. The United States has agreed to lend 100 million dollars (about £25 million) and Britain £10 million, half of which shall be made

over to the Chinese Exchange Stabilisation Fund.

The history of this Stabilisation Fund goes back to the early months of 1939, when the debacle of the Chinese dollar assumed a serious nature. In March of that year, the Fund was formed with £10 million. Two British banks contributed £5 million and the balance was supplied by two Chinese banks.

PRESSURE ON RATE

The Chinese dollar was then quoted around 8½d. and the Stabilisation Fund greatly helped to maintain that rate. Support was extended in this way—when there was any pressure on the rate, the Stabilisation Fund would sell sterling at 8½d. But this process could not continue for long; the balances began to deplete. Accordingly support was withdrawn and the dollar was left to find its own natural resistance level. Between February and May, 1940, the rate declined from 5d. to 4½d. At this lower rate the Fund again began to operate, until support was withdrawn again when the Fund dwindled by half. The dollar fell to 3½d.

A Far Eastern expert is reported to have stated that the decline of the Chinese dollar was the greatest victory for the Japanese since the capture of Hankow. The decline meant that Chinese power to purchase essential foreign supplies was considerably curtailed.

Through all these anxious days, the Chinese people never questioned the worth of the paper currency of the National Government, though they were accustomed by the tradition of centuries to silver. Even in towns occupied by the Japanese, it is stated, the Chinese are putting up dogged resistance against the currency of the puppet regimes.

CURRENCY WAR

Incidentally the currency war carried on in China is interesting. According to Gresham's law, bad money drives out the good. This means that if two currencies circulate, whoever prints more bad money has the better chance of success. The Japanese in North China, through the Federal Reserve Bank of Peiping, printed paper currency much faster than the Chinese, and Chinese currency was to a certain extent driven out of circulation.

The greatest difficulty of the Chinese is that the main ports are in Japanese hands. This hampers exports and the acquisition of foreign exchange in that way. But by a "typical piece of Oriental compromise", as the City Editor of the *News Chronicle* puts it, Chinese exports are not at a standstill. He wrote:

The Japanese authorities are apparently prepared to allow the goods to leave the ports and the payment for them to reach the Chinese banks, provided the heavy export duties—about 40 per cent. of the invoice price—are paid to them. On these terms the whole of the Chinese tea crop is being shipped without let or hindrance by the Japanese authorities.

One occasionally hears junks shipping Chinese goods for the export market being sunk by the Japanese, but they are only those which attempt to leave without paying the duty.

Compared to the Western methods of blockade, the Japanese method appears more humanitarian. But Japan knows that she cannot prevent certain leakages and is apparently content to make the "China incident" self-supporting as much as possible.

BRITISH POLICY

Things looked very dark for China when the Burma Road and the Indo-China routes were closed. These were the routes through which U. S. and Russian supplies reached Chungking. The route through Outer Mongolia to Russia was open, but

the distance was too great to be of any real benefit (it is about 1,200 miles from Tihua to Sian). For 75 per cent. of arms supplies and almost the entire quantity of petrol, China is dependent on foreign countries. As a result of the blockade, there was acute petrol shortage and transport became increasingly difficult. The flow of goods from industrial centres ceased. This, combined with inflation, sent up prices to new high levels till it reached a level of 600 per cent. above the 1937 level.

It was fortunate for China that Great Britain soon realised the folly of appeasement. In defence of Britain, it must be pointed out that she had to devote her entire attention to affairs in Europe. But it is possible that she was also guided by self-interest. Britain has invested large sums of money in Chinese railway and customs loans. By appeasing Japan, she thought she could protect these interests. Many of these railway loans were in default. When Japan took over Manchuria, she was able to put the British-controlled railway there on a profitable basis—hitherto all the money had been misappropriated by local war lords. Promptly Japan paid over all back interests. Similar treatment was expected in other parts of China. But that is all past history.

With the reopening of the Burma Road, supplies again began to pour in. Chinese resistance stiffened, resulting in recent Japanese withdrawals.

It is expected that one of the results of the American and British credits would be a rise in the exchange rate for Chinese dollar to 6d. from its present level of 4d. . . . Since this article was written, the Japanese-sponsored 'National Government in China' at Nanking has organised a Central Reserve Bank Note issue.

VAISHNAVISM IN ASSAM

BY MR. GOVINDARAM DAS, B.A.

AFTER the decline of Vedic religion some great reforms were brought about by the Khatriya Princes one after another. Among them Mokkhali, Buddha, Mahabir Jain and Basudeva Krishna were worth mentioning. The reforms introduced by their theistic principles were Ajibic, Jainism, Buddhism, and Ekantha Dharma.

The true history of the founder of Vaishnavism could not be found, but from the historic researches and inscriptions it is ascertained that the date of Vaishnavism must be later than 5th century B.C. It is a sort of religious reform based on Upanishads. Its early name was Ekantha Dharma. From the Narayani Akhyana of the Mahabharata as described in the Santiparban, we could know that sage Narada learned the gospels of this Dharma from Narayana who was the king of the island of Sweta. This Narayana was worshipped by Upachirabasu performing a horse sacrifice without killing the beast. Such rites were upheld and the sanction of killing animals in sacrifices by Smirti and Sankhya had been nullified by the injunction laid in the Santiparban in the verses 4th and 5th of the Chapter 337. On the other hand it had for its background the Bhagavat Gita. This Ekantha Dharma was at first embraced by a tribe of Khatriyas of the Satwata sect at the end of the 4th century B.C. Soon after this, a foreign tribe named Abhiras, i.e., the cowherds imported a new system of religion into it. With this the early Vaishnavism got itself mixed up. They introduced nothing unknown but the worship of Krishna, the foregoing reformer of the faith. The

result was a new cult—the worship of Krishna along with the great divinity Vishnu. Buddhism, which was the royal religion of India for nearly a thousand years and which resounded the world with the clarion call of Ahimsa or Non-violence by all means underwent various changes and corruptions. So long Vaishnavism was holding its sway against the onslaughts of Buddhism up to the end of the 8th century A.D. when the stronghold of Buddhism was sacked to the ground by the great Sankaracharya and his followers. The doctrine of Spiritual Monism and World Illusion was promulgated by him. Sankara's teachings were the potential destroyers of the Bhakti school of worship. So it was attacked from time to time by the Vaishnava saints, who introduced various systems of their own. This new cult of Vaishnavism is a modification of Buddhism, having for its authority the Vedas. The principle of Ahimsa with disregard for Vedic ritualism was largely elaborated in this new phase of Vaishnavism.

Moreover in 11th century, Ramanuja opened the attack on the pure monism of Sankara. He was born in 1016 A.D. and exclaimed, that knowledge without Bhakti cannot bring liberation. He preached the doctrine of qualified monism in the place of Sankara's pure monism. He was followed by Nimbarka who formulated the doctrine of difference and non-difference theory. He introduced the worship of Radha, a female deity, as a consort of Krishna. Nimbarka was born in 1162 A.D. and he was the first man to preach dual worship. After him, Madhwa or Anandatirtha, whose date of birth most

probably was 1197 A.D., had gone a step farther and separated his doctrine from all others by establishing in the 13th century dual-monism or pluralism, at the same time bringing into prominence the name of Vishnu as the Supreme God. Ramananda in the 14th and Kavira in the 15th gave a new turn to Vaishnavism. In the 15th century Sankaradeva and Damodardeva in Assam with their followers remoulded the scattered forces of Vaishnavism. In the 16th century, Chaitanya in Bengal and Vallabha Swami in Western India spread the Bhakti creed far and wide. But Chaitanya introduced the worship of Radha and Krishna again after Nimbarka. His cult of Vaishnavism is known as Suprem-Bhakti or Erotic-Devotion. He got his inspiration from the love songs of his dual deity largely composed by Chandidas and Vidyapathi. Both of them flourished long before him.

Thus the great upheaval of Vaishnavism overflowed India from 8th century to 16th century and has at last established its sway over all classes of Hindus. It has not only abolished human sacrifices but also checked animal sacrifices as far as practicable.

We have briefly discussed the rebirth and history of Vaishnavism in India and now we shall see how it had spread in Assam, the mother country of Sakti school of thought and Tantricism. The great pioneers of Tantricism Ganaminath and Abhinava Gupta were hailed from Assam or the ancient Kamrup. But Vaishnavism transformed this land of Tantras into a stronghold of Vaishnavism. The great reformers of Vaishnavism in Assam at that time were Sankaradeva, Damodardeva and Harideva. The first-hand knowledge of Vaishnavism was

gathered by Sankaradeva in his longest travel lasting for 12 years. During this time he had gone to almost all the provinces of India where Vaishnavism preached by his predecessors was reigning supreme. The gleanings of religious thoughts advanced by various schools of Vaishnavism inspired him to import it to his country suiting the time and circumstances. It was he who at first organised the scattered forces of Vaishnavism in Assam and made it a principal religion of the province. He is a radical but his teachings were tempered with reason and good sense. Unlike him, Damodardeva was a liberal conservative. He did not like to abolish the daily rites and rituals of the Hindus for self-purification. While Madhav, a disciple of Sankara, was a radical philosopher and a stern extremist, Harideva was a lover of innovation. All these personalities with different ideals spread Vaishnavism to the farthest limit of country and made popular and readily acceptable. A new Vaishnava literature sprang up and overflowed the country with Vaishnava prayer and songs mostly dedicated to Krishna. The Gita and Bhagvata were translated into simple prose in Assamese in the first part of the 16th century by a learned scholar and disciple of Damodar. He was Bhattadeva. His fame as a creator of Assamese prose will receive admiration from home and abroad.

The great scholars and men of literature who flourished before Sankara and his contemporaries smoothed the course for the turning point which they brought. Madhav Kandali was a great scholar of Vaishnava literature. He preceded Sankara by four generations. Sankara expressed his indebtedness to him in

portion of the Ramayan, he translated into Assamese.

There were great scholars, literateurs, sculptors, artists, and music-experts before them. The baseless charges which some people level against the pre-Sankaric age drawing imaginary hideous pictures of Tantric-cult are without foundation. The notable contemporaries of the reformers were all gifted men like themselves. Ramrai, Anantakandali, Ramsaraswati, Bhattadev, Madhavdeva, Govindamishra and others—all were intellectual giants. At the same time no reference is made by the reformers in their writings about the evil practices of Tantric-cult.

The sad thing is that no historical researches are taken up to bring into light the pre-Vaishnava age. The verdict of history is that no great nation could thrive and hold its own against successive foreign attacks without a great literature and collective security of the masses. The people of ancient Kamrup, i.e., modern Assam were an independent nation up to the Burmese invasion. So they must have a well-developed literature, art and culture. The glorious antiquities of Assam have borne testimony beyond all dispute. There is not a single village where some beautiful images or engravings are not found. This historic land sadly needs researches and investigations.

We get frequent references in the biographies of these reformers that they were confronted at every step with learned Brahmin scholars. They had to wage life-long struggle against them and prove their innocence even before loyal assemblies. For fear of the collapse of the old order, some of them were persecuted and exiled from the country. When the turbulent waves of opposition were quelled, they got the

resting place in the heart of the common people. Soon they got admirers and staunch adherents to their creed. They glorified them and idolised them as an incarnation of Vishnu, the principal god of the faith.

But they had achieved a great end by converting the whole country into one creed and giving suitable place to the powerful parties within their fold. Art, culture, music and literature transformed into a new one infusing new vigour and energy. They simplified the very religion and made it inexpensive beyond measure. A new generation had sprung up and lent their whole-hearted support to this new order.

INFLUENCE OF BUDDHISM

The influence of Buddhism in this Vaishnava-cult of Assam is clear and straightforward. The "Sarana" is a direct imitation from Buddhism. The three saranas of Vaishnava correspond to the three saranas of Buddhism, e.g., Buddham saranam gachami, Dharamam saranam gachami, Satyam saranam gachami equal to Gurut saran, Dharmat saran, and Santat saran. The construction of Namghors and stup are also after the manner of the Buddhist "Stup". Some may deny it but this denial is without foundation. Not only the Buddhist custom and manners but also the principle of Ahimsa was wholly included in Vaishnavism. Sankardeva made several references to Ahimsa in his writings. In the "Bali-chalan", he writes: "Everybody should give up injury to others and should observe non-violence to all creatures and consider them so many Vishnus." We refrain from multiplying such instances. His inherent dislike for sacrifice and other Vedic ritualism proves beyond doubt

that not only he but his followers also were greatly influenced by Buddhism. They could not destroy the usages of Buddhist Tantricism. The Vaishnavas in Assam are not disallowed to take fish and meat and other common diet. Though Buddhism was banished from India physically but its spirit prevailed again in another name.

While Sankara blamed for destroying the Vedic religion and misguiding people in the Kirton, his disciple Madhava in the Namghosa included the name of Buddha as one of the ten Avatars of Krishna.

THE GOD OF ASSAMESE VAISHNAVA

Sankaradeva was a worshipper of Sri Krishna. He extolled the glories of Krishna in all his writings. This human-deity was the symbol of his cult. Though he deemed the Gita and the Bhagavata as the sources from which he drew his main tenets, he laid great stress in the name of God only and disregarded all other purificatory rites and penances. His God is partly human and partly divine. He admits the worship of two personal Gods; one is Vasudeva-Krishna and the other Vishnu, the invincible Warrior God. He could not conceive liberation without form; his God is not formless like that of Madhava. In several places of his writings, he gave lovely description of Krishna and Vishnu. On the other hand, his disciple Madhava concentrated his range of thought in a single individual, i.e., Sri Krishna. The Conception of God is supremely higher in the writings of Madhava than that of his Guru. While Madhava supplies mental food for the cultured, Sankara charms the masses by devotional worship of personal God.

There is difference of opinion as regards the principle followed by the preachers of

Assam. Those who are inclined to pluralism, try to draw them towards Madh-Acharya and invent a link with Chaitanya of Bengal. But preachers of Assam clearly show their love for Monism or more accurately to the Qualified-Monism of Ramanuja. As there is no mention about the Guru of Sankara, it becomes difficult to draw him towards Chaitanya who introduced the worship of a female deity (Radha) along with Sri Krishna which is against the principles of Assamese preachers. There is no mention of Radha in any of their speeches and writings. Though the Vaishnava sect in Assam has no continuous link with any of the four groups started by Sankaracharya, Ramanuja, Nimberka and Madhava, we may take it as a distinct group in itself, dating its origin from Sankaradeva.

Both Damodara and Sankara mainly gave importance to the name of God. The former also advised his followers not to renounce the daily rites and religious observances. He kept intact the Brahminical supremacy and made the Brahmins only eligible for the seat of a Guru. But Sankara democratised the very religion and opened the Guruship to all classes. Both were averse to sacrifice, visit to holy shrines and observance of penances. While Sankara made long journey twice, Damodar disregarded it totally. The Gita and the Bhagavata were the sources of their creed. They were highly attracted to them. When Sankara translated some portion of it into Assamese, Damodara got them both translated into Assamese prose by his own disciple Bhattadeva. So Bhattadeva is regarded as the creator of Assamese prose.

On the whole, Vaishnavism in Assam is simple and straightforward, devoid of unnecessary mysticism. It has shattered the mysticism of the old order and brought home the gospel of Truth and Life even to the rustic of a village. People do not find any difficulty in offering prayer to God and they can safely do away with intermediaries. It has become very difficult to make religion a profession now.

H. G. WELLS

By MARCIA DE SILVA

I didn't even see Wells frequently and yet I feel I know him as well, if not better, than almost any one I met in England. Often, when I was in his study, and had been listening to his talk, I looked at him across the tea-table and thought: "Why can't I believe you? Why can't I believe you?"

You would suppose the obvious thing for me to have done would have been to jump up and exclaim: "I accept your view of life, because really I've got no grounds for refusing it, except what you would call ignorance and prejudice. So tell me what I am to do now, this instant; because I want to begin doing my share straight away!"

But if human nature had induced me to do that, then everybody else who knew Wells or who had read his books would already have done it, and more than half Wells' battle would have been won. The fact remained they had continued unconvinced. I stayed sitting, and said nothing; but only thought: "How alert, he is. What tiny hands he's got!" For my gloves fitted him.

At that time his Autobiography had just been published and his past was constantly in my mind, so that his cosy room, its up-to-date fittings, and Wells himself in his present aspect, made only the foreground to a prolonged vista.

The face of the present Wells was lined with humour; it was spontaneous in expression; it was warm-heartedly responsible; it still had that kind of defenceless openness which is commonly associated with adolescence and which indicates a hatred of concealment and contempt for ridicule. You knew it was the true surface of his personality, and

not a mask. At the same time you realised it was not by accident that this face had survived.

If Wells had not remained the humorous and kindly person he had been born, his face, in view of what lay behind him, might have become one of almost any number of recognisable masks, but it could never have become what it actually was. Wells was a "Savant"; he was a successful man in the financial sense; he was also a man who had conceived an idea which he had preached with almost Salvationist fervour and thereby laid himself open to being laughed at—had, indeed, been laughed at. He had been born in restricted circumstances, in an environment which imposed every kind of frustration and had started life in what is popularly supposed to be the most demeaning of all occupations as a draper's assistant. Any kind of face might have come about as the result of Wells' history and achievement—he might have had the bloated and now insensitive face of the completely successful man, or have borne the apoplectic mask of fruity erudition, or the ghostly visage which suggests noble sentiments and lofty moral ideas, or the graven face of thought. Bearing in mind his origin and his early struggles, his expression might have become twisted as the result of petty jealousies and spite. He might even (awful thought) have half concealed his countenance by a 'torpedo' beard as had another philosopher of the same persuasion apparently with the intention of suggesting virility and force hidden and not otherwise discernible in one of sedentary occupations and not particularly 'masculine' tastes.

But Wells' face, thanks to his ingrained humaneness, has survived with most of its original freshness; it shows that its owner, in spite of his learning and deadly earnestness of purpose, still possesses the sense of what is irresistibly comic in life. Looking at Wells, I used to think that if, after all, there was a transcendent God, Wells must surely be one of God's favourites. I could almost picture Wells stepping into Heaven and, shedding his cherished theory without a second's hesitation in view of the demonstration of its opposite, admitting at once he had been wrong; and then telling God how he had knocked the stuffing out of the Bishop's and God chuckling in approval.

It looked to me that Wells' eyes were always screwed up as if at any moment he expected to catch sight of something which would go a long way to prove the correctness of his calculations, like a sailor's eyes watching for land. One day we talked of Ireland.

The Irish are ardent but they have cold hearts. The English are taciturn but they are warm-hearted and kindly. Then, screwing up his eyes in sailor fashion, he added: "I can see no future for Ireland. Ireland is dead. That sort of national self-consciousness and aloofness can never work again. The Irish talk to you very beautifully but what do they mean?"

Thinking of Yeats whom I had seen a few days previously, I said: "Haven't the Irish produced the greatest living modern poet?"

"You mean Yeats?" he cried. "When I met Yeats, he irritated me, because he talked of nothing but fairies."

In Dulac's studio, Yeats had said to me: "If you want to write, you ought to write in your own language. Language

joins you to your own culture and to your racial past, without which you are bound to wither. . . ."

Yeats, lounging on Dulac's big sofa, rolled his handsome eyes.

Magnificently garrulous like an old Homer, he talked of wonders and marvels, half philosophy, half dream and half memory. He fumbled in his waistcoat pocket and took out an old bit of paper like a crumpled shopping list and began to chant some verses from it, which had been written by his friend Oliver St. John Gogarty. "That is great poetry?" he cried in a voice like a herald's when he had done reading. He never screwed up his eyes but they remained wide as if opened on a scene flooded with moonlight.

Wells, perched in his chair, said: "I think that even an imperfectly written statement, which helps things forward, is more valuable than a perfect work of art. It is better to be tenth rate in this line than to be a first-rate artist."

It struck me that in this he saw eye to eye with Gandhi, with Nehru, with Aldous Huxley in his latest phase; these different men, representing at the extreme ends, wholly contrasted ideas, were all united against the poets like Yeats and Tagore on this point. In Wells, this point of view was even more startling when he expanded it, because it had an almost religious intensity that seemed to echo back to Savonarola, though the latter was helping souls forward to a heavenly kingdom, and Wells' citizens to a world state.

But this thought that they had lurked in the back of my mind for a long time and that is why Nehru's words when he had expressed the same idea in Kandy, when he had said: "You

cannot lead a private life without treachery," had so seized me by the throat.

All these men scented urgency in the air; urgency to act in every way each of them thought proper, but agreed that action was essential to forestall disaster.

Gandhi, seeing the demands of the moment were imperious, had cried out in entreaty to Tagore:

If we do not take care, she (India) will collapse altogether hunger is the argument that is drawing India to the spinning wheel I have found it impossible to soothe suffering patients with a song from Kabir India is a house on fire when a house is on fire all must go out and take up a bucket let the poet lay down his lyre let him sing when it is over!

Huxley, in a milder way and with the evasiveness of the liberal intellectual, has written:

If men had always behaved like half-wits or baboons, if they couldn't behave otherwise, then I was justified in sitting comfortably in the stalls with my opera glasses. Whereas, if there were something to be done, if the behaviour could be modified Meanwhile a description of the behaviour and an account of the ways of modifying it will be valuable. Though not so valuable as to justify complete abstention from all other forms of activity. . . .

Beyond Wells' presence you could see his past; how he had started in troubled incredulity and staggered on through perplexity in which he had sought escape in various directions; how he had emerged at last with a vague notion which slowly clarified into a sense of purpose and a sense of all mankind bound together by a desire to give service unconditionally, how tentative theories had finally resolved into a complete conception of life as world order and undreamed-of fullness and happiness within human reach.

In his cosy room, sitting in his chair, as tense and full of latent activity as a freshly wound spring, he said, with complete certitude in his voice:

An imaginative mind could adjust, repair and extend the present order so as to make it a vehicle

thoroughly capable of carrying the world forward to an ideal order. We have the knowledge and the means to do so if we wish. The scientists know that such a thing is possible, but are too busy with ordinary, every-day laboratory experiments, to have time to set about its organisation. But the knowledge and the forms of this order are in their minds.

Clare Sheridan had told me how miserable Wells had been in his hotel in Russia on his first visit there, when the bells didn't work and he couldn't get his proper newspaper, and there was no bedside telephone. Now he was building himself a new house in which many of the modern advantages of applied science and scientific technique were being used. It was a thing like this, and to explore the possibilities of a new medium of expression such as the films and to press forward his own work of analysis, speculation and prophecy that made him happy. And what he wanted to do was to persuade the rest of human kind that their own happiness also lay along these lines. He was asking this generation to stake its happiness and the future happiness of mankind on the ability of men to perpetuate and to multiply such things as these in the belief that when all was said and done, material progress and increasing power over the resources of nature were the only things that mattered. He was asking everybody to have faith in their joint ability to achieve this aim, and education from his point of view was nothing else than the process of persuading children to want to achieve this aim.

It seemed to me that the happiness of those who would follow Wells—a happiness which was necessarily dependant on the whole complicated modern organisation of life—was very precarious.

I could only visualise Wells' future world-state as something on a par with, but more elaborate than, an Olympic

Games Stadium. And when we saw his own conception of it in his film, it was just that. It seemed to me that intrinsically and from the human point of view, there was no more advantage in shooting round the moon than in shooting along a speed track at two hundred miles an hour. It struck me that just as few people would get to the moon or Mars, or whatever planet it was supposed to be and get to know about it and enjoy it, as now get to Paris by the Golden Arrow, let alone the Rapide to Nice, or the Plane to Cairo. What I wanted to be shown in Wells' world-state that had "wings over the world" was what I never saw: the life of the ordinary peasant or worker and how exactly it was in any way more congenial and happy than what it is to-day, to say

nothing of what it was two hundred years ago.

Wells, looking out through screwed up eyes for a first glimpse of his promised land, seemed to me a man bereft of all sense of limitations.

Yet he himself, his warm-heartedness and sympathy taken in conjunction with his ruthless intellectualism, had a peculiar, penetrating charm—a charm which flowed from him as if accidentally and in spite of his intellectualism and was like the nectar of human frailty.

God needs men, not creatures
Full of noisy, catchy phrases.
Dogs he asks for, with their noses
Deeply thrust into—To-day
And there scent Eternity.

If it lies too deeply buried,
Then go on, and fiercely burrow.
Excavate until—To-morrow.

EDUCATION IN BARODA STATE

BY MR. RAMESHNATH R. GAUTAM, B.A. (Hons.)

Among the many achievements to the credit of progressive Baroda, those in the field of Education hold the pride of place. Baroda has witnessed from humble beginnings the growth of an educational system, the intensive and extensive ramifications of which in the course of a few years became an object-lesson to the rest of India.

A State department which spends Rs. 39 lakhs a year and is in charge of thousands of institutions and lakhs of individuals has of necessity assumed dimensions of an extensive administration in its own rights, whose sway extends over almost all the cities, towns and villages of Baroda State.

The Education department of the State apart from schools, includes in its orbit institutions such as training schools, the Kalabhavan (technical institute), the Museum and Art Gallery, schools of Indian Music, the Boy Scout organisation, the Library organisation, etc. Its extensive administration is in charge of the Vidyadhikari or Director of Education. The Vidyadhikari is assisted by a Naib Vidyadhikari. Six divisional inspectors, thirty-seven deputy educational inspectors, and two inspectresses of girls' schools in Baroda and Mehsana assist in the working of the department.

Besides these, to meet special needs, the department is served by special inspecting officers for the Antyaj, Urdu

and forest area schools. The gymnasium inspector and physical director and his assistants look after the physical education of the State. This, in a nutshell, is the group which administers this department.

The broad based system of education in the State and, the institutions which are the instruments of its execution, can be classified as under:—

1. General Education.

- (i) Primary,
- (ii) Secondary, and
- (iii) High School Standard.

2. Industrial Education.

3. Library Organisation.

The general system and organisation of the public educational institutions in the State provides for the education of women as well as of the classes of people generally known as backward and depressed and of defectives. It also embraces institutions for the training of men and women teachers. The State spent in the year 1938-39, Rs. 39,45,631 as against Rs. 38,65,181 in the previous year on this department.

The educational institutions in the State number 2,612 with an enrolment of 286,710 including a fair proportion of girls. The number of children of school-going age in the State are computed at 805,739, who are affected by the operation of the law providing for compulsory education in the State. Out of this number 263,536 attend schools, the percentage being 86.2.

The story of the development and administration of this vast and intricate system forms an interesting chapter in the annals of education in India. Its nucleus was laid down in the year 1871,

when Government started the first high school in the State, as also four Gujarati and Marathi schools with an enrolment of 666 boys.

But at the end of the first decade, i.e., in the year 1880, the figures were respectively 180 and 7,165.

The year 1881 witnessed the assumption of the reins of Government by the Maharaja at the comparatively early age of 18. He had a vision and an earnest steadfastness of purpose in pursuing the vision, which took the form of launching an organised and wide-spread scheme of education in the State. The energetic initiative of the Maharaja set the pace of progress and, in the year 1880, the number of schools in the State swelled from 180 to 444, of which 35 were girls' schools. The enrolment was 13,765 of whom 3,145 were girls. This marks an epoch in the history of education in Gujarat. India is in an unenviable position of a backbencher in the matter of literacy and the plight of women in that respect is particularly regrettable. Considering the strong prejudice which prevailed in society against educating girls in the days in which Baroda State commenced its activities in that direction, it cannot be denied that it was a bold step to take. However the courage thus shown has been amply justified by subsequent progress.

On the 16th of March 1893, the law providing for free and compulsory Primary education first came into force in Baroda State. Its operations were at first confined to a few villages but experience of its working having proved encouraging, its application was soon extended to all parts of the State in the year 1906-7, i.e., on the occasion of the Silver Jubilee of H. H. the Maharaja Saheb,

Here are some figures which throw interesting light on the progress achieved in the course of two decades.

Year.	Number of Schools.	Enrolment.
1980	444	3,764
1900	1,175	81,239
1938-39	2,612	286,710

In this manner education has been claiming and receiving an increasing measure of attention from the public.

According to the 1921 census, the proportion of literacy in Baroda State among persons of over five years of age was 143 per thousand; this figure went up to 209 in the year 1939. There are at present 1,581 primary schools in the villages of the State where education is given free.

There is another important aspect of this activity, which deserves special mention in these days when removal of social disabilities is so much in the forefront. It is the anxious concern which the State feels for amelioration of the conditions of those sections of the people known as depressed and backward.

Boarding houses have been established for education of backward communities at ten places in the State and their maintenance costs the State Rs. 76,500. Antyaj pupils of primary and middle schools are being given numerous scholarships. Students from this class of people are given preference in Government institutions. Special scholarships are available for them in the Baroda College and all Antyaj students are educated free of charge. In the Kalabhavan technical institute Antyaj, Wagher and Muslim students are awarded liberal scholarships.

The total amount of scholarships given in the College and Secondary schools was Rs. 55,510 in the year 1938-39.

The number of Anglo-Vernacular schools and their enrolment in the State are respectively 86 and 21,953. Secondary schools other than those run by Government received Rs. 18,089 as State aid in the year 1938-39. The Government spent Rs. 5,29,622 on Secondary education in 1938-39.

The foundation-stone of the Baroda College was laid in the year 1879. This fine structure, one of the finest of its kind in India, houses an institution which has a noteworthy record of progress extending over 60 years. The College has branches of special and research studies. The expenditure incurred on the institution in 1938-39 was Rs. 2,15,585.

The other institution which arrests the attention is the Kalabhavan, which was established in 1890. It has 9 departments of technical study. There is a well-organised workshop attached to the Kalabhavan which, besides the work that has to be done in connection with the institution itself, turns out several thousands of rupees worth of various articles of utility for sale every year. This institution cost Rs. 76,515 in 1938-39 to maintain. Industrial schools have also been established in many other important towns in the State.

Nor have other branches of education been neglected; the Central Government School of Indian Music at Baroda as well as several other Music schools, the Sanskrit Mahavidyalaya at Patan, the Oriental institution and other institutions which play their useful part in their respective spheres bear testimony to this fact.

Baroda has long been well known for its patronage of physical culture. Physical education has been made compulsory for students of the first two years' classes

in the Baroda College. Specially trained physical instructors are retained in about 100 important primary and secondary schools of the State, and the number is rapidly increasing. Moreover, 123 private gymnasia in the State receive State aid.

At the end of the year 1938-39, the number of books in stock in the famous Central Library at Baroda was 132,193. Its reading room receives 291 Periodicals. There are numerous special libraries for women and children also.

Libraries in the State other than the Central Library have recorded during the year a circulation of 925,067 books among 171,676 readers. In the year 1938-39, there were 1,517 libraries in the

State. There is a library or a reading room in every village in the State which has a school. A very noteworthy feature of this movement is the popular circulating library.

With a desire to increase the incidence of literacy in the State, H. H. the Maharaja had a scheme of adult education prepared last year and without delay the whole administrative machinery of the Government was set busy, organising a vigorous literacy drive. Necessary assistance is being given to night classes and private enterprise is enlisted in the good cause. As a result, classes have for several months been in full swing in all parts of the State with attendance running into many thousands.

The National Income of British India

BY DR. GYAN CHAND, M.A.

IN this book*, Dr. Rao makes a competent attempt to calculate the national income *per capita* in British India. The subject has had for well-known reasons a special attraction for the students of Indian economic life, and Dr. Rao's estimate is the twelfth of its kind. He is well aware of the fundamental deficiencies of the material and specified them in some detail. He has done his best to make up these deficiencies by personal and *ad hoc* inquiries. The pains which he has taken show that he has no inclination to glide over the difficulties of his task or dismiss them lightly. All that he claims for his calculations is 'that they are less inaccurate and more conscious of their failings than those of previous writers'. This claim appears to be well justified

* The National Income of British India. By V. K. R. V. Rao. Macmillan. 10sh. 6d.

and increases the merit of his work and conclusions.

Dr. Rao estimates that the total income of British India is Rs. 17,664 million with a margin of error of 6 per cent. or *per capita* income of Rs. 65 with, of course, the same margin of error. Of this income, 70 per cent. of the population engaged in agriculture and allied pursuits receive a little over half of the total income. This estimate depends upon the estimate of income based upon the formula, area under cultivation $\times$ standard yield of crop $\times$ state of crop. Dr. Rao has given reasons for accepting standard yields as the basis of his calculations; but he does not meet the more important points of criticism urged against these standards. In the Rayatwari areas revenue-settlement may be, as he says, some check on these estimates, but in the permanently settled

area, occasions for their revision do not exist. But besides standard yield, the estimate of area and state of crop are also known to be faulty. For the permanently settled area, which is nearly 20 per cent. of the area of the country and nearly one-third of the total area of British India, owing to the absence of revenue staff in the villages, the estimates of agricultural production are grossly defective and in all cases 'state of crop' is estimated on visual basis and, therefore, seasonal variations of crops are allowed for everywhere in a very haphazard manner. These and other deficiencies, make even the estimates of agricultural production unsatisfactory. Dr. Rao's estimate is, however, as good as any other that can be made under the circumstances. That means that in estimating the value of agricultural production, one has to reckon with many intractable elements and any estimates must necessarily be guess-work to a considerable extent.

The conjectural element is, it need not be said, more important in estimates of income from other sources except the income assessed to income-tax and the value of mineral produce. Margin of errors in these calculations, according to Dr. Rao himself, vary from + 10 to + 20 per cent. He, as pointed out, has already taken the trouble to reduce guess-work as far as possible by collecting relevant data from different sources; but he himself knows that the available material in all these cases cannot be used for making estimate of any real value or utility. But Dr. Rao has done what was possible to estimate income from these sources and in the chapters dealing with the latter, the reader will find, to quote from

Dr. Bowley's Foreword, 'mass of important details treated with informed judgment'.

Dr. Rao's estimate of the *per capita* income emphasizes the utter poverty of our people; but of greater interest from the social standpoint is the distribution of this income, which does not fall within the scope of this book and on which so far very little work has been done. On page 189, this point is, however, referred to and some significant figures are given. The fact that one per cent. of income-tax-payers receive more than 10 per cent. of the total taxable income and 48 per cent. of the landholders in Bombay are cultivating only 9 per cent. of the cultivated area mean a lot more from the social standpoint than the estimate of *per capita* income of our people. But preparation of the estimates of the distribution of income present even greater difficulties than the total estimates of the total income. In spite of that well-qualified students like Dr. Rao have to turn their attention to this statistical problem and indicate the extent and range of inequalities in this poverty-stricken country. Dr. Rao's calculations show how much better off are the town-dwellers and persons deriving their income from services than the agriculturists, but their aspect of the problem is important enough to justify a far more detailed investigation than it has received so far. That Dr. Rao realises its importance is a very good sign, for the previous estimates of our national income practically left it out altogether.

The real merit of Dr. Rao's work consists more in the methods adopted in his calculations than in its conclusions. The calculations could not be made without introducing speculative elements and making assumptions for which supporting statistical evidence is lacking. But Dr. Bowley's compliment that defective statistics have been handled by Dr. Rao with intimate knowledge of their background and full understanding of their limitations is well-deserved. That gives to this study an academic value of its own and makes it well worth while for the students of Indian Economic problems to read the book with great care and attention.

RECENT CONFERENCES

[A number of gatherings, political, economic and cultural, met at different centres of India during the Christmas and New Year Week. An attempt is made in the following pages to give a bird's-eye view of their proceedings. It is hoped the busy reader who may not find time to wade through many columns of Newspaper literature of these Congresses and Conferences, will be interested in the brief accounts herein provided.—ED. I. R.]

National Liberal Federation

The Twenty-second Session of the National Liberal Federation of India met at Calcutta on December 28, under the presidency of Mr. V. N. Chandavarkar of Bombay.

Lord Sinha of Raipur, Chairman of the Reception Committee, in welcoming the Delegates, stressed our sympathy with Britain in the War, criticised the attitude of the Congress and the Muslim League and appealed to the people to forget their internal grievances for the time being and to concentrate on winning the war. There has been and still is too much loose thinking and the real end is lost sight of in the maze of shibboleths and communal antipathies.

Our existence is now bound up with that of Great Britain. We stand or fall with her. We cannot allow the forces of evil to triumph.

I am confident that when victory crowns the efforts and sacrifices of the Democracies, a new era will dawn in this country and our people will breathe the breath of freedom and contentment and will be of substantial help in establishing a new world order.

Mr. Chandavarkar, in his presidential address, began with an exposition of liberalism confining himself to the broad principles which have guided Indian Liberal leaders.

They (Liberals) never made caste, community, sect, clique or party ever come before the interest of the country as a whole. The next article of faith in the creed of Liberalism is to work always and inevitably for Indian unity and Indian nationalism. Whatever mars that unity has, therefore, to be regarded in the light of Liberalism, not only as a step that is retrograde but as a step definitely meant to divide us in order to keep us in permanent bondage.

He condemned separate Communal electorates for Muslims and said:

I cannot help saying that he (Sir Pherozeshah Mehta) as an individual and as a far-sighted statesman would never have been a party to the Lucknow Pact of 1916, out of which, as we know today, as from Pandora's box, so many evils have flown to us—evils much greater than those sought to be averted by the now notorious Lucknow Pact. The pact was no luck then and it is less luck now than ever to us, the inheritors of that precious legacy from the past.

Turning the present political situation in India, which he described as the negation

of liberalism, he sounded a note of warning and urged that a definite time-limit is imperative.

Now the Government have promised to India the grant of full Dominion Status after the conclusion of the present war. It has added that the promise shall be implemented within the shortest period of time after the war. What is imperative in this matter, in order to convince people of the absolute sincerity of their intentions, is that a definite time-limit should be announced forthwith at the end of which the definite promise shall be definitely carried out.

The President concluded with an appeal for national unity and deprecating party domination.

We want India to be one nation and not cut asunder into Hindu India and Muslim India. We want in India the reign of true democracy as it has worked in England. Our trust, in the first instance, is in that democracy and only under it, in the Government that represents that democracy in Great Britain and India for the time being. We do not want here the domination of one race over another, or such a rule by majority or a clamouring minority as will virtually take us back to autocracy or one-man-rule. We want no true interests in India to suffer but all legitimate interests to come together co-operating to one end, namely, the prosperity and uplift of our Motherland, that is India, and not this or that part, or province or frontier of India.

Sir Chimanlal Setalvad, moving the war resolution, called upon the people to help Britain to the utmost in the successful prosecution of the war. He made it clear that this help should be given in India's own self-interest as India's fate was indissolubly linked with that of Britain. If Britain were defeated in the war, India's dream of democratic self-government would be shattered. At the same time the resolution continued that the requisite effort will not be forthcoming from the people of India unless sufficient enthusiasm is created among the people by a change in the policy of Government towards India.

The Hon. Mr. P. N. Saprú moved the resolution dealing with the future constitution of India. It urged the British Government to announce immediately that India would be accorded the status of a dominion within the Statute of Westminster within a period not exceeding two years after the conclusion of the war,

The Resolution runs as follows:—

The National Liberal Federation of India, while desirous to satisfy the reasonable claims of minorities, is of opinion that the Viceroy's declaration of August last virtually gives them a veto on constitutional progress and protests strongly against the distinction drawn by Mr. Amery between the status and functions of a Dominion, which has created a grave apprehension in the minds of the people that what he called British obligations in India may permanently stand in the way of India achieving the same freedom as the other Dominions enjoy.

The National Liberal Federation of India strongly dissents from the recent statement of H. E. the Viceroy that the British Government can do nothing more than they have already done to enable India to enjoy Dominion Status and urges that it should be immediately announced that India will be accorded the status and functions of a Dominion within the meaning of the Statute of Westminster within a period not exceeding two years after the conclusion of the war.

The National Liberal Federation of India is further of the view that in the meanwhile the Central Government should be so reconstructed as to have, by convention, a fully national character. The Viceroy should be its constitutional head and that the British Government should not ordinarily interfere with any policy that has the support of such an Executive and the Central Legislature. The portfolios of defence and finance should be entrusted to non-official Indians enjoying the confidence of the country.

Speaking on the resolution, Mr. Sapru pointed out that

what we want is the reality of power, full control over our own destiny—the control which the United Kingdom, Canada, Australia and South Africa have. Nothing else will satisfy the aspirations of the people of the country. Nothing else is worth looking at. What we are offered is not Dominion Status of the Statute of Westminster variety. What we are offered is controlled self-government within the imperialistic structure, and if the truth is to be told there is the political dead-lock in this country, because England is not clear in her mind what she means to do with India after the war. That feeling will not be removed by an equivocal declaration with mental reservation.

The resolution dealing with the question of the defence of India, which was moved by the Hon. Dr. H. N. Kunzru, urged among other things that the defence portfolio should be entrusted to an Indian member who commands the confidence of the people.

The National Liberal Federation, while always demanding a radical change in the defence policy of the Government, is strongly of opinion that the war has shown that for making adequate preparations for the security of India, it is essential that (1) the Defence portfolio should be entrusted to an Indian member who commands

the confidence of the people, and that (2) the Defence forces of India should be organised on a fully national basis. It recognizes the progress that has been made with regard to the manufacture of war materials but is thoroughly dissatisfied with the policy in other respects.

It urges in particular (a) that the policy of Indianization of the army, navy and air force should be immediately adopted; (b) that the distinction between martial and non-martial races should be done away with and the army recruited from all provinces and classes.

Commending the resolution to the acceptance of the house, Dr. Kunzru said that it was a matter of urgent importance that they should attend immediately to the problems relating to their national security. For a long time their defence arrangements were based on the assumption that in any major conflict, England would come to their assistance. But the present war had shown that this dependence on England was a source of danger to India.

Dr. R. P. Paranjpye moved the following resolution on separate electorates:—

The Federation, while fully ready to safeguard the interests of all sections of the people, considers that the aim of India's political evolution should be a democracy not qualified by considerations of race or creed and therefore the Federation is definitely opposed to the permanent existence of communal electorates and the present Communal Award; at the same time as it would not be practicable to effect this reform immediately owing to the existing conditions, it considers that gradual steps should be taken to eliminate separate communal electorates by having joint electorates with reserved seats for a definite period.

The Federation is emphatically opposed to the suggested division of India into Pakistan and Hindustan as being against the best interests of the country which, in its opinion, should be one single unit of Government for purposes of administration and defence though it will have necessarily to be of a federal character.

Another resolution deplored the resort to Civil Disobedience by the Congress, as it will still further complicate the difficult situation in the country.

The Session concluded after adopting a dozen resolutions dealing, among other subjects, with industrial development, Indians overseas and reforms in Indian States.

The Federation appointed Mr. V. N. Chandavarkar as its President, and Messrs. M. D. Altekar, R. R. Bakhale and M. C. Barucha as Secretaries for the year 1941.²

The Hindu Mahasabha

A large and enthusiastic gathering of Hindus from different parts of the country attended the 22nd Annual Session of the All-India Hindu Mahasabha which met at Madura on December 28, under the Chairmanship of Mr. V. D. Savarkar. Great interest was evinced in the proceedings which continued for three days.

Dewan Bahadur K. S. Ramaswami Sastri, welcoming the Delegates, repudiated the allegation that the Hindu Mahasabha was a communal organisation and said that a community that wanted only its due share of its rights could not be convicted of communalism.

The President in his address urged that Hindus should get themselves reanimated



Mr. V. D. SAVARKAR

and reborn into a martial race. He condemned the theory of absolute non-violence as an eccentric doctrine, harmful to the interests of Hindus.

We must whip up military enthusiasm among the Hindus, he declared, and that is the most crying need of to-day. It must form the chief plank of the Hindu Sanatanist platform.

Mr. Savarkar added that the results of participating in war efforts had so far proved satisfactory.

In examining these results, we must bear in mind that the British are raising these military forces and encouraging industrial development so far as it helps their war efforts with no altruistic motives of helping Indians. We are also participating in these war efforts, or at any rate are not out to oppose them, with no intention of helping the British but of helping ourselves. I have put the situation almost bluntly in the above manner to disarm the political folly into which the Indian public is accustomed to indulge in thinking that, because the Indian interests are opposed to the British interests in general, any step in which we join hands with the British Government must necessarily be an act of surrender, anti-national, of playing into British hands and that co-operation with the British Government in any case and under all circumstances is unpatriotic and condemnable.

Concluding his address, Mr. Savarkar dwelt on the political demands of the Mahasabha and expressed appreciation of the attitude adopted by the Viceroy and the Secretary of State in regard to the nation's demand.

I must make it clear here that the demands forwarded by the Hindu Mahasabha were not slighted by the Government. We asked them to make a declaration that within one year's time after cessation of the war, Dominion Status should be granted. Now, the Viceroy and the Secretary of State have both made it clear so far as words can make it clear, that India shall be raised to the position of a self-governing unit of the Commonwealth which they call British, but I claim it must be called Indo-British on equal footing even with Great Britain herself immediately after the war at the shortest interval possible. We wanted a word and they have given us a word.

In a message to the Mahasabha, Sri C. Vijayaraghavachariar, ex-President of the Congress, observed:

This Sabha, while anxious to protect the inalienable rights of the Hindus, both caste and non-caste, by no means aims anywise at invading or injuring the similar inalienable rights of the Muslims, Christians and other minority communities such as the Sikhs. It can by no means accept the doctrine of English Imperialism that the Dominion Status can only be allowed to British India on the agreement of all the communities and parties.

Next day's session of the Mahasabha commenced with the adoption of some non-controversial resolutions including one condemning the communal award.

The official resolution on the general political situation, which was moved by Mr. N. C. Chatterjee, was adopted by an overwhelming majority, only four voting against. The main resolution states that the Hindu Mahasabha appreciates the recognition by the Viceroy and the Secretary of State that the political situation in the country cannot be satisfactorily solved without the co-operation of the Hindu Mahasabha. While reiterating its faith in the goal of complete independence, the Hindu Mahasabha is prepared to accept Dominion Status of the Westminster type as the immediate step.

The Mahasabha, however, considers that the declaration made from time to time by the Viceroy and the Secretary of State on the constitutional question are vague, inadequate and unsatisfactory, and the Mahasabha therefore urges the Government to make an immediate and clear declaration that Dominion Status as contemplated in the Statute of Westminster shall be conferred on India within a year of the termination of the war, and the constitution shall be so framed as to ensure the integrity and indivisibility of India as a state and a nation, and while providing legitimate safeguards for the protection of the rights and interests of the minorities, it shall not in any manner adversely affect the rights and interests of the majority in the country.

The Mahasabha further condemns the attitude of the British Government in not making a clear announcement of its opposition to the scheme of Pakistan and therefore urges the British Government to declare immediately that Pakistan will not be tolerated and entertained by the Government.

The resolution also refers to the situation in Sind, Bengal and the Punjab.

The resolution calls upon the Government to recruit Hindus for the army and the navy and make military training compulsory for Indian youths and promote the establishment of war industries in India.

The Resolution concludes:

In case the Government fails to make a satisfactory response to the demands embodied in the resolution before March 31, 1941, the Mahasabha will start movement of direct action and hereby appoints a Committee consisting of Mr. V. D. Savarkar, Mr. Shyama Prasad Mookerjee, Dr. B. S. Moonje, Messrs. Khaparde, Deshpande, Bhopatkar, Bhai Parmanand and Bharat Misra for devising ways and means for starting and conducting the same immediately after the lapse of the said period.

Dr. Moonje, seconding the resolution, demanded that India, in order to be able to protect herself, should at least have an army of over one crore in strength. There was at this moment a need for militarization of the country and Hindus should

have a due share in the personnel of the Army and the Navy.

Mr. Shyam Prasad Mukerjee made a spirited speech in support of the resolution.

Another important resolution adopted at the Session was the eightfold programme of the Mahasabha as under:—

(a) To secure entry for as many Hindu recruits as possible into the Army, Navy and Air Forces.

(b) To utilise all facilities that are being thrown open to get our people trained into military mechanics and manufacture of up-to-date war materials.

(c) To try to make military training compulsory in colleges and high schools.

(d) To intensify the organisation of the Ram Sena.

(e) To join the Civic Guard movement and Air Raid Precaution organisation with a view to enabling our own people to defend against foreign invasion or internal anarchy, provided always that the Civic Guards are not used against any patriotic political movements in India or in any activities detrimental to the legitimate interests of the Hindus.

(f) To start new industries on large scale to capture the market where foreign competition is found eliminated.

(g) To boycott foreign articles to defeat the entry of new foreign competitors.

(h) To set on foot an All-India movement to secure the correct registration in the coming census of the popular strength of the Hindus, including tribal Hindus such as Santhals, Gonds, Bhils, etc. and to secure their enlistment as Hindus instead of as Animists or Hill Tribes and by taking every other step necessary to secure the object in view.

These few items will suffice to illustrate the lines on which the Hindu Sanatanists all over India should concentrate their attention in the near future.

Resolutions on Untouchability, Unemployment among Hindus, naval and military schools, etc. followed. The following Resolution put from the chair was also adopted:—

That every effort should be made to bring pressure to bear upon the Central Government to abolish the rule of recruitment to the Indian Army on the basis of martial and non-martial classes and that the Hindu community in every province should get representation in the army not below its proportionate numerical strength.

The President, in conclusion, made a spirited speech appealing for the organisation and strengthening of the Hindu Mahasabha branches all over Tamilnad.

Indian Christian Conference

Welcoming the Delegates to the All-India Conference of Indian Christians at Lucknow, on December 30th, Kunwar Sir Maharaj Singh criticised the policy of distrust pursued by the British Government who

had neglected to Indianise the Army or prepare us adequately against attacks by land, sea and air. Indian Christians were not permitted to enlist as ordinary soldiers alongside the Hindus or Muslims and this distinction was inexcusable.

He characterised the civil disobedience movement as a dangerous and double edged weapon but added that

there was not one who did not view with anxiety and regret the imprisonment of some of the best citizens of our country.

The British Government, he said, had blundered by not declaring at the outbreak of the war

that India would attain Dominion Status within a very early and definite period after its close; a pronouncement of this kind would not only have obviated the present situation but would have led to a feeling of responsibility among our leaders.

For the solution of the communal problem, Sir Maharaj Singh suggested Conference of the various important interests in India and concluded by saying that the Christian Community stood for a strong and indivisible India and would willingly part with special electorates and special privileges.

In his Presidential address, Dr. D. S. Ramachandra Rao observed that "sooner or later Britain would respond to India's demand and give her equality of status and power". He characterised Pakistan as a wild dream and said that he was certain that there were millions of national-minded Christians, Muslims, Parsis, Jains and Sikhs, who would work and die to prevent the Motherland from being divided and sub-divided.

It was a pity, he said, that the Congress Governments had thrown up positions of responsibility, but it was a thousand pities that the British Government had stampeded India into the war over the heads of accredited Governments of Provinces without consulting them.

Dr. Rao pleaded for a definite time-limit for the attainment of Dominion Status and ridiculed the argument of communal jealousies as "a cheap and threadbare sneer".

The Conference concluded after passing a number of resolutions.

The first expressed grief at the imprisonment of several men and women in the country, especially the heavy sentence passed on Pundit Jawaharlal Nehru.

The second stressed the need on the part of the British Government of fixing a definite date after the conclusion of the war for the establishment of full responsible government in India. As a preliminary to the establishment of responsible government, a national government, responsible to the Legislature should be formed at the Centre without delay.

He then appealed to the leaders of the different political parties, in particular to Mahatma Gandhi and Mr. Jinnah, to agree to the convening of a conference of various important parties and interests in the country for the purpose of framing a constitution on a national basis.

Dr. Rao, presiding again over the Azad Christian Conference at Lahore, made a spirited appeal to Indian Christians to take their stand by those organisations in this country which are fighting for the freedom of India. Dr. Rao said:

The country was sick of communalism which had over-reached its bounds and defeated its purpose, landing them in a hopeless mess. They must see that their aspirations were in tune with national culture and ideas.

He pointed out that the problem of poverty could be solved to a considerable extent by the introduction of cottage industries. He advised Indian Christians to discard the spirit of isolation and to fraternise with other communities.

The Conference demanded the immediate release of all political prisoners and urged the introduction of joint electorates for Assemblies and local bodies.

By another resolution the Conference expressed its determination to combat all reactionary communal organisations.

With the object of establishing contacts with progressive ideologies and forces in the country, a Christian National Association was formed.

Muslim Educational Conference

In his inaugural address to the 51st Session of the All-India Muslim Educational Conference at Poona on December 28, H. E. Sir Roger Lumley, Governor of Bombay, paid a tribute to the cultural background of the Muslims stretching back for many centuries.

The Hon'ble Mr. A. K. Fazlul Huq, Chief Minister of Bengal, who presided over the Conference, stressed the necessity for an educational vivisection of India in order to train the Muslim child for his education in later stages and for the establishment of Muslim Universities in some of the important provinces of India.

Muslims should have an education specially suited to their culture and civilization and they should never forget that the educational structure, which is recognised as suitable for non-Muslims, is in many respects utterly unsuited to the needs of the Muslim community.

It will be recalled that the last plenary session of the Conference passed a resolution stating that, as the Muslims of India did not approve of the Wardha scheme of education in all its aspects, a committee of educationists should be appointed in order to draw up a scheme of education suitable for Muslims with special reference to their requirements and the preservation of the distinct features of their culture and social order. Nawab Kamal Yar Jung of Hyderabad was its President, and the Committee undertook an extensive tour of the country. An account of the work done hitherto by this Committee was submitted to the Conference on December 29. It was in the nature of an interim report and the permission of the Conference was sought for a year's extension for the Committee to conclude its labours.

The Conference divided itself into various sectional meetings. Addressing the Educational Section, Prof. A. M. Moulvi, of the Islamia College, Andheri, Bombay, deplored that the Universities had taken no notice of the alarming situation but went on manufacturing graduates like cakes and biscuits. He suggested that for the purpose of getting enough finance for the education of Muslims, they should bring

together the trustees of the various **Wakfs** all over India and make them work in co-operation with the All-India Muslim Educational Conference.

The spread of compulsory elementary education, the establishment of training centres for women teachers, the opening up of more primary and secondary schools and the formation and introduction of a better system of education were stressed by Mrs. Khadija Shufti Tyabjee, M.L.A., presiding over the Female Education Section of the Conference. A large number of Muslim women were present.

Mr. Fazlul Huq, addressing the Female Education Section, put forward the suggestion that the Conference should set up committees in various parts of India, each Committee being entrusted with the task of tackling the problems of education in each particular area and of reporting to the parent organisation the special problems which the community had got to face.

The Meeting adopted a resolution requesting the Bombay Government to appoint an Inspectress in every Division for the Urdu and female education institutions.

A resolution disapproving the latest innovation of various girls' institutions of holding theatrical and dramatic parties that often go beyond the limits of morality and requesting the authorities to cease immediately holding any functions of a demoralising character was passed at a sectional meeting of the All-India Muslim Education Conference on Islamic culture and history.

The open session of the Conference resumed its deliberations on December 30th with Nawab Kamal Yar Jung in the chair. The Conference adopted various resolutions passed by the sectional meetings as also one accepting the Interim Report and giving it another year to complete the task. This was moved by Prof. Haleem of the Aligarh University.

Another resolution placing on record the thanks of the Conference to Nawab Kamal Yar Jung, Chairman of the Committee, was passed with acclamation.

Indian Economic Conference

It was a happy thought to convene a joint session of the Indian Economic and Political Science Conferences at the same place. Opening the Joint Session of the two Conferences at the Jaganmohan Palace, Mysore, on December 28, His Highness the Maharaja discoursed with aptness on the primary cause of the tragedy in Europe.

The Sovereign Nation State, exalted by metaphysical theories of the State, often exploiting racial prejudice, resting on economic self-sufficiency, organised for strategical purposes, using powerful weapons of modern science for destructive rather than constructive ends, based on mass ignorance and inertia and supported by the intellectuals—that is the primary cause of the European tragedy.

Therefore, continued His Highness, a new world order in which peace and security should prevail would not follow automatically the defeat of the Axis Powers.

It was certain they (the masses) would not tolerate after the war a regime that would again expose them to the evils of political conflict and economic insecurity. Unless they were assured that a new order would be established in harmony with their hopes and needs by peaceful and constitutional means, the millions who were bearing in patient hope the uncertainties and the horrors of the present war, would turn to those who made insidious promises of a short cut to Utopia through revolution.

In the course of his presidential address, Mr. D. R. Gadgil, Director, Gokhale Institute of Politics and Economics, Poona, traced the progress of Economic thought in Europe during the last century and a half and pointed to the failure of *laissez faire*. This failure, he added, is markedly evident in the wages of industrial labour.

After dealing with technological unemployment with the land system, the control of investments and the location of industry, Mr. Gadgil went on to observe:

While vested interests in India are too ready to seek support of arguments that would obtain for them a field free from external competition, they often show themselves extremely impatient of the logical extension of these arguments, *viz.*, internal regulation. An undue concentration of industries in one region is bound to accentuate the difficulties in other regions and a pure *laissez faire* attitude towards internal financial and industrial exploitation is likely to give rise to

forces making for economic and social disintegration over large areas.

The President concluded with a reference to the complaint levelled against the Indian economist for paying attention to the political aspects of the problems with which he was confronted.

The charge, if true, would merely show that some of us have a proper sense of the realities and would, in my opinion, be a matter for congratulation rather than complaint. Holding the views that I do regarding the role of the economist and the scope of economics, I need not say that I feel specially pleased that we are to-day meeting in a joint session with the Indian Political Science Conference and I trust that this Session is merely the first of a long and fruitful series.

At the resumed sitting of the Conference on January 1, several papers were read. Dr. J. J. Anjaria, in his paper on the Problem of Value in a Socialist State, observed that the difficulty of calculating the cost of production made it difficult to bring about a balance between production, consumption and distribution with the help of an automatic mechanism like the price system in a socialist state.

Dr. R. Balakrishna, in his paper on the Rate Structure of Public Utilities in a Socialist State, said that the inherent features of such industries need not or did not change in a socialist economy; for, public control and price discrimination were indispensable in public utilities whether under capitalism or socialism.

Mr. D. H. Bhutani raised a point of fundamental importance, namely, the qualitative difference between socialism and capitalism. While material efficiency was considered the criterion under capitalism, social efficiency had the place of honour under socialism.

Prof. V. L. D'Sousa explained how in spite of the ideological differences, the actual working mechanism was surprisingly similar in both cases.

Dr. M. H. Gopal dealt with fundamental concepts in his paper on role of cost in Socialist Pricing.

Prof. D. G. Karve, in his paper, remarked that labour cost could be calculated with very fair approximation if choice of occupation were allowed.

Dr. Gyan Chand, in his paper, said that the adjustment of supply did not depend upon the price. It depended on the nature of the commodities.

Dr. Dey, in his paper, pointed out that in the cost schedule, they had an extra item in social cost under socialism. He added that the interference of the State in economic matters differed between the two systems only in degree, and whatever the system of planning, the plan should be formulated and revised from period to period.

In the discussion that followed, Dr. P. S. Lokanathan said that it was impossible to do away with initiative in any form of society. The cost of service principle of valuation was more important under socialism than the value of service principle, because the losses were borne not by any class of people owning capital but by the whole community.

Dr. V. K. R. V. Rao suggested that the State should put necessities on the market just as any *entrepreneur*. The means of production should be the monopoly of the State, and the State should hire them out in a competitive manner after producing socially necessary goods.

Summing up, the President said that ultimately consumers' sovereignty turned out to be a myth even under capitalism. The resources at the disposal of the consumer were so limited that he could not exercise his powers to any considerable extent. The question of cost in a Socialist State arose when they took into consideration the wages of an individual with reference to his basic needs, and also because all the necessities could not be given to everybody irrespective of the cost involved. Such discrimination as arose from this type of administration might appear inexplicable, but they were almost an economic necessity.

Dr. J. P. Neogi, Minto Professor of Economics, Calcutta University, is elected President for the next Session of the All-India Economic and Political Conference to be held at Bombay in December 1941.

Political Science Conference

Dr. Beni Prasad, Professor of Politics, University of Allahabad, presiding over the Political Science Conference, observed that the Cabinet should normally confine itself to general co-ordination. The modern executive has to comprise autonomous boards—Planning Commissions, Public Services Commissions, Investment Boards, Railway Transport, Electricity, Marketing, Agricultural, Education Boards and others. It may be pointed out that experts are to be entrusted with departments of administration, not with the determination of ends and higher policy. The requisite technique is already in evidence in medical and transit departments in several states and awaits general application. It is also feasible to extend the system of associating Advisory Councils with various departments and their branches to ensure day to day criticism and fresh suggestion and to educate public opinion.

It is obvious that highly technical administration does not lend itself to popular control. But this does not imply a wooden, red-tape bureaucracy:

Administration would presuppose a dispassionate survey of social conditions and formulation of economic policies by boards of social scientists and their execution by scientifically trained officers. Already, progressive administration has demonstrated that the genuine role of the civil service is that of a learned profession. It must think out policies and reforms as a systematic whole and be able to plan on the large scale inherent in modern economies and transport. It is patent, however, that such an administration can function only when the mass of the people are enlightened enough to appreciate the value of reason and science, in place of prejudice and drift, in the management of their multitudinous services.

Constitutional development in the Indian States was discussed at the second day's sitting of the Conference, Dr. Beni Prasad presiding. Dr. K. N. Venkatasubba Sastri spoke on the importance of monarchy. Dr. A. Appadorai spoke on the new constitution of Mysore. Dr. Khosla, Messrs. D. N. Banerjee, A. B. Rudra, Gurmukh Nihal Singh, K. V. Punniiah and M. V. Krishna Rao took part in the discussion.

Prof. M. Venkatarangayya discussed the reformed constitution of Hyderabad. Mr. Paradasani then discussed Dominion Status and the radical changes in the constitutions of the States which would automatically follow the granting of Dominion Status to India.

The Indian Science Congress

The 28th Session of the Indian Science Congress met at Benares on January 2. Welcoming the delegates and visitors to the Session, Sir S. Radhakrishnan,



SIR S. RADHAKRISHNAN

Chairman of the Reception Committee, pointed out that with proper organisation and State support, India could become the chief industrial centre of the East. In our country

where there is a vast amount of dust and disease, poverty and uncleanness, the case for the spread of the scientific spirit and its application to daily life cannot be over-estimated.

H. E. Sir Maurice Hallett, in his opening address, referred to the application of science to the ordinary problems of every-day life.

His Excellency also discussed the painful question why the beneficent discoveries of science are being prostituted to the works of destruction and death.

Sir Ardesbir Dalal, in his presidential address, pointed out the practical bearing of science on industries. Referring to the value of research in industry, Sir Ardesbir said that

a substantial part of the export trade of India had been lost since the war. Science could help in the utilisation within the country itself of some of the raw materials which used to be exported. Researches were being conducted, for

instance, on the use in India for lubrication purposes, of some of the oil-seeds of which the export had dwindled down and the surplus of which was likely to create serious economic trouble for the cultivator. Even a more acute problem was the stoppage of the import of many commodities essential for the economic life of the country such as machinery, chemicals, etc.

It was imperative that India should make herself self-sufficient with regard to such materials as were vital to the maintenance of her economic and industrial life.

He welcomed the appointment of the Board of Scientific and Industrial Research and said that

while concentrating on immediate war needs, it must also be in a position to survey the long-term industrial requirements of the country and to plan a programme to meet them.

The Congress met for a week under 14 different sections, including Mathematics and Statistics, Physics, Chemistry, Geology, Geography and Geodesy, Botany, Zoology, Entomology, Anthropology, Medical and Veterinary Research, Agriculture, Physiology, Psychology and Educational Science and Engineering.

Presidential addresses of these sections were delivered the next day, followed by discussion and the reading of papers.

In the Geology Section, Dr. M. R. Sahani, referring to the constant changes on the earth wrought by geological forces, pointed out that in the warring world of to-day continents, which aggressors sought to possess, are "in the infinitude of time—like the patterns of a cloud—an illusion and a Chimera."

Professor M. Raziuddin Siddiqui, President of the Mathematical and Statistics Section, spoke on the "Functional Analysis and Mathematical Physics". The President of the Entomology Section, Rao Bahadur Y. Ramchandra Rao, made some interesting observations on the periodicity of locust invasions in India, while the theme of Mr. K. Ramiah, President, Agriculture Section, was plant breeding in India.

At the annual meeting of the General Committee of the Indian Science Congress Association, held in Benares on January 6, Mr. D. N. Wadia, Mineralogist, Ceylon Government, was elected President for the 29th Session of the Indian Science Congress, which will be held at Dacca under the auspices of the University of Dacca, from the 2nd to the 8th January 1942.

Indian Statistical Conference

Dr. Sir S. Radhakrishnan welcomed the Delegates to the Fourth Session of the Indian Statistical Conference which met at Benares on January 3. H. E. Sir Maurice Hallett, Governor of U. P., who opened the Conference, said that science was no longer academic and must be applied to industrial development, to agriculture, to public health, and, perhaps most important of all, to the development of the Social structure.



SIR GIRJA SHANKAR BAJPAI

In his Presidential address, Sir G. S. Bajpai observed that the collection of statistics would be attended with far greater usefulness if its purpose and its processes were made intelligible to the ordinary citizen.

He epitomised the science of Statistics as the arithmetic of human welfare and explained how

in any given subject of social activity, the collection of statistics aimed at improving upon the results already achieved. In the industry of agriculture, for example, statistics had a great function to perform, which would be of real value to the economy of a vast area.

Pleading for more popular presentation of statistics, Sir G. S. Bajpai said :

A science which can only survive through popular recognition cannot afford to be esoteric. Readers of John Stuart Mill and Herbert Spencer will tell how lucid exposition can make the abstruse not only simple but attractive.

The Applied Statistics Session of the Conference met on the 4th January with Prof. K. B. Madhava in the chair. He opened with a general talk on the scope and utility of Applied Statistics.

Mr. P. N. Nayer of the Imperial Institute of Sugar Technology, Cawnpore, then read his paper on the interesting problem of the demand for sugar in India in relation to its prices.

A discussion followed in which Prof. P. C. Mahalanobis, Mr. K. Gupta of the Statistical Laboratory, Calcutta, Mr. S. B. Sen of the Indian Tea Market Expansion Board, Calcutta, and Prof. K. B. Madhava took an active part.

Mr. G. D. Mathur of the Statistical Laboratory then read his paper on the Monthly Fluctuations of Jute Prices.

Mr. N. T. Mathew, also of the Statistical Laboratory, read a paper on Palmistry, which was followed by an amusing discussion.

The joint session of the Mathematics Section of the Indian Science Congress, was opened by Dr. C. W. B. Normand, Director-General of Observatories, Poona. Mr. S. N. Roy, of the Statistical Laboratory, opened the discussion on the Problems of Discrimination and Classification. Prof. D. D. Kosambi of Bombay and Dr. B. Ramamurti of Ajmer read their papers.

The Statistical Conference also held a joint meeting with the Medical Section of the Science Congress with Dr. J. B. Grant of Calcutta in the chair. There were many interesting papers read by Messrs. K. R. Nair and Sadasiv Sen Gupta of the Statistical Laboratory, Calcutta, as well as others. There was also a discussion on the question of the Application of Statistics in Medical Problems. Prof. P. C. Mahalanobis opened the discussion. Dr. G. Sankaran of Calcutta then delivered an amusing address. While stressing the need of statistics in medicine, he uttered a grave note of warning against thoughtless conclusions from curves prepared in haste.

Anti-Fascist Conference

The Conference of Indian leaders, convened by Mr. M. N. Roy, to mobilise popular support for War effort and to end the constitutional dead-lock in the country through the association of non-official opinion with the Central and Provincial Government, met at Calcutta on December 30. There were about 50 delegates, including Mr. Jannadas Mehta, Sir Sultan Ahmed, Dr. N. B. Khare, and Sir Henry Gidney. Dr. Sachchidananda Sinha of Patna presided.

Mr. Roy explained the objects of the Conference :

1. Defeat of Fascism and rapid development of the resources of India for that purpose;
2. Sharing the responsibility for the defence of India and for that purpose to urge upon the Government the need to secure popular confidence;
3. Realignment of political forces to facilitate the association of popular representatives with the Government of the country in the Centre as well as in the Provinces;
4. Re-election of the legislatures in the provinces, which are without popular Governments owing to the obstructionist policy of the Congress;
5. Establishment of emergency ministries in those provinces pending general elections;
6. Appointment of independent popular representatives in the Viceroy's Executive Council; and
7. Democratisation of the War efforts in order to make India's contribution voluntary, purposeful and, therefore, more effective.

After dwelling on the danger of Fascism and the wrong attitude taken by the Congress *re*: the war, Mr. Roy pleaded for a new realignment of forces.

This was followed by a discussion. The Conference discussed Mr. Roy's Draft Statement on the following day. Sir Henry Gidney and others took part in the discussion, after which a statement was issued. The Statement recommends the formation of

a National Democratic Union, composed of all independent public men and of such groups and parties as may agree to join them, who see the great possibilities of the present situation and have the courage and vision to utilise them for promoting the political and economic advancement of the people.

The constituents of the proposed Union will retain fullest independence as regards all controversial issues to be settled in due time.

The General Meeting of the Conference concluded after appointing a Standing Committee which met and elected Mr. Roy as the Secretary.

The Philosophical Congress

As Chairman of the Reception Committee, Sir Mahomed Usman, Vice-Chancellor of the Madras University, welcomed the delegates to the 26th Session of the Indian Philosophical Congress at Madras, over which Dr. N. N. Sen Gupta presided. We have already referred to their addresses in the last issue of the *Indian Review*.

Presiding over the Philosophy Section of the Congress, Dr. B. L. Atreya, of the Benares Hindu University, gave a general review of the teaching of Indian philosophy in universities. He regretted that little attention was given to philosophy by the Indian universities. The time had come, he said, when in every branch of philosophy, the contribution of Indian thinkers of all ages should be placed side by side with those of the Western thinkers and studied comparatively.

Twenty-three papers were read in the Section, including those presented by Prof. Suryanarayana Sastry, Dr. T. M. P. Mahadevan, Mr. P. Nagaraja Rao, Miss Agrawalla and Rao Bahadur P. C. Divanji.

Mr. G. Hanumantha Rao, of Mysore, delivered the Presidential address at the Logic and Metaphysics Section of the Congress. Later, there was a discussion on "Causality" under the presidency of Dr. N. N. Sen Gupta.

In the absence of Mr. G. Hanumantha Rao of Mysore, President of the Logic and Metaphysics Section of the Congress, his address on the "Proper Attitude towards Metaphysics" was read by Mr. J. N. Chubb.

The Psychology Section was presided over by Prof. M. Aslam of Lahore; Islamic Philosophy by Prof. M. M. Zuhruddin of Junagadh; and Religion and Ethics by Prof. R. Ramanujachari of the Annamalai University.

Later, an exhibition of Yogic Asanas was given by Mr. S. M. Srinivasachari, Student, Maharaja's College, Mysore, which was followed by a variety entertainment.

Under the auspices of the Congress, a public lecture on Vaishnavism was delivered by Kumara Swamiji Navakalyana-math of Dharwar.

Time Limit for Dominion Status

THE Liberal Federation which met at Calcutta in Christmas week adopted a resolution urging the Government to make an immediate announcement to the effect that India will be accorded the "Status and Functions" of a Dominion within two years after the conclusion of the war. The addition of "Functions" to the old phrase "Dominion Status" is evidently suggested by Mr. Amery's ingenious attempt to distinguish the functions from the Status of a Dominion.

The Hindu Mahasabha which met at Madura, took a similar decision on the motion of Mr. Savarkar, the President. The Mahasabha passed resolutions demanding "Dominion Status of the Westminster variety within one year after the termination of the war", an unequivocal repudiation by Parliament of the Pakistan Scheme sponsored by the Muslim League and increased representation for Hindus in the Army, the Navy, and the Air Force.

The Indian Christian Conference, which met at Lucknow, was no less emphatic on the point. It stressed the need for fixing

a definite date after the conclusion of the war for the establishment of full responsible government in India. As a preliminary to the establishment of responsible government, a national government responsible to the Legislature should be formed at the Centre without delay.

There is thus complete unanimity as to political objective in India.

Ultimatum to Government

The Mahasabha, in fact, went a step further and added:

In case the Government fails to make a satisfactory response to the demands embodied in the resolution before March 31, 1941, the Mahasabha will start a movement of direct action.

The threat of direct action by the Mahasabha is rather intriguing and to some amusing. For, it is common knowledge that none of the leaders of the Mahasabha has any faith in non-violence, which has been denounced as at once cowardly and un-Aryan. What then could be the nature of the direct action contemplated by the Sabha? The President's laboured explanation is not convincing. But, however irrelevant the threat, it is an emphatic declaration of the Mahasabha's determination to pursue the goal that it has set before itself.

Diamond Jubilee of Tilak's Papers

Kesari and the *Mahratta*, the two papers (in Marathi and English respectively) founded by the late Balgangadhar Tilak, celebrated their Diamond Jubilee on the 3rd January. The occasion was marked by the publication of Special Jubilee Editions to which distinguished men in the country have sent messages of appreciation.

It will be noticed that the list includes the names of those who did not quite see eye to eye with Tilak. But differences over political or social matters cannot blind one to the value of Tilak's papers as instruments of national upheaval. To have survived for six decades is no small achievement for Indian Periodicals, but the *Kesari-Mahratta* Trust is an institution of organised activities: political, educational and otherwise. The Trust has been fortunate in its successor to the founder: for Mr. N. C. Kelkar, on whom the burden of responsibility fell on the death of Tilak, has sustained the tradition unimpaired.

We wish the Journals a future as useful and vigorous as their past.

India and The War

Britain is at present spending over 16 crores a day to meet the war emergency. As the war threatens to be more protracted and severe in the days ahead, Britain's capacity to bear the burden will be tried to its utmost limit. There is work enough to replenish the waste created by enemy action and all aid from Canada and the U. S. A. will be fully utilised for the defence of Home waters. The *Statesman*, therefore, writing editorially, seeks to make out a case for greater financial support from the Empire to Britain. It says that

if Britain is next year temporarily unable to pay for the Middle Eastern front, India, Australia, New Zealand and Africa should collectively undertake to foot this bill since the Middle East Front defends these countries.

The *Statesman*, however, admits that if India was to help thus, she is entitled to have her own Government and that she should be declared immediately a Dominion. The Viceroy then would obtain a representative War Government and through war-time collaboration of former opponents, a large part of the difficulty between the Princes, Hindus, and Muslims would disappear and a constitutional settlement would follow.

The Late Mr. Nayapathi Subba Rao

In the death of Nayapathi Subba Rao Pantulu at the ripe old age of 85, not only Andhradesa but the rest of the country has lost a veteran publicist who could look back on half a century of public service. He was one of the pioneers of the Congress and had served as its General Secretary, of course, before the advent of non-co-operation. Subba Rao had been a member of the old Madras Legislative Council and later of the Imperial Legislative Council under the Morley-Minto reforms. His speeches in either were marked by assiduous application to the details of government and administration. His note

on the Public Services was for a time the quarry from which politicians and journalists dug up their details. One of the founders of the *Hindu*, he was held in great respect for his robust nationalism. By temperament he was a Liberal and his place was among the veterans of the Liberal school of politics in India. Subba Rao continued to take a deep interest in cultural and social activities and gave impetus to a number of youth organisations in Andhradesa. The grand-old-man of Adhradesa was a gentle and kindly person, full of warmth for old friends, among whom the Editor of this *Review* could count himself as one; for whatever the business or urgency of his affairs, Subba Rao would never leave the city without peeping in at Natesan's for a chat with his old friend the Editor.

The Late Nagendranath Gupta

In the early years of the century, Nagendranath Gupta, who died at the age of 80, in a Nursing Home in Bombay, was a conspicuous figure in Indian journalism. He was at one time or other connected with some of the leading Indian papers in Northern India—the *Phoenix*, the *Tribune*, the *Punjabee*, the *Prabhat*, and the *Leader*. During the last 10 or 12 years, he lived a retired life in Bandra, but he used to write off and on to the English and Bengalee papers. A man of wide and varied culture, Gupta was held in high esteem.

As a journalist, he had the good fortune of coming into intimate contact with Vivekananda, Dadabhai Naorojee, A. O. Hume, Ranade, Gokhale and other stalwarts.

He wrote a number of novels and translated some of Tagore's works.

Gandhiji's Advice to Students

It is distressing to see students going on strike so frequently. Educationists all over the country have deplored the present tendency among students to go on strike even for frivolous reasons, and Mahatma Gandhi has done well to point out the bane of power-politics among students. In the course of a letter to Mr. M. L. Shab, General Secretary of the All-India Students' Federation, the Mahatma truly observes:

Students cannot afford to have party politics. They may hear all parties as they read all sorts of books, but their business is to assimilate the truth of all and reject the balance. That is the only worthy attitude that they can take. Power politics should be unknown to the student world. Immediately they dabble in that class of work, they cease to be students and will, therefore, fail to serve the country in its crisis.

He is so convinced of the futility of students dabbling in power-politics that he has no hesitation in tendering this advice:

Even if the whole of the student-world were to repudiate me for causes which, in their very nature, must be temporary, I am not going to be deterred from tendering my advice for fear of rejection.

May we hope that these strong words from one whom students have always regarded as their great friend and leader will not be lost on them?

Maulana Abul Kalam Azad

The arrest and imprisonment of Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, President of the Congress, under the Defence of India Rules, has deeply disappointed those who had hoped that under his guidance there was some scope for ending the dead-lock. For, next to Gandhiji, he was the one person in Congress circles who could have brought about a settlement of outstanding issues even at the present juncture. Gandhiji himself wrote some time before the Maulana's arrest, that if the Government were anxious to find a way out of the impasse, it was the President of the

Congress and the Working Committee that they should approach. In spite of Satyagraha, the President expressed himself repeatedly in favour of the Poona offer. Only a few days before the arrest, the Maulana said unequivocally that if Government could see their way to retrace their steps and accept the Poona offer, "settlement could be effected in two minutes". It is unfortunate that they should have let slip such an opportunity. We need not seriously discuss whether the Maulana violated the Defence Rules, though he pointed out that he had no such intention at the time of speaking. In the larger interests of the country, it is a pity that the one man in whose power it was to stop the Satyagraha and call back the nation to its duty to help win the war, is now put in prison. For the Poona offer held in it the key to nation-wide war effort, which it was possible for the Congress President to evoke. A simple gesture from the Government would have made all the difference.

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FOREIGN AFFAIRS

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President Roosevelt Takes Oath

PRESIDENT Roosevelt took oath at Washington at 5 p.m. (G. M. T.) on January 21, thus becoming the United States' first third-term President.

"On each inauguration day, the American people have affirmed their sense of dedication to the United States," declared the President in his inaugural address.

On this day, the task of the people is to save that nation and its institutions from disruption from without. To us there has come a time in the midst of swift happenings to pause for a moment and take stock—to recall what our place in history has been and to re-discover what we are and what we should be. If we do not, we risk the real peril of inaction.

Japan's Warning to U. S. A.

An urgent plea to the United States to "reflect deeply on her attitude with truly God-fearing piety" in order to avoid risks of a world war which might "spell the downfall of civilisation" was uttered by the Japanese Foreign Minister, Mr. Matsuoka, in a foreign policy speech at the re-opening of the Diet, at Tokyo, on January 21. He added: "Should the United States unfortunately become involved in the European war and should Japan too be compelled to participate in that conflict, it would bring about another great world war, both in name and reality, precipitating a situation that would defy all attempts to save it."

Thailand and Indo-China

It is good news that hostilities have ceased between French Indo-China and Thailand and an armistice agreement is being prepared.

Japan will mediate between Thailand and France. The Government Information Board announced that both the Governments have accepted the Japanese Government's proposal for a truce and its offers for mediation in the conflict between Indo-China and Thailand.

Rumania in Travail

The troubles of Rumania are not yet over. There are reports of civil war and an attempt at a military coup.

General Antonescu has ordered the army into action against the rebels.

General Antonescu says that his efforts to reach a settlement with the rebels have been in vain and that he has ordered the army to intervene. He made this statement in the course of a new appeal to the Rumanian nation.

General Antonescu formed a new military Cabinet on Monday the 27th January. All portfolios except Justice, Labour, and Propaganda are entrusted to Generals.

No member of the Iron Guard or representative of the King Carol regime is included in the new Government.

The Negus Back in Abyssinia

Emperor Haile Selassie has entered Abyssinia. The Emperor flew to the Sudan-Abyssinian border in an R. A. F. bomber escorted by fighters.

He crossed the Sudan frontier into his own country on January 15. When he set foot on his own soil, he was met by his two sons and representatives of the General Officer Commanding the British Forces in Soudan. Messages of welcome were extended to the Emperor by Abyssinian patriots and he was blessed by priests. The Ethiopian Ensign was then hoisted by the Emperor. After the ceremony, he continued his journey into the interior of Abyssinia.

As we go to Press, British forces are closing in on Italian positions about Agordat and Barentu in Eritrea. On Sunday the 26th, the Italians evacuated Umm Hagar where an Italian column is being closely pursued in retreat.

In the Derna area, operations are developing satisfactorily.

The prisoners taken at Tobruk number over twenty-five thousand together with twenty-two medium and twenty-eight light tanks.

DIARY OF THE MONTH

- Jan. 1. Lisbon reports break-down of Franco-German negotiations.
- Jan. 2. M. Petain sends French fleet to North Africa.
- Senor Suner explains occupation of Tangier.
- Jan. 3. German air force in Italy.
- Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, Congress President, is arrested at Allahabad.
- Jan. 4. Aussies smash through defences in Bardia.
- M. Petain reorganises his Cabinet.
- Jan. 5. Bardia falls completely to the British: Italian garrison surrenders.
- Jan. 6. Amy Johnson, famous woman flyer, meets with fatal accident in Thames estuary.
- President Roosevelt addressing Congress, pledges more aid to democracies.
- Jan. 7. Fighting between the Iron Guard factions in Rumania.
- Italy reaffirms loyalty to the Axis.
- Jan. 8. President Roosevelt announces record expenditure of 25 thousand millions on arms.
- Maulana Azad, Congress President, is sentenced to 18 months' S. I.
- Jan. 9. Lord Baden Powell is dead.
- Mr. Churchill's tribute to President Roosevelt and Lord Halifax, the new Ambassador to U. S. A.
- Jan. 10. Soviet-German economic agreement is signed in Moscow.
- Siamese planes over Indo-China.
- Jan. 11. Gandhiji issues a statement re: observance of Independence Day.
- Jan. 12. R. A. F. attack on Turin and French coasts.
- Jan. 13. Thai Forces advance on Combodia.
- Bulgarian Premier warns his countrymen of the tragic time ahead.
- Jan. 14. Haile Selasse raises the banner of revolt in Abyssinia.
- Jan. 15. Cordell Hull urges before the Lease and Lend Bill Committee rapid arming of America.
- Congress authority is sought for building 400 vessels.
- Jan. 16. Indo-China asks Thailand for armistice.
- Jan. 17. President Roosevelt in a Press Conference asks for full powers to aid Britain.
- Col. Knox urges passage of Lease and Lend Bill.
- Jan. 18. Working Committee of Hindu Mahasabha meets in Delhi with Shyam Prasad Mukherji in the chair.
- British troops re-occupy Kassala.
- Jan. 19. The New Fourth (Communist) Army is disarmed having been charged with revolt.
- Petain-Laval meeting.
- Jan. 20. President Roosevelt takes oath of office.
- Hitler-Mussolini meeting.
- Jan. 21. Japanese Foreign Minister warns U. S. A. against entering the war.
- Jan. 22. General Wavell's successful offensive: Tobruk falls.
- Jan. 23. Mr. Amery, in an interview with Sir Alfred Watson, says that the Viceroy's offer is still open.
- German Reich guarantees Rumania.
- Jan. 24. Hostilities between Thailand and Indo-China cease: Japan to mediate.
- The Negus enters Abyssinia.
- Jan. 25. President Roosevelt welcomes Lord Halifax in American waters.
- Mr. Wendell Willkie arrives in England.
- Jan. 26. Matsuoka warns U. S. A. not to interfere with "Western Pacific".
- Independence Day celebrations.
- Jan. 27. Japanese Premier owns responsibility for failure in China.
- Marshal Graziani is dismissed.
- Jan. 28. Sudden disappearance of Subhas Chandra Bose is reported.



The WORLD of BOOKS



BENES OF CZECHO SLOVAKIA. By Godfrey Lias. Allen & Unwin, London. 8sh. 6d.

The recognition by the British Government of a provisional government of Czecho Slovakia in London gives this book a topical interest. Twenty-five years ago Masaryk and Benes toiled in London and in Paris to secure Allied recognition of their claims to represent the Czech and Slovak peoples of Central Europe and of their efforts to build an independent Czecho Slovak State. Their courage and optimism were superb and their achievement one of the romances of the war of 1914-18. They began as a set of impecunious conspirators in self-imposed exile, heading a heterogeneous handful of Austrian subjects and they were pitting themselves against an empire. Their chances on paper were negligible. They had no status in any foreign country. But they had character, ability, strength of purpose and an overmastering conviction of the justice of their cause. And these assets, backed by hard and unremitting toil, enabled them to realise their dreams. In 1918, Britain, France and the U. S. A. recognised the Czecho Slovak National Council as the trustee of a future Czecho Slovak government. When, as the representative of a country which as yet did not exist, Benes took his place in the Armistice Conference in November 1918, he could hardly believe in the reality of what was happening. Three years before, he had escaped across the frontiers of Bohemia, crawling through hedges and ditches to avoid the police,

now he was sitting in conference with the mighty of the earth to settle the fate of the empires of Wilhelm and Karl and to sign the terms of their capitulation.

This biography of Benes tells in detail that romantic tale.

The latter part of the book tells the tragic tale of Munich and its sequel, six months later, when once again Benes had to flee across his frontiers before the invading Nazi hordes.

Once again the Czech and Slovak peoples are in servitude. Once again Benes, in exile, toils for their freedom and independence. But this time he makes a flying start and there is every prospect that he will live to see the restoration of the Czecho Slovak State and to reign once more in Prague as the President of a democratic republic.

This book is well balanced, carefully documented and clearly written.

INDIA'S CHALLENGE TO CHRISTIANS.

By Cyril Modak. Published by the Upper India Publishing House Ltd., Literature Palace, Lucknow. Rs. 2.

In rhythmic verse and vigorous prose the author, a young Indian Christian and ardent nationalist, interprets, as he sees it, Christ's precept and example in relation to modern conditions of life and thought, especially in India. He regards non-violence to the Indian (Satyagraha) and non-violence to the Christian Indian (Kristagraha) as a complete philosophy of life and conduct. The book is a challenge to all not to divorce religion from practical life, but to translate the highest ideals with the commonest actions.

THE CRITICAL EXAMINATION OF THE PHILOSOPHY OF RELIGION. In two volumes. By Sadhu Santinatha, Amalner.

MAYAVADA or the Non-dualistic Philosophy (Vedanta). By Sadhu Santinatha, Poona.

Seth Motilal Manickchand *alias* Pratap Seth is a wealthy mill-owner of Amalner with a passion for philosophy. He is responsible for founding and running the Indian Institute of Philosophy at Amalner. His munificence is also responsible for the two bulky volumes of Sadhu Santinatha, who undertakes an extensive examination of all philosophico-religious theories, Eastern, Western, realist, idealist, monist, pluralist, etc. and concludes that the mystery about the ultimate problems of our knowledge and life must remain a mystery and be recognised as the mystery. The fact that a similar, if not identical, conclusion was arrived at long ago in the history of Indian philosophy by Bauddha and Advaita thinkers like Santarakshita and Sri Harsha need not and should not stand in the way of a modern writer thinking out the problem for himself, especially when, as in the case of Sadhu Santinatha, he is a student of Western philosophy as well. His examination should be deeper and more suggestive than that of Indian dialecticians centuries ago. And with a little more system and accuracy, Sadhu Santinatha could have achieved this.

The second booklet purports to be a more detailed exposition of Advaita than is found in the two volumes of the philosophy of religion. A notable feature of some value is an appendix of 18 pages containing extracts from numerous unpublished Advaita Mss.

RAMAYANA AND LANKA. By T. Paramasiva Iyer. Published by the Bangalore Press, Bangalore. Rs. 3-12.

The author is a Retired Judge of the Mysore High Court and an eminent scholar. After patient research and laborious investigation over a prolonged period, into the geography of Ramayana, he has convinced himself of his conclusions. He holds what all people would like to believe, that Valmiki's Ramayana is an *Ithihasa*, i.e., a true history and not an imaginary *Kavya*. He concludes what few people would accept unless compelled to by unimpeachable evidence that Ramayana is a record of the struggle between the Aryan and Gond for Janasthan in the Damoh district; that Lanka is not Ceylon, or in Ceylon; that Trikuta Hill on which Ravana's Lanka was situate is the Indrana Hill in Jubbulpore district. The learned author's thesis written in racy, vigorous language collating a mass of evidence and information, evaluating the slokas in the Ramayana, sifting the original from the interpolated, demands careful consideration on all hands. The book also contains several interesting sketches and maps to elucidate the points discussed.

OUTLINE OF RATIONALISM. By Chandra Chakrabarthi. Publishers: Vijayakrishna Bros., 31, Vivekananda Road, Calcutta.

The book under review is an able study of the principles of civilizations and social institutions in life. A strictly objective evaluation of social institutions and religious practices is attempted. By rationalism, the author does not mean the purely exclusive scientific attitude. Rationalism is the method of Dharsanas of ancient India. In conclusion, the author states that Indian philosophy is a synthesis of science and genuine religion.

ITALIAN ECONOMY AND CULTURE. By M. Moulik. Chuckervetty Chatterjee & Co., Calcutta.

Mr. Moulik's performance falls short of his promise. He calls his book "A Study in Economic and Social Transformations" problems. But there is very little in the book regarding the economic condition of Italy, the economic and social changes wrought by the Fascist regime, the standard of life of the workers under the new regime, etc. A few chapters on topics like 'The Art of D'Annunzio', 'Pirandello's views on Art and Life', and 'Tucci, Tibet, and India' cannot be claimed to throw much light on Italian culture and social life.

The author has spent four years in Italy and seems to have a mastery of the Italian language and literature. We have a right to expect from him in the near future a more methodical and thorough book, which will give us a real and full picture of Italian economy and social life.

LEARN TO HYPNOTISE AND CURE THROUGH THE NEO-ORIENTAL SYSTEM OF MEDISM. By M. V. Ahmed, M.A. Kitabistan, Allahabad. Rs. 3.

Hypnotism is a new name, not a new thing. It was in vogue amongst the saints and sages of the bygone days. What the modern hypnotist does was achieved by saints by *dhyana*. On these Oriental lines, Ahmed, the author of this book, explains the theory and practice of hypnotism. He calls it by a new name "Medism". He brings ample evidence to prove the fact that hypnotism does not belong to the region of black art or magic.

The book consists of 10 chapters and they have been so arranged as to enable the reader to practise the art of hypnotism. The treatment of the subject is refreshingly original. A good portion of the book is devoted to practical hypnotism. Besides, the book has two lectures on Therapeutics explaining in detail the rationale and technique of psychotherapy.

BOOKS RECEIVED

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RARE PROLOGUES AND EPILOGUES, 1642-1700. Edited by Autrey Nell Wiley. George Allen & Unwin, Ltd., London.

INDIA SHALL BE LITERATE. By F. C. Laubach. The Mission Press, Jubbulpore.

BANKIM, TILAK, DAYANANDA. By Sri Aurobindo. Arya Publishing House, College Street, Calcutta.

TO BEG I AM ASHAMED. By Sheila Cousins. Kitabistan, Allahabad.

THE PIECE OF WOOD AND OTHER POEMS. By M. V. Murthy. The Bangalore Press, Bangalore.

COME WIND COME WEATHER. By Daphne Du Maurier. Allied Publishers, Bombay.

SANGIT BHAVA, Vol II. By Maharana Vijayadevi of Dharranpur. D. B. Taraporevala Sons & Co., Bombay.

REPORT ON THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE UNITED PROVINCES, 1937-1938. Superintendent, Printing and Stationery, Allahabad.

SPIRITUAL RELIGION. By Sir James Baillie. George Allen & Unwin.

CHANGING INDIA. By Iglealunnisa Hussain. Hosali Press, Bangalore.

THE DHAMMAPADA Text and Translation. By Narada Thera. Published by Mrs. M. J. C. Fernando, Charlesnagar, Moratuwa.

BUDDHISM IN A NUTSHELL. By Bhikkhu Narada, Vajirarama, Bambalepitiya.

SIGALANADA SUTTANTA. Translated by Narada Thera, Vajirarama, Colombo.

PSYCHOLOGY, PSYCHOTHERAPY AND EVANGELICALISM. By Prof. J. G. McKenzie. George Allen & Unwin.

THE DEVELOPMENT OF RELIGIOUS TOLERATION IN ENGLAND. By W. K. Jordan. George Allen & Unwin Ltd.

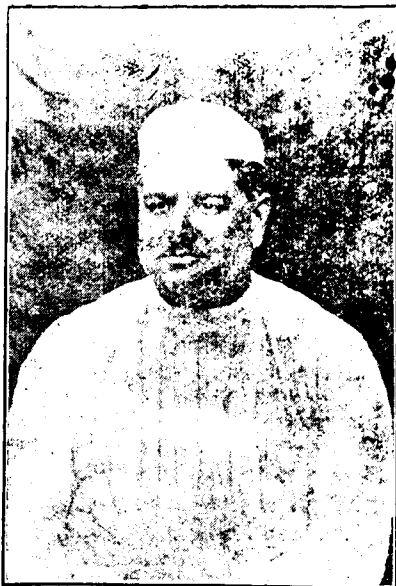
THE STRUCTURAL BASIS OF INDIAN ECONOMY. By H. Venkatasubbiah. George Allen & Unwin Ltd.

Hyderabad

SEA COAST FOR HYDERABAD

"You have rightly alluded to the importance of seeing Hyderabad represented in the proposed Eastern Group Council, and to what zealous officers like Colonel Slaughter would be able to achieve if Hyderabad had an outlet to the sea," observed the Rt. Hon. Sir Akbar Hydari, President of H. E. H. the Nizam's Executive Council, speaking at a dinner given by the Hyderabad Chamber of Commerce on January 15.

These matters, said Sir Akbar, have already engaged our attention; and if, having regard to my official position and the nature of the subjects, I refrain from making any public utterance as regards them, it should not be construed that those and similar matters are not within the first item of the Government programme of work.



SIR MAHOMED YAKUB

Sir Mahomed Yakub has been appointed Reforms Adviser to the Government of His Exalted Highness the Nizam.

Mysore

SCHOOLS IN MYSORE

Sir Mirza Ismail, Dewan of Mysore, once claimed that "for the educationist it is sufficient to say that we educated not only the first lady to take a degree in any Indian University but also the Premier of Madras" (C. R.).

There are eight high schools for girls with a total strength of 707. Besides, there are about 120 studying in boys' high schools. The advance of girls' education in the secondary grade is apparent from the fact that the enrolment increased during the year 1937-38 by about 16 per cent., excluding the larger admission of girls into boys' high schools. There are three training institutions for women, two Government and one aided.

In the High School and Middle School examinations, the general performance of girls was better than that of boys. The total expenditure on women's education, including the University, was Rs. 7,34,792, of which Rs. 5,46,766 were from State Funds.

MYSORE STATE TROOPS

Owing to the mechanisation of some cavalry units of the Indian Army, the Government of India presented to the State 150 surplus horses for the use of the Mysore Lancers; 77 remounts were added during the year. There were in all 509 horses in the Mysore Lancers at the close of the year against the sanctioned strength of 522. The Mysore House had 90 horses on its strength at the close of the year.

This is revealed in the review of the administration of the working of the Mysore State Troops during the year.

Travancore

SRI CHITRA GUARDS

Powers for the constitution of a body in Travancore, analogous to the Civic Guards, to be known as Sri Chitra Guards, have been conferred on the Travancore Government.

A proclamation of the Maharaja of Travancore states that these guards may be constituted either for the whole of Travancore or any specified local area. They will discharge such function in relation to the protection of person, security of property or public safety as might be assigned to them under the proclamation and rules thereunder.

In the discharge of their functions, the members of the Sri Chitra Guard have the same powers, privileges and protection as the police officers. The Inspector-General of Police may in consultation with the District Magistrate and individuals or committees nominated for the purpose, appoint members of the Guard. He is also empowered to call out for training or discharge of duties the members of the Guard.

T. N. & Q. BANK

It is understood that Travancore assets of the Travancore National and Quilon Bank (now under liquidation) so far realised by the liquidator in Travancore would be more than sufficient to enable Travancore creditors being paid at the rate of sixteen annas in the rupee and that steps for further distribution (beyond the rate of eight annas, already declared) have not yet been taken by the liquidator, solely because it is felt there should be a harmonious adjustment of claims of persons inside and outside Travancore.

Baroda

PAPER FACTORY IN BARODA

Resources of the jungles in the Navsari district of the Baroda State have great industrial possibilities. It is the established policy of the Baroda Government to encourage and foster industrial enterprise in the State.

In pursuance of that policy, a large scale industry in the form of a paper factory is being organised by Messrs. Dinubhai G. Desai and V. N. Shevade, who have made arrangements to float for the purposes a joint stock company with a capital of Rs. 30 lakhs.

Government have decided to assist in this large scale enterprise by granting special concessions.

The Government will buy preference shares of the Company bearing not less than 5 per cent. interest to the extent of 20 per cent. of its subscribed capital on certain conditions.

BARODA INDUSTRIES

From the point of view of industrial development, Baroda State occupies a prominent place along with industrially-advanced provinces of British India and States. The number of factories coming under the Factories Act is 140 employing about 38,000 operatives. The percentage of operatives to the total population is 1.5 as compared with less than one per cent. for British India. The principal manufacturing industries in the State are:—

Textile, Chemical, Metal (iron manufactures), Cement, Salt, Sugar, Match, China Clay and Rubber mechanicals.

There are 16 cotton mills in the State. The total capital invested in the Textile industry, which is the largest in the State, is over three crores of rupees. The total number of looms and spindles working in these mills is 7,100 and 3,32,000 respectively.

Rampur

NEW POWER-HOUSE IN RAMPUR

His Highness the Nawab of Rampur performed before a large gathering the opening ceremony of the new power-house built and equipped at a cost of Rs. 8,15,000 near the Bareilly-Moradabad road in the industrial area of the city. In reply to the speech of Mr. B. H. Zaidi, C.I.E., Chief Minister, His Highness said: "This is the second big scheme of electrical expansion which has materialized during my rule of 10 years. To have travelled from a total generation of 8 kilowatts in 1900 to 4,200 kilowatts in 1941 is an indication of progress of which we can be justly proud. This sure indication of the increasing material prosperity of the State is for me a source of the deepest gratification which is enhanced by the fact that both the urban and rural population are sharing in the benefits resulting from this expansion."

Kashmir

HINDI-URDU CONTROVERSY

A solution to end the Hindi-Urdu controversy has been found by the Kashmir Government by excluding altogether the teaching of Hindi or Urdu as a language in primary schools of the State according to an order issued by the Durbar.

The order says that the only language which pupils in these classes will use will be simple Urdu, which will be a common language but which will be learnt in either of the two scripts, Devanagari and Persian. If the Hindi or Urdu language is prescribed as a separate subject of study in the higher classes, pupils who wish to develop their knowledge of either language intensively would no doubt have to learn the Urdu language in Persian script and the Hindi language in the Devanagari script.

Gwalior

VICTORIA COLLEGE, GWALIAR

The foundation-stone of the Science Block of the Victoria College, Gwalior, was laid by H. H. the Maharaja Scindia.

Exhorting the students to shake off communal tendencies, His Highness observed: "You should try to get rid of your provincial and racial prejudices." The temple of learning should be a place, where the landlord as well as the tenant, the royalist as well as the republican, the Brahmin as well as the Shudra are all united in invoking the sacred Goddess of Learning."

Cochin

COCHIN HARBOUR RAILWAY

The Cochin Harbour Railway has been opened for through booking of passengers, luggage and parcels, etc. Mattancheri Halt and Cochin Harbour Terminus are two stations on this Railway.

Ernakulam station is now closed for all descriptions of coaching traffic and is open only for goods traffic, the station thereafter to be known as Ernakulam Goods.

Pudukottah

MR. KALIFULLA'S CONFESSION

Mr. P. Kalifulla Sahib, Assistant Administrator-designate of the Pudukottah State, speaking at an entertainment given in his honour in Trichinopoly, stated that he represented the Muslim community in the Legislature for over 20 years. He said that Pudukottah was an ancient Tamil State, where there was no distinction of caste or community. He further added that hereafter he would strive to serve all communities. Concluding, he remarked that he might have offended some people in the past, but in future he declared that he would not give cause for complaint.

INDIANS OVERSEAS

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North Africa

INDIAN TROOPS IN N. AFRICA

"We are well and happy and we shall not leave here till this is finished." This is the message which Sir Sikandar Hyat Khan, Prime Minister of the Punjab, is taking back to India from the Indian troops he met on his visit to Egypt and the Sudan.

Sir Sikandar told *Reuter's* correspondent that he found the morale of the Indian troops on the Sudan and Abyssinia fronts and in the Western desert magnificent. A deep feeling of comradeship, he added, existed between Indian and other troops.

The part played by Indian troops at Sidi Barrani proved that the Indian soldier "is second to none when it comes to a real scrap," declared Sir Sikandar Hyat Khan speaking at a reception held in his honour by the Indian United Association at Cairo. The Indian troops, he added, were not only in good heart but also in good health.

South Africa

NATAL INDIANS' REQUEST

An appeal to the Prime Minister and Minister of the Interior to suspend the Indian Penetration Commission for the duration of the war has been made by the Natal Indian Association. The appeal states:

"In view of the recent grave war developments, the Natal Indian Association earnestly requests you to suspend the Broome Commission for the duration of the war. We wish to concentrate on the organisation of Indian Service Corps and other war activity in South Africa and the suspension of the Commission would be received by the Indian community as a statesmanlike gesture by the Union Government."

SOUTH AFRICAN INDIANS IN INDIA

It was brought to the notice of the Government of India that a number of South African Indians, who are at present in India on temporary visits and are unable to return to the Union of South Africa in time owing to the curtailment of steamer services due to war, stand the risk of being refused readmission into the Union as their certificates of identity have either expired or are about to expire shortly. Necessary representations were made by the Agent-General for India in the Union of South Africa, and the Minister of the Interior has agreed to extend the validity of the travelling documents of Indians who cannot return to the Union owing to shipping difficulties. On receipt of applications through the Provincial Governments concerned, the Government of India, says a *Press Communique*, will arrange to secure the necessary extension of time in *bona fide* cases through the Agent-General in the Union.

INDIAN MEDICAL STUDENTS IN S. A.

A Press Note states:

Indian medical students in the Union of South Africa had hitherto experienced difficulty in completing their education in that country for lack of facilities for clinical training. At the end of the first three years, they had to proceed to Europe or India for hospital training. Information has now been received that as a result of representations made by Sir B. Rama Rau, the Witwatersrand University is making arrangements for the hospital training of Indian students in the Union itself. This will enable the students to complete their medical course at the University.

America

INDIA CHAMBER IN AMERICA

At a general meeting of the members of the India Chamber of Commerce of America, Inc., held at 665-5th Avenue, New York, on September 19, a resolution was unanimously passed appreciating the work of the Indian Trade Commissioner's office in the United States, congratulating the Government of India on their selection of Sirdar H. S. Malik as the first India Government Trade Commissioner to the United States and urging that the post of India Government Trade Commissioner to the United States of America and Canada must always be filled by a well-qualified Indian, because only an Indian could truly and faithfully represent India, India's trade and India's interests and that the American people as such, and American businessmen in particular, preferred to deal with and come into contact with nationals of India, pertaining to matters Indian.

The Chamber requested the Federation of Indian Industries and Commerce in India and all its allied Chambers and Associations to take this matter up in their respective Chambers and Associations and convey their opinions and decisions on this matter to the Government of India.

Burma

INDIANS DEPORTED FROM BURMA

The deportation of 53 persons of Indian domicile has, it is understood, been recommended by the Tribunal appointed by the Government of Burma following the last Hindu-Muslim disturbances. Some of them have, it is learnt, been already deported from Burma. The proceedings of the Tribunal were held *in camera*.

Ceylon

INDIANS IN CEYLON

Mr. R. H. Drayton, Legal Secretary, Ceylon Government, in an interim report on the revision of electoral registers, 1940, with particular reference to the first registration of Indians under the domicile qualification, says that of 13,900 Indians orally examined, 10,900 were registered. The number of Indians whose names appeared in the preliminary lists was 66,200. Of the number of Indians who appeared for oral examination, 42 per cent. of the males and 52 per cent. of the females were registered and the remainder refused registration.

The report adds that while it is true that the registration was refused in a small number of cases for the reason that the person has not attained 21 years of age and did not fulfil the conditions regarding residence, registration was refused in the great majority of cases for the reason that intention to make Ceylon a permanent home was not established.

CEYLON AND FREEDOM

The suggestion that the people of Ceylon should join hands with the Indian National Congress in the struggle for freedom was made by Mr. J. R. Jayewardene, Joint Secretary of the Ceylon National Congress, in a recent speech.

He said it was not political federation with India that he was advocating, but that the cause for which the Indian Congress leaders were fighting should become their (Ceylonese) cause also. While admitting that certain amount of practical good had been achieved under the Donoughmore Constitution, he stated that only real political freedom would enable them to pay more attention to the needs of the masses.



TOPICS From PERIODICALS



INDIAN NATIONALISM AND WAR

The last issue of the *Asiatic Review* contains a paper on the above subject read at the East India Association by Mr. T. A. Raman. After pointing out the identity of interest between Britain and India against the common enemy, Mr. Raman observed how the very war needs of India may be made to subserve her lasting interests.

There is between the war needs and lasting interests of India a compelling parallelism of material interest that no politician can escape. In the vital field of defence the attempt must now be made to make India self-contained as soon as possible. Indianization on a wide basis, and not merely confined to the so-called "martial races", must now be galvanized into a new tempo. Then, again, in the economic field the war needs demand that India should organize and develop production over a whole range of manufactured goods. And a healthier balance between industry and agriculture is also the crying need of the country. Indian leaders are not unaware of this identity of interest nor of the dangers to India of allowing the war needs to be exploited to the advantage of sectional interests. Wisely and patriotically handled, the whole economic stature of India may be raised under the impetus of the war, and there is no reason why the healthy socialization which is going on in Britain should not be reproduced in India to the lasting advantage of the great mass of the people.

In the course of the discussion that followed, Mr. Raman referred to the Congress demand for independence and said:

Most Congressmen are hard headed realists however fire-eating their words may sound. Their acceptance of office in the Provinces and the very able way in which they worked that part of the constitution for a couple of years, prove it.

Whenever we hear the word "independence" trotted out, we may console ourselves with Gandhi's famous paraphrase of Swaraj as the substance of independence. When every Dominion declared war after parliamentary discussion and in the case of South Africa after considerable opposition, and when even today Eire is seeking within the framework of the Empire to maintain the myth of neutrality, Indian politicians cannot at heart doubt the reality of freedom under the Statute of Westminster. Practical statesmen need not be daunted by a word or a slogan.

Replying to the charge that he had evaded "the real difficulties" of accepting the nationalist demand, *viz.*, the Congress-League differences, Mr. Raman said that he was painfully conscious of them.

So I think are most responsible leaders of Congress, patient and able men like Mr. Rajagopalachari. But I must add that we are rather tired of this continual harping on difficulties and differences unaccompanied by a single constructive suggestion to get over them. It is a little disappointing to find able administrators, keen students of India, men who have studied and served the country for many years, contenting themselves with enumerating and stressing these differences.

Congress demands that the intentions of Britain as regards India's status at the end of the war should be put beyond doubt. That doubt exists today in most of our minds. Rightly or wrongly, most of us do not take declarations such as have been made in general terms at their face value. My general attitude will, I hope, have convinced you that I am extremely anxious that there should be a settlement soon but, frankly speaking, I distrust any parliamentary talk about "goals" and "objectives" and "natural issues".

So there the doubt remains. Let us translate these generalities into concrete terms. No responsible Congressman has denied adequate safeguards for the minorities, or that a transitional period will have to be arranged for, or talked of repudiating financial or other obligations, or sought to confiscate British vested interests in India. Britain has undoubtedly a right to a say in the constitution-making of India as regards these subjects. But let her declare that, subject to satisfactory provisions being made on all these matters, India will have full self-determination.

RELIGION AND FREEDOM

Is religion an as yet unrealised ideal in the air? To say that it is, is a deliberate reversal of the truth, says Mr. N. V. Eswar in the *Social Welfare*.

We live it in our every-day life. In the name of freedom, we have to a great extent succeeded in suppressing the brute in us. There is no other greater object to be achieved in the name of religion than this.

Our emotions to-day do not play the same role as they did in the past. We in our practical life have come to realise the oneness of humanity. This spirit which is the ultimate aim of religion, is to be enduring and be productive of better results in the future, should be fostered up with great care. By staying the hand in the process of assimilating more of religion, the freedom of humanity is wilfully narrowed down.

The world to-day longs to leave the cocoon behind and soar up into the pure atmosphere of greater freedom. The realisation of this dream is contingent on the corresponding efforts made to stamp out the brute in man. In other words, the freedom for which mankind yearns to-day derives sustenance from the progressive assimilation of religion by man. Mankind will end by losing what freedom it enjoys to-day if it does not take to this road.

In our practical life, we have been able to incorporate religion to such an extent that its practicability is more than demonstrated. The plea is for an enlargement of the religious sphere, so that greater freedom for humanity to live and thrive under is assured, for religion is unalloyed freedom.

EASTERN INDUSTRIALISATION

"If Eastern industrialisation makes rapid progress, as it is doing now," observes Mr. V. G. Ramakrishnan in the current *New Review*, "countries like India, China and Japan have to replace their chief direct labour in the form of equipment in the beginning at least from the West." How are we to reconcile an increasing labour supply and a progressive reduction of relative labour through the use of machinery? The writer points out three possibilities.

1. There will be a growth of the consumers' goods industries in response to an increasing demand in the domestic market arising partly from the replacement of the goods formerly supplied by handicraft industries or imported from abroad and partly, perhaps, from increased individual purchasing power. The handicraft industries have declined and imported goods are being displaced by goods of Oriental manufacture, but any appreciable increase in the purchasing power of the masses is problematical in view of the depressing effect of the population pressure upon incomes.

2. A part of the labour will be absorbed in the development of capital goods industries to supply the machines demanded by the manufactures of consumers' goods and now imported from the West.

3. The labour and the machines will be used to produce goods for exports as they are now being used in Japan. It is in this development of export that Oriental industrialisation becomes particularly significant to the countries of the West.

THE ILLUSTRATED WEEKLY

The *Illustrated Weekly* of India is perhaps, the most popular among the pictorial journals in the country. By completing 60 years, it has turned a real milestone in its history. And to mark the occasion, the New Year Weekly appears in an attractive all-gravure dress. The usual features are there but the size is handier there are more pages, more pictures and the contents are as bright and vivacious as ever. The Editor, Mr. S. Jepson, is ever on the alert for novel features to add to its attractions, and we have no doubt the New Style Weekly will become increasingly popular with its readers.

RURAL INDEBTEDNESS

Rural indebtedness is one of the major economic problems of India. In the course of an article in the *Indian Journal of Social Work*, Dr. P. M. Titus describes the legislative measures undertaken by Government to deal with the situation. According to him, the problem is not merely an economic problem but is a social problem as well. He gives figures which are startling:

The average *per capita* income in India is estimated at Rs. 67.5 per annum, or £5, as against that of the United Kingdom which is £76 and of the United States of America which is £142. The poverty of the large percentage of people is revealed when we notice the very uneven distribution of wealth. It is estimated that 5 per cent. of the population in India owns 35 per cent. of the wealth; another 35 per cent. owns 35 per cent. of wealth and the remaining 60 per cent. of the people enjoy among them 30 per cent. of the wealth.

Alongside this abject poverty and unequitable distribution of wealth is the predominance of an agricultural population which is always in debt. Rural indebtedness is one of the major economic problems of India.

The causes of rural indebtedness are diverse, varying in degree in different localities. Indebtedness in itself is not bad, provided it is only temporary and is contracted for production purposes. But rural indebtedness in India is unique in its unproductive character and its ways of accumulation.

Very often an agriculturist is born into the legacy of an ancestral debt—debt inherited from father to son, generation after generation, without any equitable restrictions. It is seldom that he takes advantage of the legal provision that "the debts of a deceased person only pass to his heirs when these succeed to the deceased debtor's property and only to the extent of such property". Instead he obeys the moral law which regards hereditary debt as a debt of honour. Discharging of ancestral debt has become by tradition a moral and pious obligation on the part of any Indian.

In all discussions on rural indebtedness, we find debt largely attributed to the agriculturist's extravagance and improvidence. In this respect it may be mentioned that he is very often "more sinned against than sinning". By and large the Indian peasant is too poor to be anything other than frugal. He leads a hand-to-mouth existence. But religious and social traditions compel him to spend money on ceremonials at births, deaths, marriages, death anniversaries of relatives, etc. To be sure these expenditures are materially unproductive.

Apart from the measures taken by the Legislature to deal with this problem, it must be remembered that the economic improvement of the ryot is the basic factor that will help in the rehabilitation of agricultural industry.

Agriculture must be made profitable. Organization of co-operative societies for farming, marketing, financing and all other rural activities and processes may be the only stable remedy for the ills of the Indian agriculturist.

More than all, there must come a revolution in the thinking of the Indian ryot. He must be drawn out of his defeatist attitude towards life. The "will to live" and the desire for the "abundant life" must be instilled into his mind so that he may make greater efforts and face the struggle in a more hopeful manner.

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SOLVING THE IMPASSE

"If India is to be a full-fledged Dominion after the war, why hesitate to say so and why not do something now as an earnest of the things to come, even though it may not be perfect in every respect," observes Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru in an article to the *Twentieth Century* for January under the caption "The Need of the Hour".

While he reiterates that it is for the Indian political leaders to put forth a joint demand, the Government have also, he emphasises, a responsibility.

Supposing the Congress, the Moslem League, the Hindu Mahasabha, the Sikh and the Depressed Classes," he asks, "are unwilling to come to a settlement or cannot come to a settlement, can Mr. Amery and Lord Linlithgow afford to say that as Indian leaders have not met together and arrived at a settlement, things must go on as they have been going on during the last twelve months or more?" Sir Tej Bahadur answering the question, says: "It is at this stage that British responsibility will arise even though hurtful to our pride."

The mere addition of a few members to the Executive Council, Sir Tej Bahadur stresses, will not do. "What is necessary," he says,

is that the men whom you call into the Government should work as a team, that is, as a Cabinet even though, in the existing circumstances, they may owe responsibility to the Crown.

Suggesting that Mr. Gandhi and Mr. Jinnah should meet, Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru observes:

I believe that if we once shed out party prejudices, we would realise that both the Mahatma and Mr. Jinnah are patriots. I cannot believe that Mr. Jinnah is, as represented in certain quarters, so blind to his sense of responsibility to the country or so inflated with his position as the leader of the Moslem League that he will not respond to the call of duty. Similarly, so far as the Mahatma is concerned, it would be absurd for any one to challenge or even to doubt his patriotism or to doubt that he has the power to influence a large mass of Indian opinion at the present day. I do not conceal the fact that there are many things in his philosophy of life and politics which

do not appeal to me, but that too has not affected my personal regard for him. He is a big enough man to extend his hand of fellowship to Mr. Jinnah in the common interests of the country.

Where and when the interests of the country are at stake, party shibboleths and party slogans must dwindle into insignificance and bide their time before they can assert themselves. This, therefore, is not an occasion when any third party, however well intentioned, can usefully intervene. It should be left to the good sense, the patriotism and the far-sightedness of both to break the ice.

THE ART-CURE FOR CANCER

Dr. J. H. Cousins, the well-known Art Adviser to the Travancore Government, in the course of a Radio Talk published in the *Theosophist*, says that the common characteristic of all form of cancer—physical, mental and emotional, is due to disintegration or disunity.

"To this process of decay, art in all its forms opposes the contrary process of integration or unity. The creation of a piece of art by a child no less than by a master necessitates the assembling of appropriate details and their arrangement in graded affinities with a central idea and with one another. The materials and technique of a particular art require acceptance of both their potentialities and their limitations. For this acceptance they return the joy of self-expression and the wonder of self-discovery, from which comes personal peace; and art-creation gives also a sympathetic and understanding interest in the creative expression of other individuals and nations from which will come a disposition towards social and international peace. And the discipline and high qualities of art-activity will pass over into the other activities of life and in due time make them, if not works of art, at least artistic. Hence the necessity, if humanity is to be rescued from cancerous disintegration, of having the arts given a central place in the education of the young."

WIN INDIA TO BRITAIN'S SIDE

In the course of a vigorous article in *Time and Tide*, Edward Thompson visualises the distant future when this uncertain war has ended. As regards this war, he points out that it is now geographically cut into two and its whole Middle Eastern Half must be largely waged from India as its base. Yet

if you continue to drift, while masses of men and women, who are India's natural leaders, fill the prisons, you will need more luck than the gods have ever given any nation yet to wage this war satisfactorily. You have had some shocks already. Are you dead sure that the future holds no more? If you can guarantee no Sommes or Passchendaelles or Gallipolis or Norways or Dunkirks—not even a First and Second Gaza—then it may be that you can push the business through on this policy of drift in face of growing recalcitrance and sullenness in India and can win victory though at a far higher price than need have been paid. But suppose that Gibraltar is attacked and that we do not get the French African colonies on our side?

As regards the minorities, the Princes have been excellently looked after for over a century (their people hardly at all). They hold strong cards and can look after themselves very well indeed when the Dominion Status Constitution is framed finally. As regards the untouchables, we have done precious little for them in the past.

"You will see that a settlement is still possible," concludes Mr. Thompson,

which will bring in, Congress, as our enthusiastic friend Rajagopalachari, ex-Premier of Madras, has said that he would guarantee, if a National Government at the Centre were formed, to persuade his colleagues of the Working Committee to consent to a Muslim Premier, with that Premier's right to choose his Cabinet. That is a sweepingly generous offer, but I believe he could get it implemented

But what is British Labour doing? While in opposition it talks of what it will do for India; but now that it has power, it does nothing and seems to have no policy outside this island. Why not win this war as quickly and cheaply as possible and now—while men's spirits are finally stirred and to fine issues—bring in, India as our comrade and raise our whole cause on to a nobler plane and set up something all nations can see as a light for the whole post-war future? Either this war will shatter the Empire, or it will make it something greater and nobler than Time has ever dreamed any Empire could be.

THE WAR WILL BE WON

The *Nineteenth Century* for August contains an illuminating article by H. C. Fenaby and George Slocombe on the Mediterranean situation. The joint writers aver that Egypt and the Suez Canal must be defended at Gibraltar and it is to the Mediterranean we must carry the war, a sea-borne war, upon the enemies' weak point.

In this war the Mediterranean is the strategic centre. It is there that the war can be won by us, and won before 1942, if we will but take the offensive vigorously.

Italy is the weakest point in the Axis, and it is through the smashing of Italy that we shall accomplish the smashing of Hitler. An aggressive and sustained offensive against Italy is the true strategy for Britain now. There is no need to sit waiting for the great German invasion. If that is attempted, the naval forces in home waters and the armies in Britain can quite effectively deal with it. But in the meantime we have great forces assembled in the Mediterranean and even without the help of the French Navy we are in control of that sea.

The Mediterranean is not the North Sea. It is almost tideless and remarkably free from fog or mist. Its waters are transparent, say the writers.

A German or Italian submarine lying fathoms deep is clearly visible to an airman and can be easily destroyed. Even at night visibility on the surface is very great. Troop transports could not evade detection, and smoke screens in those blue and calm waters under an immense blue sky would merely betray the presence of invader to a British reconnaissance aircraft cruising within a radius of 50 miles.

AHIMSA IN WORLD RECONSTRUCTION

Ever since Mahatma Gandhi promulgated his doctrine of Ahimsa as a panacea for all the present world troubles, many thinkers have written on this subject. The *Calcutta Review* for December contains a thoughtful article by Dr. H. C. Mukerjee, who says that "if the spirit of Ahimsa is imbibed and given effect to to-day and if this spirit is, through its natural human appeal, imbibed in a larger and still larger measure by each generation, there is not the slightest doubt that the pace of man's progress will quicken from more to more and must lead to but one result: the establishment of the Kingdom of God in this world." Dr. Mukerjee writes;

It has to be admitted that in any attempt at a long vision of the future evolution of the world towards an ideal, we have to take into account not only the worst but also the best of which humanity at large is capable. Just as on the one hand it is possible that the present war, which is spread over the whole world, may have the effect of making it reel back to barbarism, so on the other hand it is no less likely that, with the passage of time with set-backs here and there, the principle of Ahimsa will slowly but none the less surely gather increasing momentum, and some day, however distant, we shall have reign of justice and peace.

From this point of view, says the writer, Mahatma Gandhi is a moral genius of the highest order; for he faced the risk of being regarded as a theorist or rather as a crank when he preached Ahimsa as the only satisfactory solution for all troubles. Events, however, have proved

that he had not erred in his estimate of the fundamental goodness of human nature. The fact that in spite of the very high spiritual demands it makes on humanity, he has been able

to command the loyalty of so many and, on the whole, such faithful followers is sufficient proof that the lesson he has been teaching India and through her the world at large, is a latent truth inherent in the nature of humanity, that with an example before it this truth is not beyond its understanding and lastly, that, given the right lead, it is possible of adoption by very large masses of men for the attainment of definitely worthy aims.

HINDUSTANI AND THE SCREEN

In the *Aryan Path* for January, Mr. K. Ahmad Abbas points out that every one will be quite good at Hindustani if the Cinema is used as a proper medium of instruction. The writer says that Hindustani films are very popular even among the people who are ignorant of that language.

The contribution of the Indian screen to the evolution of Hindustani as the national language is twofold. Not only has it helped, as already indicated, to assimilate a large number of simple, commonly understood words into a new vocabulary but, what is even more important, it has familiarized millions of people in the non-Hindustani-speaking areas with this vocabulary. Ten years ago it was rare to find a South Indian able to understand and speak even the simplest phrase in Hindustani. It was practically impossible for a visitor from Delhi to make himself understood in Bangalore, Hyderabad (Sind) or Chittagong. Today the situation has vastly changed and thanks to the inroads of Hindustani films in non-Hindustani-speaking provinces, it is possible for a Panjabi and a Tamilian to meet on the streets of Nagpur and to converse with each other.

Tens of thousands of people whose mother tongue is Tamil, Telugu, Kannada, Sindhi, Panjabi, are daily thronging their local Cinemas showing Hindustani films and, lured by the glamour of Kananbala, the melody of Saigal and the histrionic ability of Devika Rani, they are being drawn into the ranks of the votaries of Hindustani. The influence of the Hindustani films can be gauged from the fact that the films in provincial languages have totally failed to challenge their supremacy and today a Hindustani film makes far more money in South India than a Tamil or a Telugu film.

IRON AND INDIA

The *Readers' Digest* for January has an interesting account of Sir A. R. Dalal's address to the Bombay Rotary Club on "India produced Iron 3000 years Ago". Sir Dalal at the outset points out that the art of manufacturing iron was known in India at least a thousand years before Christ, and the famous Damascus blades of the Saracens were made of Indian material. The first successful attempt to manufacture steel in India on a commercial scale was made by the Tata Iron and Steel Company. It is interesting to note that

the original project was to make 120,000 tons of pig iron and 70,000 tons of steel per year. Last year the Company made 1,140,000 tons of pig iron and 770,000 tons of steel. The Company has a large expansion programme in hand. When it is completed, it would manufacture over a million and a quarter tons of iron and about 850 to 900 thousand tons of steel per year. The capacity of the Steel Corporation of Bengal, which began manufacture of steel last year, was 200 to 250 thousand tons, and between them the two Companies could supply the whole of the demand of India in the ordinary forms of steel and have a small surplus for export.

The town of Jamshedpur has a population of over 100,000 souls, and the Company has employed nearly 30,000 men at Jamshedpur and their wage bill comes to Rs. 15 lakhs a month. We pay nearly Rs. 2½ crores in freight to the railways and nearly Rs. 2 crores in taxation to the Government of India. All the amenities of the town, which are elsewhere provided by the Government or the Municipality such as education, sanitation, water-supply and drainage are provided by the Company, which has built over 8,000 quarters for its workmen and maintained a hospital of 177 beds besides a number of dispensaries.

As for war materials and other things, Sir Dalal says:

We have besides developed armour plate steel for the manufacture of armoured vehicles as well as other forms of special steel for steel helmets, armour piercing bullets, etc. We will shortly complete a benzol plant, which would enable high explosives to be manufactured in India.

FREE INDIA

We congratulate Mr. E. R. Govindan on the completion of the first year of his Weekly—*Free India*, (Madras). The Annual Number, which is published to mark the occasion, is replete with articles and pictures of topical interest. There is something touching every phase of life—politics, biography, fiction, the screen, music and the arts—affording plenty of light literature for the lay reader. The pictorial record of certain striking episodes in the year is a happy idea. Dr. Pattabhi, who has just completed his three score, writes appropriately enough on what he calls "The last Alpina of Life's Music", while Mr. Pothan Joseph pleads for the promotion of Coalition Cabinets. In the same issue, Khasa Subba Rau proves the futility of composite cabinets. Altogether we have a good and varied entertainment in this Annual which is priced annas two only.

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PRYING INTO THE FUTURE

An interesting article on "Fortune-telling Fact or Fraud", condensed from the *Rosierucian Digest*, is published in the December Number of *World Digest*.

The fact that so many constantly seek to know what the morrow will reveal indicates that either they possess courageous spirits or possibly the belief that the unfavourable may be evaded. If fate is absolute and the course of man's life or his destiny has been created for him and he must pursue it like a ball rolling down a bowling alley, then it avails him little to know of it in advance. Such knowledge could not make it possible to escape misfortunes, for such would be the natural course of events of his life. On the other hand, if man can exercise his reason and power of mind to correct and avoid the future of which he may know, then the future is not absolute and has not been definitely decreed for him.

The person who is a follower of the methods of fortune-telling believes in destiny and that a plan of his life has been mapped out for him.

One need only look upon his own life or the lives of friends and acquaintances to see that fate is not always a benefactor; therefore a glimpse into the future, if possible, would likewise reveal many untold suffering, pain and tragedy. Such a future should best remain undisclosed; for peace of mind is often found in ignorance of the future moment.

Man either creates his own future by his own acts of commission and omission or the future is determined for him and it is beyond his control to alter it whether he knows it or not. Man cannot ride the fence in matters of belief of this kind. The very fact that most all who seek to know what the morrow holds for them, do so that they may prepare to accept or avoid it, immediately, implies that whether they realise it or not they think that a great deal of the future lies within their own hands.

Deprecating the belief in fortune-telling from supernatural methods, the writer says:

There is so much need for the useful activity of psychic powers that it must be deplored that they are diverted into channels of attempting the impossible—fortune-telling—and likewise encouraging frauds. Scientific prediction based upon the study of actual causes and their eventual and natural results is the only kind of fortune-telling that is rational and it is far removed from any form of supernaturalism

IS INDIA A NATION?

Is India a nation? asks Sir Ali Mahomed Khan writing in the current number of *Current Thought* and answers that she is not a nation, taking pains to show that India is divided into many castes and creeds and communities. "However much we may talk of establishing a nation in India, when it comes to practical politics, it becomes incapable of achievement," says the writer who quotes Sir Herbert Risley, once a Commissioner of Census, in support of his contention.

According to the writer:

A scientific division of the country, creating homogeneity, similarity and uniformity in each part may prove the only solution. By that method, the establishment of a Hindu Nation and a separate Muslim Nation may be possible and natural. Democracy then might find its proper place in the midst of a homogeneous people running its government on popular lines for the progress and safety of each homogeneous group. The effort to reform India into a nation in its present condition is a dream.

The writer's solution of the problem is fashioned on Mr. Jinnah's scheme of Pakistan. Criticising this view, the Editors of *Current Thought* observe:

To plead religious differences, institutional dissimilarities, social maladjustments and economic contradiction as an escape from the sovereignty of common State and suzerainty of common citizenship within the same geographical confines is to deny the modern and sensible approach to political questions.

INDIA IN PERIODICALS.

THE ROYAL INDIAN NAVY. By Admiral Sir Herbert Richmond, K.C.B. [The Asiatic Review, Vol. 36, No. 128.]

THE INDIAN STATES—WHAT ABOUT THEM? By Col. Sir Kailas Haksar. [The Twentieth Century, January 1941.]

PHILOSOPHY IN MODERN INDIA. By Kumar Pal, M.A. [Prabuddha Bharata, January 1941.]

EARLY RELIGION AND SOCIETY IN SOUTH INDIA. By Professor S. R. Sharma, M.A. [THE VEDANTA Kesari, January 1941.]

DEVELOPMENT OF TRAVANCORE'S FISHERIES. By Dr. C. C. John. [Travancore Information, Vol. No. 3.]

THE CURRENCY SYSTEM OF CEYLON. By B. R. Shenoy. [The Ceylon Economic Journal, December 1940.]

MULTUM IN PARVO

NEWS * DEPARTMENTAL * NOTES

Questions of Importance

LIBERALS' REPLY TO M. P's APPEAL

The view that the British Government had so far failed to unify British and Indian interests and to inspire zeal for the British cause among the people of India, and the opinion that the situation in the country, though serious, could be improved beyond recognition if Britain acted with vision and courage, are expressed by prominent Indian Liberals in the course of a signed statement in reply to the message to the people of India from nine members of the British Parliament. The statement which is signed by Mr. V. N. Chandavarkar, President of the Liberal Federation, the Rt. Hon. Sustri, Sir C. Y. Chintamani and others, says:

At the outbreak of the war, India was more warmly sympathetic to England than even during the last Great War owing to community of political ideas. But the British Government unfortunately failed to mobilise Indian goodwill owing to their unimaginative and still distrusting attitude. In the political domain they have moved very reluctantly and always too late. The declaration made by the Viceroy after the outbreak of the war merely reaffirmed that Dominion Status was the ultimate issue of India's political evolution and there was no offer at that stage of associating Indians with the formulation and execution of war policies. Further, the measures taken in respect of the vital questions of defence and industrialisation have caused intense dissatisfaction and deepened distrust of British policy which seemed to be based on racial considerations.

We agree that the controversy with regard to Dominion Status and Independence has no practical importance at the present time. But we must emphasise that this controversy can be put an end to only by granting Dominion Status to India and thus securing to her the reality of national freedom.

On the question of the claims of minorities of which much is made in certain quarters, the signatories observe:

It has always been our aim that the Constitution shall fully protect the minority interests and

enable the minorities to make their contribution to the solution of national problems. But we must say that although it is apparently conceded that India must be allowed to have a substantial share in the framing of her Constitution, yet the task has been made virtually impossible for her by declarations on the part of Government which encourage communal intransigence and thus practically give the minorities and other interests a veto on constitutional advance.

While appreciating the M. P's appeal to revise our views of the Viceroy's offer of August 8, the signatories point out that it seems to us that they have not carefully appreciated the situation in India and have not realised the disastrous effect on the public mind of the manner in which the affairs of the country are being actually administered.

We believe in co-operation between Britain and India if it could be achieved on honourable terms. Notwithstanding the differences that have arisen, the magnitude of which cannot be minimised, there is every desire on our part to offer our full co-operation, but it is in our view incumbent on Government to make our task easy by creating the right psychological atmosphere. The British Government has not wholeheartedly said to us, as the Members of the Parliament who have addressed the Indian people have done, 'join with us in defeating Hitlerism, join with us thereafter in framing the terms of peace and helping to shape the course of the world'. How can India, which is not assured of her future freedom, forget its humiliating position and work enthusiastically for the freedom of England and other nations?

DEFENCE SCHEMES IN ACTION

Portions of a Defence Department Scheme, approved by the Chatfield Committee, for the expansion and modernization of the Ordnance factories at a cost of some Rs. 40,000,000 are now about to come into production.

This scheme, says a Press report, covers an expansion of the factories by about 20 per cent. and the provision of new plant and machinery which would enable them to manufacture most modern types of armament, including 25-pounder guns and ammunition, aircraft bombs, light machine-guns and loose barrels for the 3'7 inch anti-aircraft guns,

SIR P. C. RAY ON RURAL WELFARE

Sir P. C. Ray, in his Presidential address at the Rural Welfare Session of the first Social Service Conference, held at Calcutta on January 14, declared:

Trained volunteers and co-ordination of effort are prerequisites in any scheme of rural reconstruction aiming at maximum results in minimum time and the League would be doing a real service if it can achieve in its objects.

Sir P. C. Ray continued:

Promotion of cottage industry, propagation of Khadi, and the removal of untouchability are subjects dear to my heart. So great an importance is attached to those nation-building activities that even what has been called rightly the greatest political organisation of the country—I mean, of course, the Indian National Congress—has, even in the midst of the present political chaos obtaining in the country, laid the greatest emphasis possible on these items.

Our revered leader Mahatmaji places them at the vanguard of our national programme; and the urgent necessity of expeditious achievement of these objects is felt by all who have interests of the country at their heart. While there might be an honest difference of opinion as regards the political result of these constructive activities, there has been a more or less consensus of opinion on the supreme value of these items in any worth-the-name scheme of rural reconstruction in the country.

I would appeal to you to ponder over the urgent problem of rural welfare and attempt your very best to ameliorate the pitiable condition of your long-neglected brethren. They live, as they say, in 'pathetic contentment' and try to make their contentment real and enviable. Ameliorate their condition by providing cottage industries so that they may be economically self-sufficient and by removing untouchability they may be socially harmonious. To serve God and to neglect them is sin.

THE DOUBLE THREAT TO HINDUS

Dr. Shyam Prasad Mukherji, acting President of the Hindu Mahasabha, speaking at a public meeting in Madras, observed:

The Hindu community today is threatened with danger on two fronts. On one side we are confronted with a blind and bitter Muslim communalism, which threatens the elementary rights and liberties of Hindus over wide parts of India and which increases with every concession on our part. On the other hand, we have the foreign governments, which sets up the minorities to such intransigence in the approved tradition and seeks by this means to crush the spirit of nationalism so largely embodied in the Hindus. The Hindu Mahasabha has come into existence and continues to meet this double threat.

MR. CHURCHILL'S SURPRISE SPEECH

Mr. Churchill, Prime Minister, in a surprise speech at Glasgow, following a whirlwind tour of the city's defences, declared that he had not the slightest doubt what the end of the war would be.

"I can hold out no hopes of easy passage," he said. "Before us lie dangers—I hardly like to say as great as those through which we have passed, but at any rate dangers which, if we neglect anything, might be fatal, mortal. Before us lie many months of having to endure the bombardment of our cities and industrial areas without the power to make an equal reply. Before us lie suffering and tribulations. I am not one of those who pretend that smooth courses are open to us, or that our experiences this year are going to be deprived of terrible characteristics. But what the end will be, I cannot have the slightest doubt."

MR. GREENWOOD ON FREEDOM

"The British Government is deeply concerned to ensure that the free spirit of man shall emerge from the ruins of war," declared Mr. Arthur Greenwood, broadcasting from London. "We must help to create conditions under which nations will be able to work out their own salvation so long as they work in neighbourly relations with others and do not flout the Law of Nations. Opportunities for aggression must be restrained by the combined will and organisation of those nations which stand for orderly progress and against the tyrannical exercise of power."

THE ECONOMIC APPROACH

Giving expression to the growing conviction that all the political avenues to understanding have been explored and that most of them seem only to lead to fresh misunderstandings, the *Statesman* of Calcutta suggests a practical line of approach—the economic approach. "Let us get down to the practical urgent business of developing aircraft production, shipbuilding and motor vehicle production in India. In that task communal questions will have to be resolved, and also we shall soon find out whether the Board of Trade is willing to part with power. Parliament's good intentions are very far from being reflected in all British manufacturing or financial circles and the sooner this is honestly admitted, the better for the relationship between the two countries."

LOCAL SELF-GOVT. CONFERENCE

The view that local services need not for any reason be mixed up with various political theories, or divergent claims of different communities, was expressed by Mr. Nalini Ranjan Sarkar, Ex-Finance Minister, Government of Bengal, presiding over the Third Session of the All-India Local Self-Government Conference, which opened its three-day Session at Patna on December 27. After an address of welcome by Nawabzada Syed Muhammad Mehdi, Chairman of the Patna City Municipality and Chairman of the Reception Committee of the Conference, Mr. Nalini Ranjan Sarkar delivered his address as President of the Conference.

Mr. Sarkar strongly criticised Government interference in the administration of local authorities which, according to him, apart from diminishing the

importance of local bodies and militating against the growth of local initiative, often resulted in duplication and unnecessary waste. He said that some misuse of power was probably inevitable in the earlier stages of a democratic self-governing institution. But that certainly should not be made a ground for curtailing its freedom, not to speak of destroying its self-governing character altogether.

The Conference was attended by delegates from Bombay, Sind, Madras, the United Provinces, the Central Provinces and from the states of Kashmir, Baroda and Mysore.

HINDU YOUTHS' CONFERENCE

Full support to the direct action resolution adopted by the Hindu Mahasabha was accorded by the All-India Hindu Youths' Conference, which concluded the fifth annual session at Madura on December 29. The Conference was held in the same *pandal* as the Mahasabha, and in the absence of Dr. Syamprasad Mukerjee, President, Diwan Bahadur Ramaswami Sastri presided. The main resolution adopted by the Conference stated that Hindu youths welcomed the resolution of the Hindu Mahasabha on the subject of launching direct action and offered loyal co-operation to the Mahasabha.

By another resolution, the Conference affirmed the right of Hindus to regard India as the national home of Hindus.

The third official resolution requested the Universities of India to prescribe such text-books for youths which would develop the formation of Hindu nationality.

The Conference elected Dr. Syamprasad Mukerjee as President, and Dr. Santosh Kumar Mukerjee and Mr. G. Jaganathan of Madura as general secretaries.

EDUCATIONAL CONFERENCE

The old system of education has now become absolutely out of date and incapable of meeting the requirements of modern India, observed the Hon'ble Sir Shah Sulaiman, M.A., LL.D., D.Sc., in



SIR SHAH SULAIMAN

the course of his Presidential address at the Sixteenth All-India Educational Conference held at Udaipur during X'mas. He continued:

It has, therefore, to be replaced by a national system of education more suited to the genius of the people of this country. But while a drastic change in the educational policy of India may be urgently required, it does not necessarily follow that there should be a complete change in the system all at once. Sudden and abrupt break with the past has its own peculiar disadvantages. The old system was the result of an evolution and long experience. Undoubtedly it has failed in many respects; but it has nevertheless produced men of learning and ability who have become leaders of renown in many walks of life. In launching a new scheme, we should not be over-enthusiastic but must proceed with caution and restraint.

He dealt with the various stages of education: primary, secondary, collegiate

and adult education and passed on to discuss the value of University education in the country. Touching the multiplication of universities that have of late sprung up in different centres, Sir Shah Mahomed asked: "Can that be avoided when the number of students is so large and long distances make University centres inaccessible to the poorer students?"

In conclusion, he referred to the problem of the ever-increasing unemployment in India, which calls upon us to devise a scheme of national economy, which may mitigate some of the evils resulting from the present system of distribution of wealth.

But India is fairly rich in raw materials and productivity of its soil. A wide vista of potentialities is open for the utilization of its natural resources. Our country is at the threshold of a great economic and industrial development. A new impetus for industrial enterprise has been given to it in consequence of War exigencies. We have to use all the resources at our command and develop our basic industries. We should endeavour to occupy a noble position side by side with other advanced countries of the world.

Prof. Diwan Chand Sharma, in the course of his address as President of the Universities' Section of the All-India Educational Conference at Udaipur on the 28th December, said that ideally speaking a University stood for the advancement of knowledge, but gone were those days when Universities had such lofty conceptions of their functions.

Concluding, Prof. Sharma said:

The universities in India should produce that type of Indian who thinks in terms of his country and not in terms of smaller groups, who loves freedom not only for himself but also for others, who is a custodian of the culture of India and who wants to make India a powerful group in the comity of nations.

DRS. THOMAS AND LOKANATHAN

Dr. P. J. Thomas, Professor of Economics, University of Madras, is appointed Chairman of the Hand-loom Industry Fact Finding Committee. Dr. P. S. Lokanathan, Reader in Economics, is appointed to act as Professor in the absence of Dr. Thomas.

ASSAM AND WAR FUND

It is understood that Rai Bahadur Promode Dutt, Advocate-General of Assam, has submitted to Government his opinion that the Cabinet's action in contributing rupees one lakh towards the war funds is valid.

During the winter session of the Assam Assembly, a motion for supplementary demand of Rs. 1,00,000 moved by the Premier was declared out of order by the Speaker, who thought the motion had raised a grave constitutional issue. The Speaker suggested that Government should obtain a proper legal interpretation of Section 150 of the Government of India Act which would be binding on the House and asked Government to place the demand before the House in March Session.

FEDERAL COURT JURISDICTION

The *United Press* learns that quite a larger volume of opinion from all the Provinces has been received regarding the proposals to extend the jurisdiction of the Federal Court, with a view to vest it with more powers to hear appeals from High Courts where the subject-matter of appeal is valued at Rs. 15,000 and above. The proposal for vesting this jurisdiction is contemplated under Section 206 of the Government of India Act through an Act of the Indian Legislature.

The *United Press* further learns that there is also a suggestion under consideration to vest the Federal Court with powers to hear appeals in Income-tax cases which are now done by the High Courts. This is considered to be feasible in view of the conflicting judgments by the various High Courts and the desirability

of having judicial verdicts having an All-India validity. Such a jurisdiction can, however, be vested only after an amendment of the Government of India Act which may take time.

BIHAR PROHIBITION PRISONERS

In pursuance of the recent order of the Provincial Government, directing the release of all persons undergoing sentences of imprisonment, or standing trial for Excise offences under the Prohibition Notification declared invalid by a Full Bench of the Patna High Court, 218 persons have been released in the various dry areas.

It will be recalled that after the decision of the High Court, the Bihar Excise Act was amended by the Governor and its Preamble was also amended, making it clear that the object of the Act is to enforce prohibition in the Province and not to raise revenue.

BHOWAL SANYASI CASE

Final order in the appeal arising out of the Bhowal Sanyasi Case was passed by Mr. Justice Biswas and Mr. Justice Lodge at the Calcutta High Court. Their Lordships upheld the order of the Subordinate Judge at Dacca, declaring the Plaintiff Sanyasi as the Second Kumar of Bhowal and dismissed with costs the appeal preferred by Rani Bibhabati Devi.

Their Lordships held that the judgement of Mr. Justice Costello sent out from England was a valid judgement and, therefore, the order of the Court was in accordance with the majority views of the judges and, accordingly, the appeal was dismissed with costs.

HEALTH INSURANCE

In the *Insurance World*, Dr. Satya Pal recounts the story of the failure of his bill in the Punjab Legislative Council regarding health insurance. The provisions of his bill, he says, were simple and modest and the demands made therein just and fair. All the same, leave was not granted to introduce it.

Urging the need for such a bill, Dr. Satya Pal goes on to say:

"An average man cannot afford to have medical relief. In our Province, the number of hospitals and dispensaries is far too short of what these should be. Our average income is very low and hence many of the sons of the soil die unattended, untended and uncared for. If Health Insurance be introduced and the Government takes an active interest in this matter, much of the misery can be alleviated. As a business proposition, I am afraid it cannot be a success and unless the Government steps forward to make a handsome contribution for this purpose, it is not possible to make this a success. The employer should contribute, the Government should contribute, and a nominal subscription be levied from the employees also. This alone can solve the difficulty. There should be a panel of public-spirited medical men who should earnestly take up this work on a very moderate honorarium."

His plan would benefit the medical profession also. So far the number of medical men falls short of what the country actually needs. But while towns are being glutted with doctors, villages are deprived of medical relief. If Health Insurance be introduced, it will provide an outlet for quite a number of medical men.

NON-INDIAN COMPANIES

Of 149 Companies constituted outside India, 72 Companies belong to United Kingdom; 30 to British Dominions; 17 to Continent of Europe; 16 to U. S. A.; 9 to Japan; and 5 to Java.

Total number of non-Indian companies transacting life business is only 12; total number of non-Indian companies transacting non-life business is 123; and total number of companies transacting life and other kinds of business is 14.

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

In reply to a question in the House of Commons, the Minister of Labour informed the House that persons insured under the Unemployment Insurance Scheme now interned as aliens are not entitled to unemployment benefit in respect of any period of their internment; but if the wives and children of interned aliens were in need, they could receive payments under the scheme for the relief of distress.

INVESTMENT OBJECTION

When the young businessman objects, "I am going to buy some investments first..." an answer of this sort may be effective—

"You can buy investments at any time, Mr. Jones. They will always be on the market and, perhaps, at lower prices than to-day. But life insurance is one investment that costs you more and more if you delay. Why don't you buy it now when the market is lowest for you?"

INSURANCE FOR GOVT. SERVANTS

It is understood that the question of instituting a scheme for compulsory life insurance of all Government servants in the province of Bengal has been engaging the attention of the Government of Bengal.

DR. LAW ON MEEK-GREGORY REPORT

The view that the findings of the Meek-Gregory Mission made it imperative that vigorous attempts should be made by the Government of India to find other alternative markets in such countries as Australia, South and East Africa, Ceylon and other Empire countries was expressed by Dr. N. N. Law, presiding at the half-yearly general meeting of the Bengal National Chamber of Commerce at Calcutta last month.

Dr. Law expressed his disappointment at the findings of the Mission that it was not possible for India to look to the United States of America as an effective substitute for the entirely lost European markets. He referred to the fact that the virtual closure of the entire Continental market had dealt a heavy blow to their export trade, while difficulties on account of shortage in the available freight, and rigorous control of exchange, had also served to restrict their export trade to the other countries that were still open to them.

Referring to the taxation policy of the Government, both Central and Provincial, Dr. Law questioned the imperative necessity for the imposition, one after another, of such a heavy burden of taxation on a comparatively poor country like India. As regards Central taxation measures, Dr. Law pointed out that even if it were established that additional funds were absolutely necessary to enable Government to meet increased expenditure necessitated by the war, the best method for them should have been to have resort to loans also, instead of increasing the burden of taxation,

TRADE BETWEEN AFRICA AND INDIA

An appeal to merchants and manufacturers in the country to seize the opportunity of expanding their export trade in Africa at a time when facilities were offered by the Central Government, was made by Mr. M. N. Ismail, the Indian Government Trade Commissioner, Mombasa, when he met the members of the Marwari Chamber of Commerce recently.

Mr. Ismail emphasised that the present international situation had created an extraordinary fair prospect for the growth of Indian export trade, particularly in Africa, where prior to the hostilities Japan had been exporting its piece-goods in large quantities.

BURMA BAN ON EXPORT OF MONEY

A new rule has been added to the Defence of Burma Rules prescribing that no person shall, except with the permission of the Reserve Bank of India, or a person duly authorised by the Reserve Bank, take or send out of British Burma to a place or country outside Burma and India, money in excess of such amount as may be specified by the Reserve Bank.

The Reserve Bank has accorded general permission under the rule for any person to take or send at any one time out of British Burma to any place outside Burma and India, except Ceylon, Portuguese, French India, Aden, Iraq, Arabia, Iran and Persian Gulf Ports, Bank of England notes up to £10 in value of Indian currency up to a total of Rs. 150 in value.

A limit of Rs. 1,000 has been fixed in case of Afghanistan, Ceylon, Portuguese, French India, Aden, Iraq, Arabia, Iran and Persian Gulf Ports,

ALL-INDIA WOMEN'S CONFERENCE

The 15th Session of the All-India Women's Conference was opened at the Town Hall, Bangalore, on December 27, by Begum Hamid Ali, in the presence of a large gathering of delegates from different parts of India. Messages from Mahatma Gandhi and H. H. the Maharaja of Mysore were read.

Lady Mirza Ismail, Chairwoman of the Reception Committee, in her welcome address, which was read in her absence by Mrs. Rukmani Annal, referred to the activities of the branches of the Mysore State Women's Conference.

Sir Mirza Ismail whose address was read at the Conference by Mr. N. Madhava Rao, First Member of Council, observed that women had a great part to play in removing the communal views. He observed:

Woman is peace-maker and angel of happiness. It will always be your endeavour to spread goodwill in the country and prevent political differences from developing into bitter animosities.

Mrs. Rameshwari Nehru, in the course of her Presidential address, expressed the view that Indian sympathies go to those small nations of the world who are losing their independence one after another and are being trodden under the iron heel of despotism. She added:

Conditions at home are not less gloomy. They affect us as much if not more. We are pledged not to take part in party politics, but as Indian women, we cannot remain indifferent to matters of vital importance to our country. We may or may not agree with civil disobedience, but we cannot be indifferent to the principle of the freedom of pen and speech, for which brave sons and daughters of the nation are being sent behind the prison bars. Our hearts are sore at the imprisonment of these brave men and women. We as women, struggling for our own freedom, cannot help raising our voices against suppression or oppression in all spheres.

She then urged the need for reforms in many directions and explained the significance and implications of non-violence.

In conclusion, she appealed to the women of India

to do their best to finish with the old world of tyranny and exploitation and lend their helping hand to bring in the new era of peace and goodwill.



Mrs. RAMESHWARI NEHRU

The Conference at its first open sitting adopted a resolution on War, affirming its faith in non-violence and appealing to the women of the world to throw in their full weight of their moral force on the side of permanent world peace.

Another resolution urged the need for the removal of illiteracy by the introduction of free compulsory primary education for all boys and girls, and for the promotion of communal unity. The Conference adopted the report on communal unity submitted by the Group Conference which met recently for the purpose.

The Conference carried a resolution moved by Mrs. Cousins favouring Montessori system to be introduced on a wide scale.

Mrs. Urmila Mehta and Mrs. Bilimoria were declared elected as General Secretary and Treasurer, respectively, of the Conference for the coming year.

INDIAN HISTORICAL CONGRESS

A proper understanding of India's past for the purpose of devising the right constitutional expedients for the new India, which is being born, was stressed by Sir Sikandar Hayat Khan in his inaugural address at the Indian History Congress at Lahore.



Dr. S. KRISHNASWAMI AIYANGAR

Dr. S. Krishnaswami Aiyangar, in his presidential address, made a strong plea for a constructive effort to produce a history of Indian civilisation and culture.

"KERALA AND THE NAMBUDRIS"

We regret that a mistake has been made in the last issue of the *Indian Review* in putting the name of Mr. A. K. T. K. M. Narayanan Nambudripad as the author of the article on "Kerala and Nambudris". The article was contributed by Mr. A. K. Ramasesha Iyer, Advocate, Calicut, and not by Mr. Nambudripad.

ALL-INDIA URDU CONFERENCE

The Second All-India Urdu Conference was held on December 25 at Cawnpore, under the presidentship of Sir Sheikh Abdul Quadir of Lahore who, in the course of his presidential address, said that Urdu could be made the *lingua franca* of India.

CHIANG KAI SHEK'S MESSAGE

"I believe that the leaders of your country, so thoroughly well acquainted with the actual world situation, would adopt such a policy as is exactly called for by the urgency of events and fully share our sentiments and aspirations in our resistance to aggression," writes General Chiang Kai Shek, Chinese Generalissimo, to Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru in the course of the letter brought by Dr. Tai Chi Tao. Continuing, General Chiang Kai Shek says:

I take this occasion to inform you that the Chinese resistance to the aggressive Japanese is gaining both in strength and morale. I am firmly convinced that the future of the world depends on the outcome of the united struggle of our Asiatic peoples. In view of the ever-increasing Japanese ambition and the momentous world changes, we, in order to safeguard our liberty and freedom, must first of all bring the chief perturber of peace to account.

LORD BADEN-POWELL

Lord Baden-Powell, the eighty-three-year-old Chief Scout, died at "Nyeri Kenya" on the 7th January. Until he was 80 years old, Lord Baden-Powell retained his health and vigour to a remarkable degree. When it began to fail, he built himself a bungalow on the slopes of Mount Kenya, where with Lady Baden-Powell he made his home. He paid his last visit to England in May 1938.

A soldier, who became famous in the South African War in which he was responsible for the defence of Mafeking, General Baden-Powell became a world figure by founding the Boy Scout movement in 1908.

THE LATE DR. BERGSON

Dr. Henri Bergson, the French philosopher, expounder of the theory of "creative evolution", has died at the age of 82.

Bergson was, in 1901, elected member of the Academie des Sciences Morales et Philosophiques and in 1914 of the French Academy. He was also a member of the Council of the Legion of Honour. In November 1928, he was awarded the Nobel Prize for Literature for the year 1927.

ALL-INDIA MEDICAL CONFERENCE

The establishment of Colleges of Pharmaceutical Chemistry in the provinces by Provincial Governments and philanthropists was urged by the All-India Medical Conference, held at Vizagapatam from December 27 to 29 under the auspices of the Indian Medical Association.

Dr. P. Gummanti, Chairman of the Reception Committee, welcoming the delegates referred to the need for the extension of medical relief in rural areas.

Dr. K. S. Ray, of Calcutta, presided and a large number of delegates elected by the various branches of the Indian Medical Association from different parts of India attended. The Maharaja of Jeypore, Pro-Chancellor of the Andhra University, opened the Conference and the medical exhibition was opened by Dr. B. C. Roy.

The Conference suggested that if such colleges could not be established in the provinces, departments of pharmaceutical chemistry should be attached to the existing college of art or science for giving higher training to the undergraduates and graduates in this subject.

The Conference urged the Indian Medical Council to reconsider their previous decisions and to recommend to the Government of India to recognise Patna and Andhra Universities retrospectively from 1926 and 1928 respectively.

THE PHARMACEUTICAL CONFERENCE

The following among other resolutions were adopted at the All-India Pharmaceutical Conference, held at Benares in Christmas week, under the presidency of Mr. S. N. Bal of the Indian Museum:—

That the attention of the Government of India be drawn to false and misleading advertisements about the efficacy of medicaments appearing in the papers, and the Government be requested to take steps to stop such practices by legislation in the interest of public health.

That the profession of pharmacy be recognized by the Government of India and also by the Provincial Governments as a separate entity.

That the profession of pharmacy in all its aspects be confined to properly qualified and registered pharmacists.

That a sub-committee be formed to draft out a Pharmacy Act for India for consideration of the Council of the Indian Pharmaceutical Association.

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF SCIENCES

Sir R. N. Chopra, Director of the School of Tropical Medicine, Calcutta, presiding over the annual meeting of the National Institute of Sciences, held at Benares on January 2, made an appeal for more funds and patronage for scientific and industrial research.

He put in a plea for a Federal Ministry of Public Health in India and dwelt on the organisation of public health and medical services in India and stressed the need for co-operation between the medical and public health departments. He considered that under the conditions prevailing in India at present, the State was essentially responsible for providing the necessary agencies for both preventive and curative medicine. He also considered that to meet the requirements of public health of the population, there should be a combined establishment which should form the basis of preventive, curative and constructive medicine in each village, which should be linked up with a more organised central agency. The activities of the health organisation in different provinces should be co-ordinated by a more elaborate and efficient federal or All-India organisation.

L. I. M. CONFERENCE

Dr. M. Guruswami Mudaliar, in declaring open the tenth L. I. M. Conference and Exhibition at Madras, on December 26, observed:

What we have got now of the science of Ayurveda is only a compilation of fragments picked up here and there by clear-headed and patient workers in the field. It is only part of the knowledge that was at one time prevalent. It is our duty, therefore, to see that we once more take up the task of improving knowledge from whatever source it might be.

Dr. M. A. Shakoor Sahib, member of the Governing Body of the Indian Medical School and Hospital and the Central Board of Indian Medicine, presided. Sir Mahomed Usman, President of the L. I. M. Association, in his welcome address referred to the Committee appointed by the Government, whose object was to give the students of the School of Indian Medicine a revised curriculum for the better study of the Indian systems.

INDIAN DEFENCE LOANS

Subscriptions to the 3 per cent. defence bonds for the week ending January 4, 1941, amount to Rs. 91,38,500, states a press *communiqué*.

The total amount subscribed to the interest-free defence bonds up to January 3, 1941, was Rs. 2,26,30,000, to the 3 per cent. defence bonds Rs. 35,23,22,000 (Rs. 21,78,56,000 in cash and Rs. 13,44,66,000 in conversions), and to the post office ten-year defence savings certificates Rs. 1,76,81,000.

The grand total of subscriptions to all Indian Defence Loans upto January 4, 1941, is Rs. 39,26,33,000.

LOANS TO BUILDING SOCIETIES

The Government have been advancing long-term loans to Co-operative Building Societies organised for the benefit of the poorer and middle classes in urban areas from 1923 onwards. As an emergency measure for the curtailment of expenditure during the war, the grant of loans to building societies was stopped after 31st October, 1939. The Government have now re-examined the question of the grant of State loans to co-operative building societies and decided to grant fresh loans from 1st April 1941 on a restricted scale.

GUILDER LINKED TO YEN

An exchange agreement linking the guilder with the yen has been signed by the Yokohama Specie Bank and the Java Bank.

There will be no change at present in the existing yen-guilder exchange rate, says the Domei Agency, but the agreement provides for consultation between the two parties if a change in the rate is considered necessary.

ONLY BANK IN THE WORLD FOR WOMEN

Amsterdam is the only city in the world which boasts a bank for women only. The founder of this institution, on completion of her studies at the University, decided that women would appreciate a bank run by their own sex, where they could get good advice on the handling of their financial problems.

BIHTA RAILWAY DISASTER

The evidence now available still leaves some points obscure, but it points strongly to the conclusion that the accident resulted from a combination of three factors: engine, track, and speed, observe the Government of India in their conclusion on the Bihta railway disaster, which took place on July 17, 1937.

The Government's observations are embodied in a letter to the General Manager of the East Indian Railway now released for publication. The letter was considered at a meeting of the Central Advisory Council for Railways in December last.

EARNINGS OF STATE-OWNED RAILWAYS

The total approximate gross earnings of all State-owned Railways for the period (10 days) ending 29th December, 1940, (26th period) amount to Rs. 323 lakhs.

This is (a) Rs. 24 lakhs more than the approximate gross earnings for the corresponding period of the previous year, or, (b) Rs. 17 lakhs more than the actuals for the corresponding period of 1939-40.

The total approximate gross earnings from 1st April to 20th December, 1940, amount to Rs. 76'10 crores. This is Rs. 821 lakhs more than the actuals for the previous year.

A TOY TRAIN

A toy train carrying H. H. the Gaekwar's children from the palace to the school is a new addition to the palace luxuries.

In all costing Rs. 60,000, the train consisting of two bogie carriages, 3 feet by 12 feet long each, is propelled by a miniature steam engine barely 4 feet high.

It was specially made to order to carry the two baby princes and four young princesses with companions from Laxmi Vilas Palace to Motibag Princes' School within the palace compound itself.

CLOSURE OF BRANCH LINES

It is notified that the Government of India (Railway Board) have now decided to defer the closing of the Vasad-Kanthana and Boriavi-Vadval branch lines of the B. B. and C. I. Railway until further orders.

THYAGARAJA'S LYRICS

Thyagaraja brought Carnatic music from its Kirtana or recitative stage to Kriti or lyrical stage, observed a critic of South Indian Music, on the occasion of the Thyagaraja celebrations in Madras.

Parandara Das, Rama Das, Arunachala Kavi, Papanasa Mudaliar, Svati Tirunal, Vedanyakam Pillai and Gopalakrishna Bharati had all been revelling in Kirtanas.

As time went on, the recitative music fell into two divisions: Krittas and Kirtanas. A remingling of these two divisions marked a distinct epoch in the history of the Carnatic music; and Arunachala Kavi's 'Ramanatakam' consisting as it did Krittas and Kirtanas fully represented that epoch. It was published in 1772 when Thyagaraja was a boy of 13 years.

Side by side with this development, the composition of Varnas, Ragamalikas, Svaragits and so forth was in its fullest swing, and those new types marked the first struggle between the two styles of music. The development of Sangathis was the special feature of Krittas; the control of Tala, of Kirtanas and Svara-Vingas of Varnas.

Thyagaraja happily blended all these three features in his Kritis and presented to the music-world an entirely new and fascinating species of composition.

SCHEME FOR COMPULSORY MUSIC

A scheme costing Rs. 15,000 annually for the introduction of compulsory music in all primary and secondary schools in the Province, the establishment of a small Radio Station until such time as Sind is placed on the plan of the All-India Radio for a regular station and the provision of radio sets in selected villages for popularising music, is embodied in the report of the Special Committee appointed by the Sind Government last year. The scheme suggests the appointment of provincial and district boards to run academies to train 2,889 teachers for the scheme.

DIRECTOR OF INDIAN MUSIC

It is understood that the All-India Radio are likely to appoint a Dutchman as Director of Indian Music.

INDIAN HOCKEY IN MALAYA

Indian Army Units stationed in Malaya continue to find time for sport in spite of the demands of rigorous military training programmes. Both in team games and individual performances, Indian Army sportsmen have gained successes.

Although only some of the Indian units such as those in camp at the naval base have sufficient space for sports fields close to barracks, officers and men have shown considerable ingenuity in improvising grounds out of disused waste land and in finding games to suit available space.

The Indian Army in Malaya has certainly set a new standard in Malayan hockey—a game which has hitherto been allocated only a comparatively short season in Malaya's sports calendar. Hockey has, perhaps, been a little neglected there in the past, but that is not likely now that the Indian troops are in the country eager for games with local teams.

TENNIS RANKING

Ghaus Mahomed again leads the ranking list issued by the Ranking Committee of the All-India Lawn Tennis Association for the season 1939-40.

The Committee have ranked a few players separately (Class A). These are judged to have had performances of approximately equal merit as those officially ranked.

Following is the official ranking list:—

Men. —Ghaus Mahomed 1; Ittikhar Ahmed 2; Yudishter Singh 3; S. L. R. Sawhney 4.
Class "A". —E. V. Bobb, Prem Pandhi, D. N. Kapoor, Sohan Lal and Kashu Sen.
Women. —Miss Leila Row 1; Miss L. Woodbridge 2.

Class "A". —Mrs. C. Cargin, Miss Hadi, Miss Dubash, Mrs. C. V. N. Sastri, and Mrs. C. Massey.

The Ranking Committee consisted of Messrs. M. Sleem, Kunwar Jasbir Singh, J. Charanjiva, E. V. Bobb and L. Brooke Edwards.

SAVUR: MADRAS' LEADING PLAYER

Y. R. Savur has been placed first in the ranking list issued by the Madras Provincial Lawn Tennis Association.

Women players could not be ranked owing to insufficient data.

INDIAN ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

The Indian Academy of Sciences, Bangalore, was started in 1934, with a view to holding regular meetings for reading and discussion of original scientific contributions and for arranging symposia on subjects of special interest. In addition, the Academy provides in its Proceedings a valuable agency for the publication of papers without delay: these are issued every month in two parts: 1. Physical and Mathematical Series, and 2. Biological Series.

Inaugurating the Sixth Session of the Indian Academy of Sciences in the Andhra University premises, Waltair, on December 27, the Maharaja of Jeypore, Pro-Chancellor of the Andhra University, said:

We are now passing through very troublous times and the whole world looks to you scientific men, not only for guidance and advice but also for securing the necessary scientific appliances which form the basis of a sound national defence.

Apart from this great responsibility, which the scientists have to shoulder and have been shouldering in war time, their normal activities consist of a search for truth and a study of nature. I know that modern science has been very successful in this direction and many amenities of our daily life to-day, which go a long way to make it comfortable and enjoyable, have been the by-products of such a devoted study.

There was a large gathering including some medicos and scientists.

Sir C. V. Raman, in his presidential address, thanked the authorities of the Andhra University for their steady support to the Academy, and referred to the 10-year programme of research on the physics of crystals. He then spoke for nearly an hour on the "new crystal optics". The lecture was illustrated by lantern slides.

SYNTHETIC RUBBER

In Germany and Russia, the aim of research for artificially producing rubber has been to duplicate, or nearly duplicate, the properties of natural rubber; in the United States, on the other hand, the apparent objective has been to produce a product superior to natural rubber in some respect so as to justify in a free market the higher cost, which is in most cases at least three or four times that of natural rubber.

THE GREAT DICTATOR

"To me the funniest thing in the world can be the ridicule of phonies and stuffed shirts in high places. The bigger the phony you have to work on, the better chance you have to work on, the better chance you have for a funny picture and it would be difficult to find another phony as big as Hitler. He is the best target in the world for satire and ridicule, that's why I enjoyed making *The Great Dictator*," writes Charles Chaplin in the American magazine, *Look*. He continues:

Some people have suggested that I made the picture for propaganda purposes. This is far from the truth. I am not interested in propaganda as such; most propaganda is didactic and dull. I made *The Great Dictator* because I hate dictators and because I want people to laugh.

If I had any motive in making the movie other than the desire to provide entertainment, I would not call it propaganda.

I am not in politics; I am not particularly impressed with the systems of politics, but I do think I am a humanitarian, as every one who follows the artistic professions believes himself to be.

I don't like the idea of an individual or, a system kicking around a lot of small helpless people.

CURRENT HISTORY IN FILMS

Bringing current history to the screen is the newest trend in Hollywood. Problems, which were taboo not so many months ago, are now being brought out into the open. A case in point is that of Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer's "The Mortal Story", a dramatic story of Nazi Germany based on the novel Phyllis Bottome. The picture is a forthcoming attraction at the Metro-Cinema. The cast is headed by Margaret Sullavan, James Stewart, Robert Young, and Frank Morgan. Frank Borgage is the director. The film pictures Germany directly after Hitler was appointed Chancellor in the turbulent winter of 1933. The story itself deals with a family and its complete disintegration under the laws put forth in the new regime.

PETROL RATIONING CONFERENCE

The Petrol Rationing Conference which met in Delhi, was attended by representatives of the Central Government, the Provincial Governments, the Indian States, the various Automobile Associations and the Indian Roads and Transport Development Association. The problems connected with the introduction of a rationing scheme in India were thoroughly examined and conclusions were reached, which will enable the Government of India to undertake the preparation of a formal scheme. The scheme, we are told, is to be worked out in detail and kept in readiness for introduction should an actual emergency arise.

COMBINE BIG MOTOR CAR

A partnership between big American motor car corporations and aviation industry producing planes for national defence has been formed. The aviation chief of the National Defence Commission, Dr. George Mead, told newspapermen that in this connexion, Ford, General Motors and the Chrysler Company would construct aeroplane parts in their assembly rooms for twelve hundred planes each. Ford is also going to manufacture parts for bombers being constructed by the Douglas and Consolidated Aircraft Companies, while Chrysler would build parts for Martin bombers, and General Motors for North-American aviation machines. "I believe I have found a solution for production of military planes in these three great automobile corporations," stated Dr. Mead.

TEA CARS FOR INDIAN TROOPS

A fleet of tea cars, which are used for the distribution of free tea amongst Indian troops, have been constructed by the Indian Tea Market Expansion Board. These mobile tea canteens operate independently but in full co-operation with the activities of the Committee of the Amenities for Troops Fund. The Indian Tea Market Expansion Board's present plan of work for the benefit of Indian troops is to distribute tea to isolated bodies of troops, or recruit training camps not possessing adequate canteen arrangements as in the established cantonments.

MANUFACTURE OF AIRCRAFT IN INDIA

It is understood that the Government of India will place an order for 50 aeroplanes with a new Company for aircraft manufacture to be established in Mysore State.

It appears that the Mysore State will subscribe half the capital and nominate their directors, while the other half of the capital will be found by Mr. Walchand Hirachand and his two partners.

The Company will be floated in Mysore shortly. The initial capital required will not exceed 60 or 70 lakhs, because about two and a half crores would be paid in advance by the Government as the price of their first order. Representatives of an American firm have signed a contract with the Government. Ship-building yard would require another three-fourths of a crore and had been found. Trouble lies with automobile manufacture and it will cost about two and a half crores. The scheme prepared by Mr. Walchand Hirachand for the manufacture of automobiles has not been accepted by Government.

Regarding aeroplanes in the first year, parts imported would be assembled and the manufacture of parts and engines would follow.

PLANES AND COAL GAS

The Italian Air Force is experimenting with coal gas as a driving power for aeroplanes. The Stefani Agency says that the experiments are being carried out at an aerodrome near Milan.

The Breda Plane, fitted with an 85 horse-power motor, was adopted for the use of coal gas, and the Agency states that it took off easily and rose to a height of 150 feet.

AIR LINE BETWEEN INDIA AND CHINA

A direct airline between India and China is planned for the near future. A subsidiary of the Pan-American Airway, the Sino-American National Aviation Corporation, is expected to operate the new service. A Douglas air-liner owned by the Corporation will shortly make a survey flight. The airline will be inaugurated as soon as maintenance arrangements have been completed.

SOAP-MAKERS' CONFERENCE

The Eighth Annual Conference of the Indian soap makers, held in the hall of the Benares Hindu University on January 3, under the presidentship of Dr. Sir S. S. Bhatnagar, Director of the Board of Scientific and Industrial Research, passed resolutions urging on the Department of Supply to send all inquiries for soap and allied products to the Indian Soap Makers' Association for circulation to the constituent members, urging the Government to protect the Indian caustic soda industry against unfair competition and urging on the Agricultural Marketing Department of the Government of India to take up the matter of rendering tallow and to grade it properly for industrial purposes and requesting the Imperial Council of Agricultural Research to co-operate with the All-India Soap Makers' Association in collecting statistics of the existing essential oil-bearing plants and growing them on suitable soils.

INDIA AND WAR INDUSTRIES

"There will be a wide scope for India to establish and develop heavy industries for manufacturing aircraft and armaments and building ships. If this opportunity is not availed of, I fear there will be formidable opposition from other countries which are ahead of us and it may be too late for India to keep pace with them," observed Dewan Bahadur U. S. Rathnasabapathi Mudaliar, President, Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce, in a recent interview in Madras.

Mr. Mudaliar said that the reports of the two main Committees and Sub-Committees of the Eastern Group Conference had been submitted. "Without disclosing any secret I may say that the reports indicate the quantities of cotton textiles, wool, leather, timber, etc., that are being manufactured by various countries of the Eastern Group at present."

MANUFACTURE OF WAR MATERIALS

The Minister of Labour, Industry and Commerce, who attended the Eastern Group Conference at Delhi recently, has called a conference of representatives of all the engineering interests in Ceylon, both private and Government, to consider proposals for the manufacture of war materials in Ceylon, says the *Ceylon Daily News*.

RELIEF TO GROUNDNUT GROWERS

An arrangement between the Government of India and the Ministry of Food in England, to relieve the distress of Indian groundnut cultivators by creating a Fund for their benefit from the proceeds of a rebate of 25s. per ton from South Indian shipments, and of 15s. per ton from Bombay shipments, was referred to by the President, Southern India Chamber of Commerce, in his presidential address to a conference of groundnut interests in Madras.

The President said that the Food Ministry was now the sole buyer of groundnut in the market. The fixing of a maximum limit of £10 per ton in September last enabled the groundnut price to be maintained at a reasonable level for some time, but the Ministry did not continue the purchases. As a result the price, which before the fall of France stood at about Rs. 36 per candy, had now dropped to Rs. 20 at the ports. After meeting the railway freight, handling charges and other expenses, the President said that the cultivators got very little out of this Rs. 20.

He was glad that the plight of the groundnut trade had received the prompt attention of the Government, and discussions were now proceeding with His Majesty's Government.

TOBACCO CULTIVATION IN U. P.

The U. P. Government have sanctioned the scheme for the cultivation of tobacco on the Government farm at Bharari in Bundelkhand. The scheme has been under consideration since the British Government's decision to stop buying tobacco from America. It is stated that the four years' experience in growing Virginia tobacco by the Government Farm at Bharari has shown that the scheme will prove a success in Bundelkhand which is comparatively free from severe frost and thereby offers favourable conditions.

It is proposed that co-operative societies should organize tobacco cultivation on about 300 acres of land and that about 100 acres should be grown on the Agricultural Department farm at Bharari. The whole of the crop will be cured by the Department and sold to the Indian Leaf Tobacco Company Ltd., which is to assist the scheme with advice.

LABOUR LEGISLATION

The Hon. Sir Ramaswami Mudaliar, Commerce and Labour Member, Government of India, met the representatives of the Employers' Federation of India and the All-India Organization of Industrial Employers at a conference at Calcutta in the first week of January and discussed with them for nearly two hours certain labour legislations proposed to be introduced in the Central Assembly. These include the proposed amendment of the Trade Disputes Act, holidays with pay, the extension of legislation to labour employed in commercial establishments and the extension of maternity benefits to women employed in coal mines.

The Conference also discussed the question of bringing A. R. P. experts from England, in order to impart A. R. P. training to the working class in the country.

SCHEME FOR TRAINING TECHNICIANS

It is understood that sanction has already been accorded to start training in the following institutions under the scheme initiated by the Labour Department of the Government of India:

The Engineering Colleges at Guindy, Poona, Sibpur, Benares, Lahore, Aligarh, Bangalore, Patna, Jodhpur, Ballygunj, the Engineering Schools at Dacca, Lucknow, Gorakhpur, Lahore, Jamshedpur, Surat, Hyderabad, Cuttack, Burdwan, Balasore, Dayalbagh, Agra, Akola, the Victoria Technical Institute at Bombay and certain railway workshops at Lillooah, Kancharapara and Kharagpur.

When the scheme for training 15,000 apprentices gets into full swing, there will be many more than 30 institutions.

WAR ALLOWANCE TO WORKERS

All the workers of the Tata Iron and Steel Company, Jamshedpur, drawing below Rs. 125 per month will be granted a war time dearness allowance from August 1, 1940, according to the terms of a settlement between the Company and Tata Workers' Union.

The settlement was the result of the work of a Board of Conciliation appointed by the Government, of which Sir Khaja Mohammed Noor was the President.

INDIAN POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS

The Posts and Telegraphs Department earned a surplus of over Rs. 89,59,000 during the year 1939-40. This is the largest surplus since the accounts of this Department were placed on a commercial basis in 1925-26, and has been almost entirely due to the unprecedented increase in postal, telegraph and telephone traffic due to the war, states Sir Gurunath Bewoor, Director-General, in his annual report for 1939-40.

The Department's revenue shows an increase of Rs. 80,92,000, the total being Rs. 12,18,52,000 as compared with Rs. 11,67,60,000 in the previous year. This increase is made up of increases in revenue of about Rs. 19,00,000 under "Post Office", about Rs. 10,00,000 under "Telegraphs", about Rs. 21,00,000 under "Telephones", and about Rs. 1,00,000 under "Radio", i.e., Wireless Telegraphs.

THE THEOSOPHICAL CONVENTION

The 65th Annual International Convention of the Theosophical Society was opened in the Theosophical Society, Benares, on December 26, by the President, Dr. G. S. Arundale, who delivered a speech giving an account of Theosophical activities in different parts of the world. Prominent Theosophists including Mr. C. Jinarajadasa and Dr. Bhagwan Das, a large number of delegates from various parts of India and also a number of non-Indian Theosophists attended. The Indian section of the Society is celebrating its Diamond Jubilee.

TRAINING OF INDIAN ARMY OFFICERS

The first batch of 83 cadets will emerge from the Mhow Officers' Training School on February 15, on completion of their training. Qualified candidates will be given commission and sent to the different regiments.

The *United Press* learns that a further batch of cadets has been sent to the school for training from January 6.

It is understood that the enrolment to the regular Indian Army has exceeded the figure of 100,000 referred to in the Commander-in-Chief's broadcast speech on May 31.

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Repatriation of India's Sterling Debts

BY MR. K. J. CLEETUS

THE financial operations announced simultaneously by His Majesty's Government and the Government of India involving the repatriation of India's sterling loans of the face value of nearly £90 million is an event of great importance. Before we proceed to examine these operations, it is necessary to remove the misapprehensions that appear to exist in certain quarters regarding the exact nature and implications of this transaction. These operations have been described by some people as Debt Redemption. Debt Repatriation would be more correct. They will not have the effect of redeeming or reducing India's total debts. All that has been done is to repatriate a part of it—to substitute part of India's sterling liabilities to non-residents into rupee liabilities to residents in India. But there is no reduction in the total money owed. As a matter of fact these operations are in the nature of repatriation and conversion. Not only are our foreign obligations in sterling being turned into internal debts in rupees, but they are also being converted from higher to lower-priced stock. As against 4 per cent. and 5 per cent. sterling stock, the Government propose issuing rupee securities in India at 3 per cent.

India's efforts at the repatriation of her debts have a history. This question has been engaging the attention of the Government for the last three years, although the enthusiasm they displayed was not very striking. A beginning was made in 1937; but it had to be temporarily discontinued. Some time later the Reserve Bank was authorized to resume purchase of India's non-terminable sterling securities in the open market. These were subsequently cancelled and in their place fresh rupee paper was issued in India. Later on, a further method of repatriation was adopted, by which holders of sterling loans were given the option to transfer their holdings into rupee loans. These operations, unfortunately, never had the appearance of a whole-hearted national financial policy and the results were exceedingly disappointing. Up to the end of the financial year 1939-40, the total amount of sterling securities so repatriated did not exceed £9 million. Subsequent figures will be available to us only in the next budget.

The general feeling in the country about the present efforts of the Government to repatriate our foreign obligations is one of approval and gratification. We are afraid, however, that neither Britain

nor the Government of India can take much credit for it in view of the circumstances. From all indications it would appear as if repatriation was forced upon the authorities. Although these transactions have the effect of repatriating India's sterling securities, they are really a method whereby Britain is paying India for her immense purchases of War materials. In normal times there are several methods open to a country for the payment of purchases from other countries; but under the existing conditions most of them are unavailable to Britain. You cannot expect her to pay India in gold. All her gold is practically mortgaged to the United States. She could pay India in silver purchased from America as she did immediately after the last war, but it would have raised a storm of protest in India. She dare not perpetrate the silver hoax a second time on India. Besides it would have looked rather odd to saddle India with more silver, while all these years she has been relieving herself of surplus stock of silver. There is still the alternative of a loan open to Britain, but it is exceedingly unlikely that she will yet ask India to lend her money. Therefore, it would seem that making payment by handing over these securities to India was, perhaps, the only method open to her. This method has also the additional advantage of releasing a large sum of money for investment in British loans for the financing of the War. Without in any way belittling the significance or the importance of the repatriation of our sterling obligations, we must say that Britain was merely making payment to India for her war purchases by the only straight method open to her at present.

We will now inquire into how the Government of India came to acquire such large sterling balances. After the outbreak of the War, India's balance of trade began to improve, not so much on account of any spectacular increase in the volume of India's exports (in fact all evidence points to an actual shrinkage in the volume of trade) as in the steep rise in the value of some items and in consequence of the drastic reduction in imports. With the repayment of sterling debts, which the Government had been effecting for some time past, their sterling requirements have also been diminishing year by year. The special circumstances created by the War led to a further reduction in the amount of sterling required. The Government of India have been making immense purchases in India on behalf of His Majesty's Government and making payment for them. The British Government paid an equivalent amount of sterling into the Government of India's accounts in London. There are also sterling receipts on account of recoveries from British Government for their share of War expenditure incurred by India, as well as for their contribution towards the expenditure on defence modernisation in accordance with the Chatfield Committee's Report. Sales of India's surplus silver through London have also added to India's sterling balances. All these transactions resulted in a considerable reduction in the net sterling requirements of the Government of India from an average of £38 million in previous years to about £10½ million in the current year.

India's favourable balance in the meanwhile was accumulating in London. The following purchases of sterling

by the Reserve Bank of India illustrate it :—

1937-38	..	£ 25.1 million
1938-39	..	£ 25.5 million
1939-40	..	£ 72.6 million
April 1940 to December 1940	..	£ 41.7 million

Most of these balances were lying invested in British treasury bills. Simultaneously the Balances Held Abroad in the Banking Department of the Reserve Bank have grown from about £12 million in January, 1940, to £54.4 million in December, 1940. It is these huge acquisitions of sterling that have enabled the Reserve Bank to put considerable amounts at the disposal of the Government of India for the repatriation of sterling debts.

The scheme has certain decided advantages for Britain; in fact, the theory that it is these advantages that prompted our Government to embark upon this scheme of repatriation is widely held in India. The Reserve Bank's immense holdings in British Treasury Bills had all the weaknesses and dangers of "refugee funds" and it is not altogether unfair to assume that the British Government's anxiety to convert these short-term obligations to long-term loans was a factor that exerted probably a decisive influence upon the Government of India's policy.

In the *communiqué* issued by the authorities, both here and in England, there is a vague suggestion of generosity on the part of Britain and the British investors. We are certainly glad to have the opportunity of repatriating a part of our sterling debts. The British Government should be even more grateful for the important part these Indian funds have played in the money market in London. The prices of these securities have been worked up to high levels by the Reserve

Bank's purchases in the open market. And if the securities are of the high-priced variety, their redemption price is, perhaps, even higher—high enough at any rate to satisfy the calculating conscience of even the British investor. The generosity of a debtor—the Government of India—that works up the price of a debt that he intends to redeem, is entitled to some recognition from Britain, although the Indian taxpayer may have different feelings on the subject.

The most important aspect of these operations still remains to be examined. What are their effects? The most obvious effect is the saving in interest charges. Four out of the six loans earmarked for payment carry a very high rate of interest, i.e., 4 per cent. and 5 per cent. They will now be converted into rupee securities at 3 per cent. Sterling funds that have hitherto earned a low rate of interest in the short-term market are being utilised to redeem long-term debts carrying a higher rate. India will hereafter be paying approximately £1½ million less by way of interest on her public debt.

These transactions will also have the effect of curtailing the sterling remittance programme and to that extent free the Government of India from a source of considerable financial embarrassment. India's foreign obligations have always been a sinister influence, not only upon the Government of India's financial policy but, not infrequently, also upon her currency and exchange. Reduction in the volume of these obligations, it is hoped, will also diminish the intensity of this influence, which India has always viewed with deep distrust.

The repatriation of India's sterling debts will, to some extent, also loosen the

irksome financial ties that hold India bound to Britain. It is a small step, perhaps, that has been taken; but it is a very important and significant step in the direction of India's financial and economic independence. In the last war we had a similar opportunity like the United States, but we squandered it. Instead of buying back our sterling debts, our Government and their advisers bought useless silver at absurd prices. On the other hand, the United States bought back her obligations, wiped out a big slice of her foreign debts and became England's creditor. This time the process is being continued and completed. Britain has delivered to the United States nearly all her investments in North America and probably also in South America. Even these colossal sums will not be sufficient to pay for the gigantic British purchases from America. Britain will shortly begin to borrow directly from the United States. A similar opportunity is presented in this country also if we would only utilise it to regain economic independence. India should be vigilant and see that this great opportunity is not frittered away.

Within India, these transactions will result in the development of a bigger gilt-edged market, will increase the activity in our money market and enlarge opportunities for investment. The sale of the new rupee securities in place of the repatriated sterling loans would involve immediately some contraction of currency. But after they are issued, these new securities will themselves become the basis of an extended credit structure. In the long run, they may also produce some inflationary effect, which it will be necessary to watch closely and keep under control.

The Government of India have taken a great step in the right direction, but their efforts should not slacken nor should their aim be deflected. The policy of repatriation of our entire foreign obligations, as far as possible, should be a prominent feature of India's war time financial policy. The remaining sterling debts of the Government of India are fairly low-priced and are mostly of the non-terminal variety. This is not the most opportune time to buy them back in the open market. Their prices have been unduly inflated in the expectation of being bought up. For the present they may be left alone. Instead, our attention should be devoted to the repatriation of our commercial obligations—British investments in sterling and rupee companies operating in India. The strangle-hold of some of these concerns, and the pressure they exert upon India, are well known. From the point of view of India's economic independence, the repatriation of these commercial debts is, in some ways, even more important. The Government of India should immediately list up these securities in the order of preference in which India would like to have them repatriated.

India's financial dependence upon Britain, and her immense sterling debts, have been the cause of an unnecessary amount of irritation and misunderstanding between the two countries. Let us hope that the liquidation of these obligations will slowly help to replace the unpleasant relationship between debtor and creditor by happier and more enduring ties. If the repatriation of these loans will help to re-establish friendly relationship between the two countries, Britain will not have surrendered these securities in vain.

Russian Foreign Policy in the West

BY PROF. JAYANT P. SHAH, B.A. (HONS.), (OXON), (BOMBAY)

WE would have expected that with the end of the Czarist regime, Russia would have followed the practice of open diplomacy. Unfortunately that is not the case and the trends of recent events amply prove it. I am making an effort below, to state the popular interpretation first and then to show that complete antithesis of the same would bring us nearer the correct interpretation.

The popular conception of the Russian Foreign Policy can be summed up as follows:—

1. That Russia sincerely believed in the institution of the League of Nations and that it adhered to its policy from 1918 to 1937.

2. When the Western Powers, however, did not help Czechoslovakia at the time of the Sudetan Crisis, it lost its faith and entered into a non-Aggression Pact with Germany.

3. That Hitler took the initiative and induced Stalin to make this Pact.

4. That the visit of M. Molotov was undertaken to further develop the friendship established by this Pact.

5. That the Russo-German Pact signed the other day is beneficial to Germany.

I will now make an effort by taking each one of these points in turn, to show that just the opposite is the case.

1. I will not deal with this point in details as it belongs to the pre-War period. In all fairness I am sure it will be admitted by all, that opinions were divided as to the real part Russia was playing in the League.

2. It is true that Russia was completely ignored at the time of the Sudetan Crisis. But are we seriously to believe that just to change the centre of diplomatic activity from London to Moscow that Stalin entered into this Pact? That this cannot be the case will be seen from my answer to the next point.

3. I maintain that it was Stalin who not only took the initiative but was largely responsible in bringing about this Pact. I believe that Stalin must have got the idea of making this Pact on the

very day he read his copy of the Mein Kampf. Hitler had clearly stated in it his firm intention of incorporating Ukraine within the German Reich. It was essential for Stalin to check Hitler.

The obvious solution for Stalin was to fight out the issue with Hitler when the time came. However, his army is no match for the Germans. He, therefore, resorted to propaganda to make the world believe that his was the invincible army. It is incredible how seriously we took this bluff and how lightly it was taken by its neighbours. When I was in Finland, I was assured that we had exaggerated notion of the Russian strength and the Finns have shown that they were right.

After this bluff, something concrete had to be done. He decided to make his move with reference to Germany. He adopted a double dealing plan. The German nation was poor and anything which was said in favour of the proletariats would appeal to it. Taking advantage of this, he successfully carried out his fifth column activity. It is a well known fact that in Germany, the army not only takes interest in politics but sometimes even interferes and attempts to seize the political power. Relying on this, Stalin succeeded in winning some army chiefs to his side. He then betrayed them to gain his own aim. It is Stalin who gave the name of these army officers to Hitler, who, in his blood purge in 1936, disposed them off. Thereby, Stalin gained Hitler's favour.

At the same time his propaganda with the masses had achieved astonishing results. I can say boldly that had they not met with reverses, they would have made a determined effort to throw off the Nazi yoke in 1937. I may be permitted to mention my own experience. At no time did my trip to Germany gave me such a true picture of that country as it did in 1936. Some personal work had necessitated my going to a certain town in Germany. I expected my money to come from England at a particular time, but due to my friend having gone out of London, it did not come for a week and I was stranded. I was staying in a first class hotel, but as it is the

custom with majority of hotels in Germany, we had to pay in cash at the dinner table. So though I was staying in a first class hotel, I had no money left for my food. I went every day to the post office and on the second day I frankly told the man at the counter that my money must have come and that if they have not, they should immediately make proper investigations as I am stranded and have no money to buy even my food. He promised to send me my money as soon as it came.

However when I was walking in the street, all depressed and not knowing what to do, suddenly some one tapped me at my back and to my surprise I found that he was the very person I had talked with at the post office. He sympathised with me and invited me to his house for dinner. Our conversation slowly developed and against his wife's desire at first, he intimated to me that he was not a believer in Hitler and that he was a communist. He told me that there was a meeting of the communists and he invited me to accompany him. At first I hesitated but he told me that there was nothing to be afraid of. He explained to me that along with the ordinary post they distributed letters to the members giving place and time of the meetings. I agreed. It was to my surprise a meeting, not only of the communists but of the democrats as well. My friend explained to me that both the communists and the democrats were united together in throwing off the Nazi yoke. With the introduction I got from him, I visited not less than seven cities in Germany and found the same underground activity.

Hitler had, therefore, no alternative. Either he had to admit friendship with Stalin or to face the revolution at home. Hitler, having seen this activity and the attitude of his army chiefs, acted and acted very quickly. He first of all did away with his army chiefs. His second move was to compromise with those who wanted the Russian alliance. The old veteran General Ludendorff had advocated this alliance in almost all his books. Hitler had fallen out with him, but now he went to him and compromised with him.

Having thus been successful in winning over Hitler by offering his own army chiefs for slaughter, Stalin now began to fortify his position. Taking advantage both of his friendship and specially of the situation, he soon engulfed half of Poland, the three Baltic States and the eastern portion of Rumania.

He had now only to see that Hitler was kept engaged in the West and that he was engaged there till he was completely overpowered by his enemies in the West. Stalin knows, as any one would, that if England is defeated he would be the next victim. He must, therefore, be one who is most desirous of British victory. He would not, therefore, have helped Germany with food-stuffs and raw materials by entering into a pact of the type of which he entered the other day, had he thought that there was any chance for Germany to win. This must, therefore, have been the view of Molotov, specially after his experience of the British air raid on the very day he entered Berlin. By the signing of this Pact, therefore, Stalin has accomplished two things. First of all he is feeding the common enemy both of ours and of Russia, who is rendered weak by our blows so that he may survive and be completely knocked out, not by him but by us. Secondly, he is trying to get the best possible terms for his surplus raw materials by getting machinery, which would help him in industrialising his country and also in defending it.

We must, therefore, admit that Hitler is under the powerful thumb of Stalin. He has outwitted all his contemporary dictators. But his is an opportunist politics. It is fraught with grave dangers. To us the Russo-German Pact remains as one of the darkest chapters in the history of diplomacy. With the end of the Great War came the era of open diplomacy, the institution of the League of Nations and the firm establishment of certain principles of rule of law in our international relations. All these noble things have disappeared, and in their stead base and revolting diplomatic practices of the Middle Ages have been introduced, disgracing the very profession of diplomacy.

DEMOCRACY AND LEGISLATION

BY MR. S. SRINIVASA IYENGAR

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THE new democracy in India will not be a success in every branch of its activities if it fully avails itself of the special knowledge, skill and experience of experts. And this is doubly true when it engages itself in the task of legislation which is its most frequent and important function. There was a distinct tendency when the Congress Party came into office for its leaders to assume that their overwhelming success at the polls had endowed them with something like omniscience. In the old days the lawyer members of the legislature would pay very close attention to the Bills that came up for consideration, even though their provisions were dry and raised no point of political interest. And those who were not lawyers in the legislature were willing to listen to the advice of legal experts in regard to both the form and, to a large extent, the substance of the clauses of the Bill, though on questions of policy they rightly took independent views; for a member had to persuade his fellow-members by reasoning and by appeals to expert opinion. When the new democracy came into power, it was only a question of obtaining the votes of the majority party; no great trouble had to be taken in the preparation of a case to support or attack a clause in a particular Bill. In accordance with our immemorial tradition, if an opponent who wished to criticise the Bill knew from the beginning that his criticisms and suggestions would fall on deaf ears, he started with a compromise and ended by a surrender. It was inevitable that the legal experts of the Government would not have the same decisive influence in

the new legislatures as their predecessors had. Broadly speaking in these days, you have only to draft a Bill and bespeak the support of other members who are indifferent to it, but being party men they have to support it; others accept it for fear that they would become unpopular if they did not support what the majority party sponsored. Many of them have, perhaps, not the knowledge or the training to undertake a careful study of the measure. The result is seen in the tendency of recent legislation to be slipshod, obscure, and defective. And any changes in the law made by a Bill do not always harmonise with the rest of the law on the subject. Nowhere are these features likely to cause more disastrous results than in the field of Hindu Law Reform, unless the lawyer members in each legislature take special pains to shape legislation carefully and satisfactorily.

But it has, during the last decade or so, been a most surprising experience that when able and successful lawyers enter politics or when they become prominent members of the Congress or other party in the Central Assembly or in the Provincial legislatures, they do not appear to pay sufficient expert and close attention to Bills seeking to amend rules of Hindu Law or the provisions of some enactment or initiating reforms either in administration or by way of relief to agriculture and industries and such like. When such Bills are introduced by Government, there may be a presumption that they have previously undergone some legal scrutiny. But when a private member, as is often the case, introduces a Bill in a legislature, there can be no presumption that it has received any careful professional preliminary examination. The reasons for this are obvious. Able lawyers are not in a political party in the legislature as professional lawyers,

but they are there only as politicians. All the learning, skill, and lynx-eyed vigilance, which are called into play by a brief and a fee and are usually exercised in the pursuit of their profession, are apparently not available in the consideration of any legislative measure which does not raise a first class political issue. There are no expert lawyers on the other side to watch and pounce upon one's errors due to carelessness or to insufficient preparation. And, of course, there is no judge to supervise the contest. There is no junior to do the prompting or to smile in his sleeve; and the audience is a very mixed one; in a word a legal tourney in respect of a Bill does not pay. The lawyer politician along with his lay colleagues is more concerned with making political speeches and retorts and in planning, watching and countering political manoeuvres rather than in scrutinising legislative measures whether introduced by the Government or by unofficial members. Only a direct political interest will rouse his attention and compel him to scan closely the provisions of any measure and even when he does so, he is more concerned with its purpose or limitations rather than with its detail and language. Some of the ill-drawn enactments of Provincial and Central legislatures are due to this feature. The Hindu Women's Rights to Property Act, 1937, demands special mention as it had to be amended within a year of its enactment and is again sought to be amended to remedy an injustice which was overlooked at the time though it should have been quite clear. The Madras Agriculturists' Relief Act, putting aside the changes in the law it made and the doubts as to its validity both of which were unavoidable, has needlessly given rise to a plentiful crop of litigation owing to its imperfect wording as well as to the lacunae in it.

The level of ability and knowledge of most of the members in the new legislature will naturally be far below the average standard required for an efficient and capable legislature. As things stand, no qualifications like those required for any of the professions are required for the discharge of the very high duties of a

legislator or a sharer in the government of the country. This is one of the capital defects of the existing system of representation. No reform of it is at all likely for the present.

Therefore, it is necessary that a legislature should be assisted by a small body of legal experts so as to enable it to consider and pass enactments, sound in substance and workmanlike in form. Attached to each legislature, there may be a special advisory committee consisting of five legal experts who need not be members of the legislature, to whom the Select Committee must send the Bills as revised by them for expert advice both as to their wording and arrangement. Suggestions to fill any gaps or to make the measure more workable as well as to make it fit in neatly with the rest of the law on the subject should be made by the Advisory Committee. The Select Committee should consider the suggestions and finally make their own report to the legislature. Should there be further amendments made by the Assembly or Council, they should be sent to the Advisory Committee for report before the Bill is finally passed.

Another reform that is required, is as to the form in which legislative enactments should be cast. The present method of stating the law by way of procrustean formulae or generalizations must be replaced by a narrative style of draftsmanship. The proposition of law should be easily and naturally stated instead of being compressed and tortured into obscure and unhappy formulae. The draftsman cannot exhaust all possible contingencies and some are necessarily overlooked. Lucidity and certainty are now sacrificed to a desire for an aphoristic artistry which is seldom attained. In this matter, English legislation is to-day somewhat ahead of Indian legislation, which still adheres to the older form with its ambiguities. A simple narrative style of draftsmanship intermediate between the present form and the abridged treatise method adopted in Halsbury will not only be more easily understood and applied but will enable subsequent amendments to be readily fitted in.

MANIPULATION OF CENSUS

BY MR. JATINDRA MOHAN DATTA

‘THE Census statistics are the common tools and materials of business of the Government,’ says the Encyclopaedia Britannica. If they are to fulfil their above function they must be correct. But unfortunately our census statistics are not only inaccurate, but they are often manipulated for political purpose. We shall give an example or two.

A table showing the total number of the Europeans and of the Anglo-Indians in 1931 was circulated immediately after the last Census amongst the delegates to the Round Table Conference by the Secretariat-General, St. James' Palace, London. The number of the Europeans was shown as 223,000; and that of the Anglo-Indians as 141,000. It was then the policy of the British Government to give greater weightage to the European representation in the several legislatures; hence their number was inflated. Sir Henry Gidney very pointedly drew attention to it before the Lothian Committee. The Europeans were decreasing since 1911; and the Anglo-Indians increasing; but suddenly in 1931, the Europeans increased by some 28 per cent. Their respective numbers were:—

	EUROPEANS	ANGLO-INDIANS
1911 ...	197,639	100,420
1921 ...	174,057	113,012
1931 ...	223,000	142,000

A few months afterwards an Abstract of Tables giving the main statistics of the Census of the Indian Empire of 1931 was published by the Government. In it the number of the Europeans was shown as 168,134 (117,936 males and 67,798 females); and that of the Anglo-Indians as 138,395 (71,247 males, and 67,148 females). The number of the

Europeans came down from 223,000 to 168,000—a decrease of over 25 per cent. It was less than even what it was in 1921. By that time the object has been achieved.

The Halalkhors of Bengal were Muhammadans in 1901. Sir Edward Gait, in the Bengal Census Report of 1901 describing the Muhammadan castes and tribes, says:—

In some places a third class, called *Arzal*, or ‘lowest of all’ is added. It consists of the very lowest castes, such as the Halalkhors, Lalbegi, Abdal and Bediya, with whom no other Muhammadan would associate, and who are forbidden to enter the mosque or to use the public burial ground (italics ours).

In the 1931 Census Report, they are shown as Depressed Hindus. They are the Muhammadan untouchables; and their position is worse than that of the Hindu *Panchamas*, for they are not even allowed to be buried in the public burial ground. The object of the misrepresentation is to show that the Muhammadans have no untouchables amongst them. As a result of such misrepresentation the Halalkhors have been included in the list of the Scheduled Castes under the new Government of India Act, 1935.

That there are inaccuracies, serious inaccuracies such as the interchange of the number of the Hindus and the Muhammadans in some places, in the Bengal Census Report of 1931 have been pointed out in the pages of the *Sankhya*—the Journal of the Indian Statistical Institute, Calcutta, as early as September 1937. When the Indian Census Bill was being debated on the floors of the Indian Legislative Assembly at Delhi, Dr. Pramatha Nath Banerjea, M.L.A. (Central), formerly the Minto Professor of Economics in the University of

Calcutta, referred to these inaccuracies and challenged the Government to answer them. No answer was given then; and no attempt has since then been made by the Government to justify the Census Report of 1931. One example will convince the reader that there have been exaggerations even in the number of persons. The number of Muhammadan males aged 20-25 was 9,67,000 in 1921. Ten years later, they would be in the age-category of 30-35; and the number of such men was found to be 11,47,000 in 1931 by the census authorities. Even if we assume that there have been no deaths among these 9,67,000 men during the decade 1921-1931—a very big assumption, how can they swell into 11,47,000—an increase of about 19 per cent! Immigration cannot be the cause, for even according to the Census Report itself immigration is decreasing in Bengal during the last twenty years.

Bengal is not singular in this respect. In Madras as well as in the Punjab the proportion of the Hindus has gone down at the last census. Two or three years later the Government of India invited two eminent statisticians, Dr. A. L. Bowley and D. H. Robertson to advise them on various statistical enquiries. They held sample census in Madras and in the Punjab. The results are shown below:—

	Per 1,000 persons			
	Madras		Punjab	
	Sample	Census	Sample	Census
Hindus	925	900	165	119
Sikhs			399	372
Muslims			410	456
Christians			17	14

It may be urged that the population has increased in the interval between the Census and the Sample census; hence

the change noticed. But the change is not in absolute numbers, but in the relative proportion, which fluctuates very little over such short periods. Further the change noticed, 25 per cent. in Madras and 46 per cent. in the Punjab in the case of the Hindus is too great to be explained away as due to usual errors of observation or enumeration. It will be further noticed that every community has relatively increased in the Punjab, excepting the Muhammadans. May we not legitimately infer that at the time of the last Census, the number of the Muhammadans was exaggerated?

According to the Census of 1931, there are 44 Hindus to 55 Muhammadans in Bengal. But thanks to the Communal Award, for 80 Hindu Legislators there are 120 Muhammadans in the local Assembly. This cannot be justified under any circumstances. To justify the communal representation, or mis-representation in the Legislature, the Muhammadans must be 60 per cent. of the population. And already the Muhammadan Press in Bengal, headed by the Chief Minister, Mr. Fazl-ul-Huq, is claiming that the Muhammadans will be 60 per cent. at the coming Census. All attempts of the Hindu Mahasabha to have joint enumerators—one Hindu and one Muhammadan to secure accuracy of enumeration—have failed. The Minister in charge was forced to admit the justice of the claim on the floor of the Legislative Assembly, but nothing has been done. Dr. Nalinaksha Sanyal charged the Government for having drafted to census work officers "who have in their own administrative line given evidence of communal bias" instead

of men well-versed in economics and statistics; and the Government spokesmen could not deny it. Instead of the Officers-in-charge of the Police Stations being made the Census Charge Superintendents as was done in previous censuses, presidents of the Union Boards—local village self-governing units—have been made charge superintendents this year. And two-thirds of them are Muhammadans. Although the Government of India did not so require, the Bengal Government, or rather the communally-minded Ministry is out to record the castes among the Hindus, but not among the Muhammadans. The number of castes recorded in 1921 was 102; it increased to 144 in 1931 (including 2 male Kichaks); and it is feared many more will be found or manufactured this time, to show that

the Hindus are hopelessly divided amongst themselves.

Rumours have been spared, especially in areas where the Hindus are large in numbers that the Government wants to impose either a poll tax, or to impress adults for war service abroad. No attempts are made officially to contradict them. An appeal to the Government to contradict these rumours through radio by responsible Maulvis and Pandits have not even been answered. The signs are ominous. Beware of the 1941 Census statistics; especially of the communal proportions. Already Mr. Amery speaks of 9 crores of Muhammadans in India which means an increase of about 17 per cent. in a decade. It is not the case of coming events casting their shadows before, but of the wish being the father of thought.

UDAY SHANKAR THE DANCER

BY MR. GOPAL DAS

IN the history of Indian Dancing, Uday Shankar is sure to find a permanent place, for this graceful dancer, whom the great Russian ballerina, Anna Pavlova, "discovered" over fifteen years ago at a private performance in London, has not only risen to great heights as a dancer, but has infused new life into the noble art which was being gradually done to death by cheap performers, and has restored it to its former pedestal of greatness when it was regarded as "the worship of the Divine in the form of the Divine".

To see Uday Shankar dance is a life's experience. In his poses, he looks a fresco from Ajanta brought to life. "Centuries are erased when to-day, with

his company of ardent worshippers, he reincarnates the glorious votaries of yore who fervently offered to 'Him Who Dances Worlds' their perfected attainment of a life's culture—the mystic dance and music that reconciles Time with the Timeless by the conception of phase alternations, reconstructing the orderly dance of the spheres, the perpetual movement of atoms, evolution and involution".

Shankar was born 37 years ago in a Bengali Brahmin family in the historic city of Udaipur, in Rajputana. After primary schooling at Benares, he joined the Art School at Bombay in 1917. Three years later he proceeded to London to study at the Royal College of Arts. He studied painting under Sir William Rothenstein

and graduated with distinction, winning the Spencer and George Clausen prizes.

Shankar had his first experience of the stage when he helped his father, the late Dr. Shyama Shankar, at that time a Minister in some Rajputana State, in arranging a performance in London in aid of Indian soldiers wounded in the Great War. He also helped his father in the production of two plays written by the latter.

Dancing had always exercised a great fascination over Shankar ever since he was a young boy, and during this period he often danced at private entertainments, at one of which Pavlova happened to be present. She had just returned from a tour of India and was so impressed by Indian dancing that she asked Shankar to join her company and teach her his country's great art. Sir William Rothenstein, however, refused to part with his favourite pupil who gave abundant promise of future greatness as a painter, and there was a regular tug-of-war between the lady and the knight until Dr. Shyama Shankar's intervention decided his son's future career.

Shankar arranged two Hindu ballets in which he was Pavlova's partner, and subsequently accompanied her on an extensive tour of the United States. But after some time he left the Russian danseuse, ransacked the libraries of London and Paris for books on Indian dancing, and after an intense study of art made his debut as a professional dancer in the principal cities of Europe. His success was immediate. The exquisite "gesture language" of the handsome dancer from the mysterious East, through whose eloquent body flowed a stream of free, beautiful

rhythmic movements, took his audiences by storm!

In 1929, Shankar returned to India and made his first appearance in Calcutta under the auspices of the Oriental Society of Arts. At the conclusion of the performance, Dr. Abinindranath Tagore, the great savant of Indian painting, went up to the stage and eulogised Shankar's originality, restraint and courage "which had gone to the rescue of a valued tradition that was becoming obsolete".

Shankar's stay in India was not long, for the following year, with the help of Miss Alice Boner, a Swiss Artist, who loved India and her Art, he collected a company of dancers and musicians and took them to Europe and America. Wherever he went, Shankar, who justly claimed to "dance the life of the people and our gods", was hailed as an Ambassador of Indian Culture and one of the greatest dancers of the Age.

But all his success and fame did not satisfy Shankar. As Dr. Rabindranath Tagore wrote to him:

You have earned for yourself rich praise from the connoisseurs of the Art in many different lands and yet I know that you feel it deep within your heart that the path to the realisation of your dreams stretches long before you, where new inspirations wait for you and where you must create, a limitless field, new forms of living beauty.

All his life, Shankar had been a dreamer and so far his dreams had come true. As a boy, his dream was to be a painter and a musician. That came true. Then the vision grew larger and now it was to do something substantial, permanent, for the cause of Indian dancing and music; to establish a sort of a centre where the soul of the artist would find inspiration for creative work.

That noble dream, nourished for over fifteen years, has at long last come to be realised. Thanks to generous financial aid by Dartington Hall, England, and some American friends of India and her Culture, Shankar has opened a centre at Almora, in the United Provinces, known as the Uday Shankar India Culture Centre, which will in future serve as a nucleus for the development of all Indian Art.

ELEPHANTS IN INDIAN HISTORY

BY MR. C. N. ZUTSHI

THE elephant is more closely associated with the history of India than any other animal, excepting perhaps the horse. In its domesticated form, it has served the purpose of charger in warfare and majestic member in great processions and Durbars, and rendered many other valuable services to the peoples and princes of India in times of war and peace.

The importance of elephants in Indian History dates from the Vedic Period when they were India's King-makers. They were supposed to be gifted with an unerring instinct to spot out the real scion of the royal blood. So it was that whenever a King died childless, or an heir was kidnapped, it was the royal elephant that was called upon to solve the difficulty. The royal elephant was gaily caparisoned and given a garland to put round the neck of whomsoever he chose in his rambles for the quest of a successor.



From Bernier's
Travels in the Mughal Empire

Wandering through hills and dales, the elephant would come upon a rightful ruler of his choice, and put the garland round his neck. So it was that sometimes a beggar's bowl was exchanged for the kingly crown or a peasant's sickle for the royal sceptre. In this way was the new King found in those olden days, and the courtiers who followed the royal animal

flocked to his standard and swore fealty to him. In the old paintings, Goddess Lakshmi symbolizing sovereignty is shown attended by two elephants standing on either side holding a garland of flowers in their trunks over her head.

Elephants were considered mighty symbols of royal might and grandeur in the East. In ancient times when Delhi was not built, there stood a city on the banks of the Ganges, named Hastinapur, or the city of elephants, which was once the capital of Kauravas and Pandavas. Elephants carrying armed men into battle were used as design on manuscripts in the East in mediaeval times. At the entrance of the Fort at Delhi built by the Great Mughal, there were two large elephants of stone. These two large elephants mounted by the two heroes, Jai Mal and Patta, had according to Bernier a grandeur which he could not describe because of the awe and respect that they inspired him with.

If elephants made Kings, they like true King-makers also unmade or marred many a prince or King on historic battlefields. King Porus counted very much upon his war-elephants for victory against Alexander. But when the Greeks shot their arrows at his elephants and cut off their feet with axes, they were panic stricken, and fled from the battlefield, leaving Porus defeated.

In 712 A.D., when the Arabs under Mir Kasim invaded India, a similar tragedy befell Raja Dahir. The Arabs shot their arrows of naphtha at Dahir's elephants who, turning and on account of wounds inflicted on their bodies, fled helter-skelter from the battlefield, trampling underfoot hundreds of the Raja's own men. Thus the elephants of Dahir proved his own undoing, and paved the way for the Muslim conquest of Sindh.

In the second battle of Panipat, Hemu, having defeated the right and left wings of the Mughal army, was advancing, with every prospect of success, against the centre commanded by the Uzbek Khan-Zaman when he was pierced in the eye by an arrow. His elephant fled panic stricken, and his army broke and dispersed in every direction. The elephant was captured, and the

unconscious Hemu was brought before Akbar, who fleshed his maiden sword on the dying Hindu. Thus it was by his own elephant that Hemu's victory was turned into a defeat which cost him his life, and dented his dreams of occupying the Mughal throne.

It was again the elephant that turned the victory of the Hindus into a defeat on the historic battle field of Talikota. After much tough fighting, the Bijapur and Golkanda chiefs, who led the right and left wings of the Allied armies, gave way and thought of retiring, but the Ahmadnagar Sultan, Husain Nizam Shah stood firm in the centre opposed to Rama Raja, the old king of Vijayanagar. Just then a furious elephant rushed at the litter in which Rama Raja was seated, so that his frightened bearers let him drop. He was then taken prisoner, and at once beheaded by Husain Nizam Shah. The Hindus, seeing their chief destroyed, fled in the utmost disorder from the field, and the battle was lost. Thus it was the elephant that blotted out of existence the great Hindu empire of Vijayanagar, which had lasted for more than two centuries, and assured the supremacy of Islam in the Deccan.

The annals of the Rajputs also contain many stories of victories turned into defeats on account of the elephants turning mad in the critical hour of the battle. But what may seem a very strange exception is the fact that elephants, when turned mad for physical derangement and not under a panic, do sometimes retain their sense of gratitude for favours shown to them. A remarkable instance of how an elephant kept his wits about him even when gone mad, is furnished by the history of the Portuguese in India. Linschoten described how at Goa a woman's child was saved by a mad elephant. When the mad elephant ran about the marketplace, trumpeting; smashing and killing every man he came across, he saw lying on the ground the child of the woman who had given him frequent presents of fruit and vegetables. He stopped, picked up the child tenderly with his trunk, and set it upon the counter of a shop. Thus, the child was restored to the panic-stricken mother.

The services of elephants were requisitioned on a very large scale and in

multifarious ways, both in times of war and peace in Mughal India. In those days the commander of the army was made to sit on a tall Ceylon elephant so that he could be clearly seen towering above the ranks of the army. It was the personality of the leader that inspired the army and encouraged it to vigorous endeavour. To the leader the army looked, as it did to its standard. The fortunes of many a prince were wrecked for want of thought and by a hasty action in disregarding this technique of war. Dara lost his victory by the folly he committed in getting down from his elephant; whilst his brother Aurangzeb owed his success to his elephant. In the War of Succession for the throne, when the day was going against Aurangzeb, he ordered the legs of his elephant to be chained together, to make retreat impossible. This was enough to restore the ebbing courage of the few squadrons that still stood beside him, and they fought so well that soon the balance of fortune turned in his favour. This fact reveals a curious feature of Mughal history, namely, that the elephants were the chief factors in battle, both on the winning as well as on the losing side.

Akbar was very fond of elephants, and made much use of them in his battles. He maintained an elephant corps. The elephants he used personally were called *Khasah* (special), the rest which were arranged in battle array in groups of ten, twenty or thirty, were called *halqahs* (circles). The Mansabdars were also required to maintain a certain number of elephants in addition to horses and beasts of burden. Abul Fazl states in the *Ain-i-Akbari* that the emperor put several *halqahs* in the charge of every grandee, and required him to look after them.

John Jourdain, an English traveller, who was at Agra in 1611, recorded that the Great Mughal, Jehangir, had a guard or regiment of elephants which kept watch over him and came daily to him to perform this duty, and had been trained, when beholding the monarch, at once to raise their trunks over their heads and salute him. These elephants had chains, bells, trappings, and furniture of gold and silver, and wore gorgeous coloured velvet and damask silk. They

were also decorated with flags and banners and with headplates and breastplates of gold set with rubies and emeralds. On the Emperor's birthday, each of these royal elephants bowed down before the King, making a solemn reverence. A painting in the manuscript preserved in the Bodleian Library shows two elephants, with riders standing on their back, attending the durbar of Shah Jehan.

This remarkable training of the elephants by the natives of India was not confined to the Mughal dominions only. At Goa, too, in the days, of the Portuguese, the Government elephants on New Year Days, came out in solemn procession (their bodies painted with the arms and crosses of Portugal, and each carrying on his back six trumpeters or harp-players) to salute the Viceroy, the Archbishop, and the other great officials. Not only did these elephants salute the great officials of Goa, but also they were taught to bow their heads to the great personages when they passed their houses, and also when they passed the doors of the churches.

Elephants were also used in the Mughal Period for undertaking long journeys. Of the different modes of travelling prevalent in those days, two were in special favour of royalty. The Princesses and the great ladies of the Seraglio used to ride on the back of the elephants in *mekdambars* and in the gorgeous litters hung between two elephants wearing massive bells of silver, and decked with costly trappings curiously embroidered. Describing such a pompous procession of the Seraglio, Bernier wrote:

Stretch imagination to its utmost limits, and you can imagine no exhibition more grand and imposing than when Raushan-Ara Begum, mounted on a stupendous Pegu elephant, and seated in a *mikdembar* blazing with gold and azure, is followed by five or six other elephants with *mikdembers* nearly as resplendent as her own, and filled with ladies attached to her household. These lovely and distinguished females, seated in *mikdembers*, are thus elevated above the earth, like so many superior beings borne along through the middle region of the air.

The presentation of elephants was regarded as a great royal favour, although sometimes the favour was a punishment in disguise or gilded over. When Rana

Amar Singh paid his respects to Prince Khuram, the Prince received the Rana with princely generosity, and presented him with *khilats*, an elephant, a horse, and a sword. So did Jehangir present Jagat Singh with an elephant besides rupees and *khilat*. But the presentation of a white elephant was an unprofitable and ruinous dignity conferred upon one whom the King wanted to bring to destitution. It is said that, when the King of Siam wanted to bring any of his courtiers to beggary, he presented him with a white elephant. Of course, the courtier could not refuse a present given him by the King, nor could he refuse to keep the animal; the result was that he was soon a ruined man because the elephant is an animal so hard to supply with food that he would soon eat all that an ordinary person possesses. Thus it is the elephant that has given the idiomatic phrase, a *white elephant*, to the English language, which means a gift that causes more trouble than it is worth.

It was often the delight of some of the Mughal Emperors to go round their capital, distributing gold and silver with open-handed generosity, mounted on an elephant. Jehangir himself wrote in his diary that, in the ninth year of his reign, he was presented, by his son Khuram, with the famous elephant named *Alam Goman* captured from Rana Amar Singh, and that the next day he went abroad mounted on this very elephant, to his great satisfaction, distributing gold in great quantity.

Elephants were also used in the Mughal Empire for dragging the heavy artillery, as they are even now used in some of the Indian States. The contingent, which Jehangir sent in 1608 under the command of Mahabat Khan against Rana Amar Singh, consisted of eighty pieces of artillery mounted on elephants besides thousands of fully armed horsemen and others. Describing the retinue of Aurangzeb when he journeyed to Kashmir for a change, Bernier wrote that, besides consisting of cavalry, infantry and light artillery, it had a heavy artillery of seventy pieces, mostly of brass, and that some of these cannon were so ponderous that when the road was steep

or rugged, they required the aid of elephants, in addition to the oxen, to push the carriage-wheels with their heads and trunks. These field-pieces had to travel with speed so that they might be ranged in front of the royal tent in good time to fire a volley as a signal to the troops of the king's arrival.

Elephants were used not only in wars, but also in peace as toys or playthings to satisfy the giddy pleasures of the eye. Elephant-fights were common in the Mughal Period, and the Emperors took great delight in witnessing such fights of two tuskers—fights which often ended in tragedies. Bernier, writing about these fights, said that they were attended with much cruelty. It frequently happened that some of the riders were trodden underfoot and killed on the spot. The mischief did not end with the death of the rider: it often happened that some of the spectators were knocked down and trampled upon by the elephants, or by the crowd; for the rush was so terrible that, to avoid the infuriated combatants, men and horses in confusion took to flight. Yet witnessing such fights was a favourite pastime with royalty in India in those days, as it is even now in some of the Indian States.

Akbar indulged in the delights of sport with elephants. At Kabul, he had dogs, horses, and camels; but India gave him something new to master. This something new was elephant—an animal which, for its huge size, power, intelligence and swiftness in movement for all its bulk and weight, delighted him. When a certain elephant had killed its driver and become a terror to all, Akbar would place his foot on the elephant's tusk, take his seat with a smile, and set the great beast to fight with another quarrelsome elephant. When in the middle of the fight he saw that the driver of the other elephant had lost control, he would leap from his own elephant on to the other. This and other feats of skill, courage and agility are recorded by Abul Fazl in the *Ain-e-Akbari*; and Emperor Jehangir also in his memoirs confirms his witness by later instances of his father's power to subdue the wildest and most unruly elephant to his will.

There was a Greek King named Menander who ruled over Kabul and the Punjab over two thousand years ago. He was very fond of seeing elephants rolling to death down the sides of a mountain. It was his unique delight to see these black leviathans carried to the top of a mountain and then rolled down to death from the giddy heights.

Elephants were employed as tools of torture and instruments of oppression in ancient India as well as by some of the Mughal Emperors. It was a common mode of execution in those days to have the offender trampled underfoot by an elephant. The extreme ferocity of the punishments inflicted by the Kings of Vijayanagar was one of the chief features of their administration. Besides hanging and impaling, the common kinds of punishments, there were others more fanciful: for when the King desired, he commanded a man to be thrown to the elephants, who tore him to pieces. Knox proves that similar horrors were constantly perpetrated under the Kings of Ceylon. He gives a terribly realistic drawing of the execution by an elephant in his narrative *An Historical Relation of the Island Ceylon in the East Indies*. Even so humane an emperor as Jehangir also adopted this cruel method of execution. When angry, he was capable of the most fiendish cruelty: he would have men flayed alive, impaled, torn to pieces by elephants, or otherwise tortured to death.

Even to-day elephants are making one sort of history or other, only if we care to appreciate or recognise their services and exploits. Every cinema fan knows Kala Nag who has made film history in our own times. Who does not know Susannah the elephant who has made what may well be called electioneering history in America? In the President-election campaign of 1936 in the United States, this elephant was seen touring round the country, holding a contribution box in his trunk. One day it may well be possible to train elephants to make history in one way or another in modern India.

INDIAN FILMS: A CRITICISM

BY

MR. A. RANGANATHAN

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WE are aware that in Western countries, the screen like the Radio has become a dominant force in public life and exercises a powerful influence on the minds of the people. Prominent screen stars like Garbo and Chevalier enjoy a reputation and esteem that kings and statesmen might well envy. This is due to the high level of efficiency attained in the West in the art of acting, in the technique of the films and in the nature of the stories.

In India, though our producers have of late been very active in the production of talkies, it is to be regretted that the quality of production has not kept pace with the quantity. In this connection it has to be conceded that producers of Hindi and Telugu pictures have set up a better ideal before them than the producers of our ill-fated Tamil pictures. South Indian producers owe it to themselves and to the public that they soon revise their notions of film production.

The bane of our South Indian Films has always been their inordinate songs. It might be granted that a talkie in order to retain its entertainment value must contain some song numbers. But instead of the songs being judiciously interspersed along the story, we now see the unfortunate spectacle of practically every one of the actors, from the august queen down to the humble maid, indulging in songs at every conceivable and sometimes inconceivable moment. A hero singing in thundering Attana Raga at a moment when he is about to stab his adversary

with his sword, or a woman bursting into melody before she swoons, is not only untrue to life but extremely grotesque as well.

This meaningless craze for inordinate songs must be put an end to, if South Indian pictures have to make any headway. It is a matter of common knowledge that a person is tempted to sing, whether he be a good or a bad singer only on such occasions when he feels happy. We have not seen persons singing when they are in anger or in sorrow. Hence it stands to reason that songs might be fully exploited in romantic and comic situations of a film or drama. Songs could also be employed when one is in prayer. In all other situations it would be better if proper background music is introduced into a picture. Background music has the advantage of giving the actors more opportunities for acting than singing. By the ample provision of background music, an effort is also made to transfer the taste of the people from songs to acting. It is a method by which the people's tastes are duped as it were unconsciously. This process may be necessarily slow but it appears to be worthy of trial.

As regards stories for our films, it is time that we transfer our affections from mythological plots to historical and social themes. It is true that mythological stories have their own appeal in religious-minded India. But producers, especially in South India, have worm threadbare the whole stock of Hindu mythology and

hence one feels a sense of surfeit when he comes across a Puranic story.

A serious mistake made by South India producers, which has not been sufficiently noticed by critics, is the negligible part that the author of the story plays in the production of a film. Few producers realise that it is to the advantage of the film, if the creator of the story and the characters is taken into their confidence.

There is another defect which mars our South Indian films. It is the apology of what are called love scenes. Naturalness is conspicuous by its absence in romantic situations. Declaration of lovers' affection

for each other is mechanical and unreal. In other words, their actions and utterances lack that indispensable element in acting, namely, *Bhava*. Characters must be portrayed naturally and not merely "acted".

For this purpose, able actors who will understand the spirit of the characters are essential. South India does not suffer from a dearth of good actors. It is for our producers to "discover" them, emulating the example of the North Indian producers. If our producers come into line with their brethren in the North, the day is not distant when Indian films can vie in comparison with Western films.

INDIA AS A MARITIME POWER

BY

MR. K. S. PARAMESWAR

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It is not quite true that people living by the sea must necessarily be a nation of sailors; but it is a question of physical fact that great use could be made use of the sea, which holds possibilities to an enterprising nation for economic, commercial and military purposes.

The British who are a particularly instructive example, never took to the water until the 6th century in spite of their country being surrounded by the sea on all sides.

A nation of shepherds and farmers, the Britishers turned to be excellent sailors, traders, Imperialists and industrial workers, once the crossing of the Atlantic and the discovery of new lands was achieved

mainly for the development of trade and political expansion.

As a converse to England, the Phoenicians, who in the early classical period were famous sailors, transformed themselves into a people of orange-growers and silk-worm-raisers in spite of the hard fact that the blue waters of the Mediterranean washed the shores of Lebanon and afforded plenty of scope and opportunity for a venture.

It is, therefore, altogether a wrong notion to think that the Indians in spite of having lived on the sea-shore—India has a coast line 4,500 miles long—from time immemorial are not good sailors and totally failed to utilise the peculiar and important geographical position offered them by nature.

Ancient India did really take to water and made the best possible use of the geographical position.

Ship-building was not an unknown art in ancient India, and there is ample testimony to prove that Indian merchant vessels were reaching the Persian Gulf and Red Sea in the west, and the East Indian Archipelago, Sumatra, Java and even to Central America right across the Pacific in the East.

Historical records show that in the days of yore, the Aryans colonised the East. As to the routes, the Aryans seemed to have followed both the land and the sea routes. Regarding the sea route, in particular, they seemed to have emigrated both from the eastern as well as the western coasts.

There was a regular trade intercourse, even from a very early period, between the coast of Bengal and the Far East.

In the *Mahajanaka Jataka* reference is made to voyages between Champa and Suvannabhumi. Passengers from distant inland cities like Patna and Benares travelled to the coast of Bengal by land and water and then sailed in open sea for eastern islands. Tamralipti (modern Tamluk) used to be the most important port.

Trade guilds and commercial corporations seemed to have been in existence and commercial intercourse had been maintained with the outside world by way of water.

In the South, the Tamils or the old Dravidians built their own ships.

The mighty Chola dynasty maintained an efficient fleet and the fact is borne out by reference to the destruction of the Navy

of a contemporary dynasty, the Chera dynasty, at Kandalur and the capture of Kadarum after a deadly sea-fight.

Several invasions seemed to have been made of Ceylon and Burma. The Chola dynasty who had Imperialistic leanings, carried out naval expeditions across the Bay of Bengal and annexed those regions in the East that constituted what were commonly known as Greater India.

It was during one of the Chera King's reign that the historic city of Kaveripattanam was built and was made the capital for purposes of flourishing commerce of those days and for the purpose of the defence of the sea frontier. It also became a menace to Ceylon.

It was at that time, it seems, that the city had been a great emporium of trade both inland and overseas.

That exalted intellectual power and dexterity of Shivaji, the founder of the Mahratta Empire, perceived the importance and strategy of naval power not only as an effective arm of war, but also as an instrument for the extension of oversea trade. And this, no doubt, gave an impetus for Shivaji to concentrate a precious part of his attention towards organising a fleet.

Shivaji all the more felt for a strong navy after his conquest of the Konkan, mainly to check sea raids.

It is rather interesting to study the composition of Shivaji's fleet. The fleet consisted mainly of Gallivats and Ghurabs, vessels peculiar to the Malabar coast; also many river crafts of various descriptions.

Sabhasad writes: "No less than four hundred Ghurabs, Tarandes, Tarus, Gallivats, Shibads and Pagars were built and

organised into two squadrons of 200 vessels. Each squadron was placed under the supreme command of an Admiral, Daria Sarang, a Mohammadan officer and Mai Naik, a Bhandari. The fleet was in all probability manned mainly by the Kholis and other sea-faring tribes of the Malabar coast. Nothing is known about their uniforms."

Robert Orme described them thus: "The grabs have rarely more than two masts, although some have three; those of three are about 300-tons burthen, but the others are not more than 150. They are built to draw very little water, being very broad in proportion to their length, narrowing however from the middle to the end, where instead of bows they have a prow, projecting like that of a Mediterranean galley and covered with a strong deck level with the main deck of the vessel from which, however, it is separated by a bulkhead which terminates the forecastle... On the main deck under the forecastle are mounted two pieces of cannon of nine or twelve pounders, which points forwards through the port-holes cut in the bulkhead, and fire over the prow; the cannon of the broadside are from six to nine pounders. The gallivats are large row-boats built like the grab, but of smaller dimensions, the largest rarely exceeding 70-tons; they have two masts of which the mizen is very slight... They mount six or eight pieces of cannon, from two to four pounders; they have forty or fifty stout oars and may be oared four miles an hour."

The *tarande* was a sailing vessel of large dimensions; the *shibad* was a flat-bottomed two-masted craft without any

deck and the *pagar* was only a well-smoothed canoe.

Probably some of these crafts belonged to mercantile navy. The Maharatta realised that a strong naval power without a strong mercantile navy was an impossibility, and Shivaji had a strong mercantile fleet plying between his ports and the coastal towns of Arabia.

At Malwan, which was one of the principal ports of Shivaji, there is a statue of the Maharatta hero with a peculiar Koli hat on his head.

It was too disappointing that Shivaji's navy could accomplish very little excepting some fighting in Siddi. In 1670, a large Portuguese ship was captured near Daman by the Maharatta fleet.

But under the Peshwas the navy thrived a good deal.

A regular naval department was formed with its headquarters at Vijayadurg and Bassein. The revenue of several *Mahals* was granted for the naval establishment.

The admiral (Subhedar) was the military head of the navy. The Amin who was its civil head, was generally responsible for such works as accounts, muster rolls, purchases of provision, etc..

The Maharatta fleet was generally engaged for checking piracy, collecting *Zakat* from merchantmen coming to and going from Maharatta ports and also for taking possession of wrecks within their territorial waters.

The Peshwas also maintained a strong and powerful fleet to defend the Western Coast.

It was under the Angrias that the Maharatta naval power reached its zenith independent of the Peshwas.

With the fall of the Maharatta Empire, very little could be heard of about the Indian navy and the shipping industry itself had died out gradually; and with the advent of the British power in India, India has been entirely dependent upon the British navy, there being no sufficient encouragement for the revival of the old and traditional industry.

"In the middle of the last century, there were 34,000 Indian-owned vessels with an aggregate tonnage of 1,250,000. Towards 1900, these had dwindled to a tonnage to a little over 100,000. During the war a few vessels were constructed, presumably for use in Mesopotamia; but it is safe to say that for all practical purposes there is today no India-owned shipping. The coastal shipping registered at the India ports during 1917-18 was a meagre 16,872 tons"—(From 'Reconstructing India' by Sir M. Visveswarayya.)

The unhappy spoliation wrought by the solitary German raider, the *Emden*, in Madras during the early part of the Great War, brought home to the minds of the authorities the important need for creating an Indian Navy.

But nothing was done in the way of encouraging the age old-industry of India after the war.

The present war has once again emphasised the importance of every maritime country building its own ships in its own yards and naturally the demand for reviving the art of ship-building in India. Canada has already set the ball rolling.

The demand is all the more significant due to the fact that the new Ordinance by the Governor-General requisitioning vessels

for use by the British Government for naval work might, to a certain extent, hamper India's overseas trade. Since the war, trade with Australia has considerably increased.

In the meantime, preparations are in full swing for the construction of a ship-building yard at Vizagapatam pioneered by a Bombay business magnate.

Furthermore, it is a welcome sign that the long awaited Government of India announcement to support the project of a ship-building yard at Vizagapatam removes the long standing grievance and gives a fillip to the contemplated project.

As the *Times of India* put it: "The ship-building plan is even more urgent, since the Commonwealth is losing ships at a high rate and must replenish them from every possible course.."

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N. GOPALA IYER,

Secretary.

U. F.

AIR RAIDS AND CIVIL DEFENCE

BY MR. L. M. CHITALE, F.R.I.B.A., A.M.T.P.I.

(Chartered Architect and Town Planning Consultant, Madras)

EVENTS in China, Africa and Europe have shown that modern cities are extremely vulnerable to air attack. Innocent men, women and children, the sick and the suffering have been killed and injured. Many who escaped unhurt have been rendered homeless. Buildings and structures are damaged and destroyed. Transport and communication facilities have been dislocated, and water and gas mains damaged rendering the life of the survivors difficult. In extreme cases, people have been compelled to change their mode of life and subjected to unimaginable physical and mental strain. Even the social and economic life of the nation, subjected to extensive raids, has been affected. Time alone can reveal the consequences to society and civilisation from this formidable menace. But even what little that is obvious is horrible.

Prevention, the most desirable solution, seems impracticable. Protective measures for the citizens, city structures, and essential services to resist the high explosive and incendiary bombs used become necessary. The high explosive bomb is formidable. A 500-pound bomb can penetrate the strongest of our buildings. Its blast can demolish any normal wall at 20 or 25 feet and its fragments can cause death to people even several hundred yards away. None of our buildings can stand a direct hit and near-by explosion. The incendiary bomb, though less deadly, is no less destructive. It can set an effective fire and destroy cities by spreading conflagration.

Protection to life can be ensured by bomb-resisting accommodation, by massive structures carefully designed and built.

But air raid shelters, capable of resisting direct hits of bombs, are very expensive. Unless they are capable of being used in times of peace, their erection is financially impracticable. A dual purpose shelter will solve the question of finance and economy. Modern cities, however, by their lay out require too many than is absolutely essential if our citizens should have ready access to them. To economise in the number of shelters, it is possible only if business houses and residences surround dual purpose air raid shelters. An altered lay out zoning and planning of residential suburbs become necessary to make protection possible to all. Initial outlay is, of course, a big problem, but against this we must consider what it would cost for evacuation and medical aid. No financial outlay can be considered too big when it is a question of preserving life and morale of the people.

Regarding structures, it is idle to recommend that every building should be bomb proof. But by avoiding congestion and by adopting an open lay out, we could minimise the chances of direct hits, and by careful designing and construction, the consequences of blast can be easily rectified and the edifices made fit for use. Framed structures can resist bombs better, and if each building is at least 25 feet away from its neighbour, destruction of structures by bombs would be very expensive if not almost negligible. If buildings are properly classified and if cities are zoned, and the residential area separated from the industrial, commercial and other zones, destruction by bombing would become inadvisable.

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Unless cities are planned and zoned, we cannot prevent indiscriminate bombing and casual destruction. Unless we have space around buildings we cannot reduce the effect of vibrations upon foundations, and until our roads are made wide, we cannot hope to keep them free from debris blocking them and preventing the movement of fire fighting and salvage parties.

In conclusion, it comes to this, that to resist the high explosive bomb, our buildings must be suitably designed, our roads must be wide, there must be space around each building and that different kinds of activities must be separated. It is the lack of all these which makes our cities easy prey to raiders.

The kilo incendiary bomb can be prevented from penetrating into a building by a flat reinforced concrete roof five inches thick. Fire breaks are also absolutely essential to prevent fires from spreading and confine destruction to the building actually attacked. Every building in the city must be detached from the rest, with sufficient space around, to prevent fire brands flying and spreading fire. Adequate water supply should also be ensured to every part of the city to fight the fire.

Modern methods of production and distribution of essential services are extremely vulnerable to air attack. The underground system and drainage get shattered when the high explosive bomb hits the street. Even in times of peace the supply of essential services has been found inadequate and when the stress is greater in times of war it fails and destruction and dislocation caused by bombs break the resistance of the people. Dislocation by a few bombs will be made impossible only if the sources of production

and methods of distribution are decentralised and every unit or group of houses is rendered self-sufficient and self-reliant as far as possible. A single-storeyed detached residence with a little garden is essential to obtain optimum welfare for the human species. Such a system will admirably resist air raids.

In commercial and business zones of a prosperous city, water and drainage mains, electric and telephone cables, etc., could be run below the ground in a tube subway constructed of reinforced concrete and kept about 20 feet below the surface. The top surface could be of reinforced concrete made thick enough to serve as a detonating slab and prevent bombs getting in. "Nerve centres" could be housed in buildings of special design and construction located in parks or gardens and camouflaged very well. Gardens and pastures surrounding a city can obviate "digging for victory" in times of war.

To resist air attacks, we must have bomb-proof shelters for all the people, buildings and structures that would minimise the destruction by air raids and services, the supply of which is immune to dislocation. We also require a suitable contingent of fighter aircraft, anti-aircraft guns, balloon barrages and other ground defence equipments. These are needed to force the raiders to attack the targets from a great distance and in great hurry—the two factors which render destruction very expensive. When these four features are carefully combined, we would obtain a city which can protect the citizens and resist attack from the air to such an extent that would make air raids not worth while. This would undermine the enemy's incentive to adopt air raids as his method of aggression.

How will such a city be? There will be a large central park about half a mile in diameter around which civic buildings, stately edifices, temples and the like would find location.

A green belt would surround these to separate them from the city zones lying in the surrounding area—commerce, administration, trade, banking, insurance, etc., each zone separated from the other by parks, open spaces, gardens and roads. Buildings in these zones would be framed ones and not more than six storeyed and located around garages which could be used as bomb proof shelters in emergency. A green belt of gardens and parks 500 to 1,000 yards wide would encircle this area and separate it from the surrounding residential suburbs. The residential zones would be in the form of townships and villages, self-sufficient and self-reliant in matters of water supply and drainage and lighting. Community centres, capable of conversion into bomb resisting accommodation for those residing around would form the foci of each group of residences.

Pasturage and vegetable gardens will encircle the residential belt. In this pasturage will be housed cattle and live stock catering for the dietary, transport and other needs of the city. Anti-air craft gun positions would be in this area to check the raiders. The road encircling this pasturage would help to connect the anti-air craft gun positions, and to defend the boundary better. Amunition stores, telephone exchanges, broadcasting stations, electric power houses, etc., would be housed in carefully designed structures and located in the green belt. The trees and vegetation and parks would make identification of these very difficult. Aerodromes and railway stations are large

and cannot be concealed in gardens and they, therefore, lie outside the city and away from residences. For the same reason factories are located outside the city. Tanks, ponds, wells, and bathing pools would be all over the city to provide dependable and copious supply of water for fire fighting, the decontamination and normal peace time purposes. The entire city will be surrounded by a belt of agricultural land growing cereals and pulses. And it would be superfluous to "dig for victory" in times of war.

When we critically examine the potentialities of air craft bombs, the method of air attacks, the method of destruction and damage that a city like Madras will permit and the rapidity and facility with which it can recover from air attack, it will become evident that the destruction of city structures will be very expensive, dislocation of the supply of essential services will be nearly impossible, and citizens would be absolutely safe. These may not make air attacks impossible but would make raids not worth while and inadvisable. Herein lies the chance for cities and civilisation to survive the air menace.

The expense and effort of preserving civilisation and culture in its modern abode—uncontrolled agglomeration of men and buildings—is prohibitive. Three hundred and sixty thousand pounds a day are needed for partial evacuation and A. R. P. Organisation for England, not to speak of the 16 million pounds expended every day to resist aggression mainly from the air. Is it too much to ask then to spend much less to obtain much more—permanent abodes of peace and security for man and his material culture?

INDO-CEYLON RELATIONS

THE publication of the documents relating to the recent conversations in Delhi, between the Ceylon delegation and representatives of the Indian Government throw light on the nature of the differences that persist in spite of efforts at reconciliation. It shows what the Indian delegation stood for and why the Ceylon representatives could not accept it, and how in the circumstances the best that could be done was to disperse for the present, after placing on record their respective points of view.

The Ceylon delegation's case is, that the Island cannot sustain, at any reasonable standard of living, all the Indians now resident as well as the indigenous population and that in order that the economic welfare of the Ceylonese might be ensured, Indians should be sent out, at least as many of them as the Ceylonese consider to be surplus population from their point of view. The Indian delegation was prepared to agree to concede to Ceylon the right to regulate her population so far as future immigrants are concerned, but held that Ceylon should, on her part, recognise the right of Indians already in the Island to be treated as full citizens.

There is keen regret in India, both in official and non-official circles that the conversations have failed to produce a compromise. While India is waiting in hope for another opportunity to make a fresh approach (for it would be a pity if the two historic neighbours cannot agree on a settlement), it is painful to see efforts made at the other end to frustrate all attempts. Even certain members of the Ceylon Government and delegation went out of their way to denounce the Indian attitude and attempts are made to bring in fresh legislation to counteract the effect of any settlement that may yet come into being. For, that and no other is the purport of the legislation over the question of immigration.

Press forecasts of the bills, which are expected to be introduced in the State Council on March 4, show that the immigration bill requires immigrants to possess, in addition to a passport, one of the two kinds of permits issued by the Controller of Immigration.

The action of the Ceylon Governor, Sir Andrew Caldecott, in sending his message to the State Council to refrain from such legislation is, therefore, both right and timely. The message which had been placed before the House along with other papers relating to the recent Indo-Ceylon exploratory talks

placed on contemporary record in an easily accessible form a schedule of certain matters in respect of which an undertaking had been given by His Majesty's Government and by the Government of Ceylon to the Government of India and added that having regard to the circumstances in which these undertakings had been given, the Government of Ceylon were bound by them to the Government of India, and I hold myself bound as the Governor to withhold approval, ratification or assent in respect of any act, regulation or measure to which the Government of India did not agree and the effect of which would be to deprive Indians of the benefit of any of the undertakings.

The Governor's message was the subject of an adjournment motion in the State Council. Sir Baron Jayatilaka, in moving the adjournment motion, stated that the Board of Ministers considered that the publication of the Governor's message was ill-timed and whether intended or not, was calculated to render the task of the House in dealing with the Indian question very difficult. Sir Baron declared:

One impression created by the message of the Governor was that under no circumstances could this country or the Council propose any measure which would affect Indians without the prior consent of the Government of India. That is an intolerable situation.

But support to the attitude of the Government of India representatives at the Delhi conversations and appreciation of the Governor of Ceylon's message to the State Council were the leading features of the debate in the Central Assembly in India. The people of India fully appreciate the firm and determined stand taken up by the Government of India in this matter. This was expressed in the amendment moved by Sir Raza Ali, former Agent-General to the Government of India in South Africa, who also conveyed the House's appreciation of the timely action of the Governor of Ceylon. The amendment runs:

This Assembly regrets the failure of the Indo-Ceylon conversations as revealed in verbatim report and supports the attitude adopted by the representatives of the Government of India, which faithfully represents the point of view of Indian public opinion; and while recognising the desire of the Ceylon State Council to maintain its independence of action, appreciates the message sent by the Governor of Ceylon to that body with respect to the undertakings given by His Majesty's Government and by the Government of Ceylon to the Government of India and expresses the hope that it will serve to emphasise the importance particularly under present circumstances of nothing being done by the Government and the people of Ceylon, which will endanger the good relations which should exist between the two countries whose interests are so intimately bound together.

It is some relief to note that whatever differences there may be on other questions, the Government of India are in complete accord with the people of this country so far as our nationals abroad are concerned.

Sir Girja Shankar Bajpai whose brilliant advocacy of the case for India has elicited unstinted appreciation from all parties of the House truly pointed out that it was no intrusion in the internal affairs of Ceylon to express appreciation of the statesmanlike, bold and courageous act of the Governor.

As for the future, he said: it was possible there would be some display of temper—we were not immune from it ourselves—

but he had no doubt that as time passed and Ceylon reflected upon what the Governor had said to them and we in this House had been saying, the people of that country would see that the door would be re-opened for a resumption of discussions.

As we go to Press, it is reported that two bills, one for regulating and controlling the entry of non-Ceylonese into Ceylon, and the other for registration of persons in Ceylon who do not possess Ceylon domicile or origin, have been approved by the Board of Ministers.

It is understood that the Government of India had sent a message to the Government of Ceylon, stating that the serious repercussions were likely to follow any unilateral action regarding the question of immigration which, the Government of India contended, should form part of a general settlement of all Indo-Ceylon problems.

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THE BUDGET AT A GLANCE

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SIR JEREMY RAISMAN, Finance Member, introduced the Budget for 1941-42 in the Central Assembly on February 28. This Second War Budget of India discloses a deficit of Rs. 8.42 lakhs for 1940-41 and a prospective deficit of Rs. 20.46 lakhs for 1941-42. The figures at a glance are:

REVISED ESTIMATES FOR 1940-41.

	Rs.
Revenue	.. 103.71 lakhs.
Expenditure	.. 112.13 "
Deficit	.. 8.42 "

BUDGET ESTIMATES FOR 1941-42.

	Rs.
Revenue	.. 106.39 lakhs
Expenditure	.. 126.85 "
Deficit	.. 20.46 "

Announcing this prospective deficit of Rs. 20.46 lakhs, the Finance Member proposed

to increase the rate of the excess profits tax from 50 per cent. to 66 $\frac{2}{3}$ per cent. to yield Rs. 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ crores;

to raise the central surcharge on income-tax and super-tax from 25 per cent. to 33 $\frac{1}{3}$ per cent. to yield an additional Rs. 190 lakhs. (The provinces' share of the income-tax pool is expected to reach Rs. 4.46 lakhs in 1941-42 against Rs. 3.73 lakhs this year);

to double the excise duty on matches to produce Rs. 150 lakhs;

to increase the import duty now leviable on artificial silk yarn and thread. The duty stands at 25 per cent. *ad valorem* or 3 annas per pound, whichever is higher, and he proposed to increase the alternative specific duty to 5 annas per pound to yield Rs. 36 lakhs;

to introduce a new 10 per cent. *ad valorem* excise duty on pneumatic tyres and tubes to yield Rs. 35 lakhs.

The total estimated yield of new taxation is Rs. 6.61 lakhs which brings the estimated revenue for 1941-42 to 113.00 lakhs and reduces the prospective deficit to Rs. 1.385 lakhs. The uncovered revenue deficit will be met by borrowing.

The strengthening of all arms of India's Defence Service is estimated to cost

approximately Rs. 24 crores this year and Rs. 35 crores additional expenditure next year.

The benefit to India from the recent repatriation of sterling loans, it was explained, lies in the reduction of the Government of India's external debt by about Rs. 120 crores, the decrease in sterling interest charges and an immediate gain to revenue.

Other salient features are the increase in the number of workmen employed, the provision made for the production of armoured and mechanised regiments and of army equipment in boots and saddlery thirty times the pre-war average.

The year 1941 will, we are told, witness the appearance of the first "Made in India" aeroplanes. A number of modern aircraft and connected equipment are expected from American sources. Vehicles, machine tools and other essential war requirements are now permitted to be purchased in the United States and Canada.

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INDIAN AFFAIRS

BY "AN INDIAN JOURNALIST"

Mr. Amery Again

MR. AMERY'S latest declaration that the British Government can do nothing to end the deadlock until the political parties in India come to an agreement is a confession of failure on his part to grapple with the situation. It is a repetition of the old, old story which we have heard *ad nauseam* and it is the tragedy of the situation that one in his position should have nothing better to offer.

The Minority stunt is receiving more than its due share, and Mr. Amery's "India First" has steadily given place to the demands of what he calls "the great Mahomedan community of 90 millions in India and the Indian States with their long and different history".

Mr. Amery talks of the "pretensions" of the Congress, but has apparently acquiesced in the pretensions of the League. No wonder that the insistence on "agreement between the main elements of India's national life" of which he is making so much, serves the British Government as an excuse for their unwillingness to part with power.

And yet, at the same breath, he goes on repeating that

the declaration of our policy for India is the same freedom as that which is enjoyed by the Dominions or by ourselves for that matter as equal partners in the British Commonwealth family of nations.

Such soothing syrups have long ceased to inspire faith in British professions. Let us have an ounce of practice and let us know what actual measures will be taken immediately to supplement such declarations. It will not do to pretend to ignore the forces ranged in defence of freedom and democracy in India.

England and India

Apart from appreciation of India's magnificent war effort in the shape of money and munition and men, the sum-total of Britain's interest in India seems to be confined to occasional questions and unhelpful answers in Parliament. Somehow Mr. Amery's fatuous replies seem to have a soothing effect on the self-complaisant Britisher. Even a war, and the grim necessities of the struggle, have not taught the authorities the need for conciliation. Those at the helm of affairs fight shy of making any declaration as to war aims in regard to India and the subject countries. British apathy and truculence are driving a wedge, which threatens to widen the gulf between England and India. The situation, as it is developing, is succinctly put by Mr. Edward Thompson in the *New Statesman*:

On the one side, the Government is now trying again to smash the Congress by ordinances and hundreds of arrests. On the other side, the extreme Left here believe in fairies and talk of an irresistible 'movement of the Indian masses' which will sweep aside both Fascism, Nazism and Imperialism. These people would have been excited in the time of Wat Tyler and would have been sure that next week kings and barons would all be thrown into the Thames. There is no such movement; nothing but a vast helpless poverty and misery, easily shot down or stampeded into panic, without arms, without physical strength or leadership. Meanwhile, the war has split into two halves, and its whole eastern half must be based on India, whose resources and man-power are being dragged into what is our war and not yet hers. We are being told nothing of what is happening in India except an occasional B. B. C. announcement that a Muslim League meeting in Peshawar (in the province where the League could not win a single seat) and an All-India Conference (there are many laws in India, but no law that forbids you calling yourself and your choice friends in India an All-India Conference) in Nagpur (of all places) have "unanimously" decided to support us. But Nehru is in prison—and there is no man in any land who draws the peculiarly personal affection from men and women of all creeds that he draws.

A settlement is possible on terms which provide for ordered transition to self-government when the war ends. But you cannot get that settlement because "the Left" do not care. Labour is said to have a say in national policy, but what Labour leader has said one word about India since the war began? What policy has Labour for India?

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Sir P. C. Ray

Not many words are needed to commend the appeal sponsored by Sir Nripendra Nath Sircar and issued over the signatures of so many distinguished men in the country to commemorate the eightieth birthday of Acharya Sir Profulla Chandra Ray. It would be superfluous to attempt to chronicle the manifold services that Sir Profulla has rendered to the country. As Professor of Chemistry in the Presidency College, and later as Palit Professor of Chemistry in the University College of Science, Calcutta, two generations of students have sat at his feet and received from him, not only their knowledge of chemistry but inspiration for a new life as well. He has also been associated with almost every philanthropic activity in this country and has organised large-scale relief work in times of flood and famine. Long before the birth of the Swadeshi movement, Sir Profulla was a pioneer Swadeshi industrialist; and it is fitting that the organisers of the Fund propose to use it for the promotion of scientific and industrial research in the country. We have no doubt the appeal, "made in the proud name of India's great scientist-philanthropist", will have prompt and generous response.

Subash Chandra Bose

Not only his friends and relatives but the whole Indian public has been deeply concerned over the sudden disappearance of Subash Chandra Bose from his Calcutta residence. So far no trace of his whereabouts, nor any definite reason for so baffling an action has been discovered. Subash was interned in his house and was due to take his trial for a speech

he had delivered in April and for an article in his journal. It is difficult to attribute his escape to fear of consequences; for Subash never lacked courage whatever else his failings may be. He had defied the Government, he had defied the Congress and stood their wrath with unconcern. But he was physically a broken man even before Tripuri and the vexations of failure in all his undertakings since he broke with the Congress must have told on his spirit, however robust. It is surmised that he must have gone away in quest of some religious Guru, or some quiet place far away from the madding crowd. Whatever the reason, it is an escape none the less belying his past record. It would be unfair to judge this mysterious action until we have his own explanation.

Ministerial Crisis in Sind

So long as there was trouble in Sind, Mr. Jinnah discreetly kept away as he could not do anything to restore peace in the Province. Now that the Azad Pact has secured for the Province some measure of understanding with a view to efficient government, Mr. Jinnah is out to destroy the good work. For his fulminations against the work of the Congress President mean no more than an attempt to throw mud at the good Maulana and exalt himself. But it is Sind that suffers and not Mr. Jinnah, who is asking the League members to go back upon their words.

"The three Muslim League Ministers, by violating the 'gentleman's agreement', have shown that they cannot be depended upon," declared Khan Bahadur Allah Bux, Finance Minister. Referring to Mr. Jinnah's statement that the Azad Pact was a myth, the Khan Bahadur observed that pact or no pact, the crux of the matter was that the Muslim League Ministers had violated the gentleman's agreement and, as such, made a meal of their own word of honour.

Treatment of Detenus

From his place in the Central Assembly, Sir Reginald Maxwell, Home Member of the Government of India, created a stir by his offensive and irrelevant remarks on the detenus, who are not in a position to refute his charges. Now, some of the detenus may be mistaken in their methods and misguided too, but to denounce them as traitors is a misuse of language.

The occasion was a modest request from Mr. N. M. Joshi, the nominated member, who merely asked for an enquiry into the condition of the detenus on purely humanitarian considerations. What was the surprise of the House when the Home Member worked himself into a fury and described the detenus as "not decent, honest persons deserving of sympathy". "The great majority of them," he said, "are utterly worthless persons whose life is spent in plotting the downfall of society." He denounced them as "persons capable of the worst kind of treachery" who, therefore, did not deserve the sympathy of the House. Apart from its bad taste, Sir Reginald's answer was astounding in its enormity.

Rebutting the Home Member's remarks on the character of the detenus, Mr. Joshi observed :

These remarks are not only uncalled for but unjust, unfair, undignified, and, if I may use that word with reference to a prominent member of this House, very irresponsible.

The Home Member had expressed the hope that the mover had no friends among the detenus. Said Mr. Joshi:

I must disappoint him. I have a number of friends among them. Not only that; I am proud of these friends, as proud of them as I would be of having the Home Member as a friend. There are young men among them of whom any father would be proud.

He gave the instance of a young boy with a brilliant University career, who, he assured the Home Member, was not a

paid agitator and whose father was as wealthy as the Home Member himself.

I am sorry he should have called these people traitors. They may be mistaken about the methods which they are following, but that a Britisher, who engages himself for the sake of pay in holding a foreign country in bondage, should call an Indian who fights for the freedom of his country, may be mistakenly as regards methods, a traitor, is thoroughly unjust.

Commenting on the Home Member's remarks about the distinction between Italian and German prisoners and Indian detenus, Mr. Joshi said the Home Member did not appear to see much fault in Italians and Germans and Nazis. It was no fault to be a Nazi, but it was a fault to be a communist and a revolutionary!

His Government has been telling the whole world that they are fighting Nazism and Fascism and he, from his place in the House, says there is no fault in a Nazi or a Fascist.

Communalism in the Services

"So long as it is our policy to make promotions by merit, I shall regard it my duty to see that every man serving under me, whatever his class or creed, has a fair chance of advancement to posts for which he is eligible and qualified."

In this emphatic and righteous manner did Sir Andrew Clow, Communications Member of the Government of India, defend the principle of promotion by merit in his speech on the Railway Budget in the Central Assembly. "On this point," he added,

the members of the Muslim League Party (who staged a walk-out) and I admittedly do not see eye to eye; but the policy pursued in that respect is not my policy. It is a policy pursued in every department and by every Member of the Government, and it represents the policy of the Government as a whole.

There is no doubt the earlier policy of giving preference to Anglo-Indians in the Railway Services was too blatant to be acquiesced in. As Sir David Devadoss put it in the Council of State:

If Ramaswamy becomes Ramson and Subramanyan becomes Sanderson, he has an easy walk over the qualified members of other communities.

Sir Andrew did well to make an unequivocal declaration against it. He was anxious, he said

to see that promotions were not based on communal considerations. He was equally anxious to see that no man of any community was biased or prejudiced because he happened to belong to that community.

FOREIGN AFFAIRS

By "CHRONICLER"

Hitler's Latest

"WE have been waiting for our new U-boats and in March and April a naval warfare will start such as the enemy never expected. New U-boats are now ready." In these words, Hitler repeated at Munich the threat he had uttered in the Berlin Sportspalast on January 30 of a ruthless submarine war on Britain. He revealed his intention to use the conquered peoples of Europe to increase German armaments when he declared:

I used the power of the German nation for this purpose in good time. I am resolved to use Europe for the same purpose if necessary—in fact I am doing so.

Referring to the relation with Mussolini, he said:

When I have chosen a man I stick by him. The bond which unites our revolution is indissoluble. If there is a time when one of them is better off and the other worse off, the former will help the latter because it is a common enemy we are going to defeat.

The Turco-Bulgarian Pact

A declaration of friendship, enumerating four points on which they have reached agreement, has been signed by Turkey and Bulgaria. Both Nations declare it to be the unchanging basis of their foreign policy to abstain from aggression, both declare that they are inspired by the most friendly intentions towards each other and are ready to seek appropriate means to develop trade relations between their two countries.

M. P's in Armed Forces

A British White Paper issued in the closing week of February records that no fewer than 166 members of the House of Lords, and 116 members of the House of Commons, are now serving in His Majesty's forces. Of the 282 members of both Houses, 31 are in the Navy, 225 in the Army and 26 in the Air Force.

Japan's Offer of Mediation

Mr. Butler, Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs, was asked in the House of Commons to state the precise terms of the Japanese offer of mediation. Mr. Butler declared:

In a recent communication to Mr. Eden, the Japanese Minister for Foreign Affairs, after referring generally to the European War, observed that Japan was fully prepared to act as mediator or to take whatever action was calculated to restore peace and normal conditions, not only in Greater East Asia but anywhere in the world. The Japanese Minister for Foreign Affairs in subsequent public statements (made, he has said, after consulting Germany) has indicated that his words were not to be regarded as an offer of mediation in the European War. In any case, the Japanese Minister for Foreign Affairs has been informed by the Prime Minister that in a cause of the kind for which we are fighting—a cause in no way concerned with territory, trade or material gains, but affecting the whole future of humanity—there can be no question of compromise or parley.

Turkey and England

The Turkish Foreign Minister, M. Sarajoglu declared in Ankara that Turkey would stand by her commitments to Britain, in spite of the Turco-Bulgarian pact of non-aggression. The Minister, who made this statement in an interview with the representative of a Turkish newspaper, added:

Turkey remains faithful to her alliances. She could not in any way remain indifferent to foreign activities taking place in her zone of security. She will offer armed opposition to all aggression directed against her territorial integrity and independence.

Capture of Mogadishu

After a record-breaking advance from the Juba river, Imperial troops have captured Mogadishu, capital and chief port of Italian Somaliland.

Mogadishu was the principal Italian base for their forces coming from Somaliland during the Italian campaign against Abyssinia. Although Mogadishu is the most important port in Italian Somaliland, it is not a good one. Italians intended to improve it, but the work was never started.

DIARY OF THE MONTH

- Jan. 29. General Metaxas, Greek Premier, is dead; M. Korizis succeeds.
—British forces enter Italian Somaliland.
- Jan. 30. In the Commons, Mr. Amery says "Government's policy holds the field."
- Jan. 31. Franco-Thailand armistice agreement is signed.
—British troops occupy Derna.
- Feb. 1. Standing Committee of Editors' Conference meets at Delhi.
—Fierce battle for Agordat and Barentu.
- Feb. 2. Mr. Willkie is summoned Home to give evidence before the Lease and Lend Bill Committee.
- Feb. 3. British troops capture Agordat.
—Editors' Conference suggests methods of consultation and advice and pleads for revival of *Harijan* papers.
- Feb. 4. Sir P. C. Ray is awarded the Sir Wm. Jones memorial medal.
—Mr. Eden, speaking in the Commons, reaffirms the Emperor's claims to Ethiopia.
- Feb. 5. Lord Lloyd, Secretary for Colonies, is dead.
—Indo-Burma Trade talks open at Delhi.
- Feb. 6. Replying to questions in the Commons, Mr. Amery refers again to the Declaration of 8th August.
—Sir Kingsley Wood moves for war-time credit of £1,600 millions.
- Feb. 7. British troops capture Benghazi.
- Feb. 8. Five Indian Sterling loans are purchased by British treasury for debt redemption.
—Lease & Lend Bill passed by House of Representatives by 260 votes against 165.
- Feb. 9. Britain withdraws her Minister from Bucharest.
- Feb. 10. Mr. Willkie, giving evidence before Foreign Relations Committee, urges more effective aid to Britain.
- Feb. 11. Americans in Japan are advised to be ready to leave.
—General Franco meets Mussolini.
- Feb. 12. By a constitutional decree, Admiral Darlan is named Marshal Petain's successor.
- Feb. 13. General Franco meets Petain. U. S. Consular Officers advise American citizens to leave Far Eastern countries.
- Feb. 14. Mr. Matsuoka announces that Japan-Soviet negotiations are in progress.
- Feb. 15. Nazis urge Yugoslavia to sign the Axis Pact.
—Britain warns Bulgaria against allowing German troops marching into Bulgaria.
- Feb. 16. All-India Hindu League appeals to Government to end the impasse.
—Eastern approaches to Singapore mined.
- Feb. 17. A non-aggression pact is concluded between Bulgaria and Turkey.
- Feb. 18. Roosevelt creates defence belt in Pacific.
- Feb. 19. Japan offers mediation in the war.
- Feb. 20. In reply to Maha Sabha, Gandhiji declines Congress participation in Central Government reorganisation so long as Congress demands remain unconceded.
- Feb. 21. Matsuoka denies offer of mediation.
- Feb. 22. Petain refuses passage for Italian troops through Tunis.
- Feb. 23. Two hundred U. S. Planes fly across the Pacific to Singapore.
- Feb. 24. In the B. B. C. broadcast, Mr. Amery blames Congress for impasse.
—Hitler threatens big naval warfare in March and April.
- Feb. 25. Addis Ababa is bombed.
—Mr. Anthony Eden visits Turkey.
- Feb. 26. Board of Ministers in Ceylon approve draft bills over question of immigration.
- Feb. 27. German troops in Africa.
—Jap ultimatum to France and Thailand.
- Feb. 28. Gandhiji opens Kamala Nehru Memorial Hospital in Allahabad.
—Ex-King Alfonso of Spain is dead.



The WORLD of BOOKS



1. LAW RELATING TO COMPANY DIRECTORS IN INDIA. Price Rs. 8 Net.
2. HOW TO FORM A COMPANY. By H. R. Mehrotra, A.D.A. Published by the Progressive Publishing Co., Calcutta. Price Rs. 3 Net. (Available of G. A. Natesan & Co.)

These two books deal with a branch of the Company Law, which requires as much a knowledge of the legal provisions as of the practical working of Companies. The Author as an Accountant has gained considerable experience of the latter, and by a special study of the law, has been able to grasp and expound the principles of the Company Law with clearness and precision.

In the Law relating to Company Directors in India, the Author deals with the position of Directors, expounds the provisions of the Indian Companies Act and the Rules framed thereunder regarding them and elucidates with a wealth of illustrations drawn from decided cases, English and Indian, not only their rights and privileges but also their duties and liabilities.

In devoting as many as 9 Chapters to the power, disabilities, duties and liabilities of the Directors, the Author has done well to emphasise the heavy responsibility which a Director owes to the shareholders. The other chapters of the book deals with the appointment qualification, remuneration and vocation of Office by the Directors and with their management of the Company.

In "How to Form a Company", the Author deals with the provisions of the

Companies Act and the Rules framed thereunder relating to the formation of Companies. Nothing is more important in the formation of Companies than a strict observance of the rules, non-compliance with which would expose the promoters to penalties. The promoters are required to exhibit great care in seeing that their invitation to the public does not contain any fact which is untrue or calculated to deceive. Their interest in the concern has to be brought to the notice of the public. The Incorporation of the Company has to be made in strict compliance of the Act. The Memorandum and Articles where Articles are drawn up, require to be filed before the Registrar and what they should contain is briefly described in the book. The book is intended for the businessmen and has steered clear of the intricacies of judicial pronouncements. It is written in an easy and intelligible style, which a layman can readily understand.

These two books will prove of great assistance to the Promoters and Directors of Companies and will prove useful additions to the Library of Company Law in India.

SHELLS FROM THE SEA-SHORE. By K. R. Menon. Published by The Greater India Publishing House, 80, Wilkie Road, Singapore. Price \$1.00.

This is a collection of twenty poems on every-day familiar subjects composed in simple, unpretentious language. The author seeks esoteric truth and beauty in the life of the Universe around him. The waste-paper basket, the fallen tree, a Baby or poverty inspire him to versification. The poems are illustrated by G. Vasudevan.

THE INDIVIDUAL IN PROGRESS (Principal Miller Lectures, 1930-40). By Prof. P. Narasimham, M.A., M.E.S. (Retd.) The University of Madras. As. 8.

The reprint from the *Journal of the Madras University*, Vol. XII, No. 1, contains the two lectures delivered by Professor Narasimham under the Principal Miller Foundation. The topic of the lectures is the progress of the individual towards the attainment of his goal, viz., spiritual freedom or mukti. And the learned Professor approaches the problem from a co-ordinated standpoint based on the Sankhya and the Vedanta. He begins by discussing the implications of the two paths shown in the Hindu thought, pravritti and nivritti, activity and renunciation. According to tradition, pravritti means a life of action or karma, and nivritti cessation of action or sannyasa; and so they came to be regarded as opposed to each other. But Prof. Narasimham maintains that the two paths should be viewed as complementary to each other and not as contradictories.

MY IMPRESSIONS OF THE FAR EAST. By M. H. Moledina, Poona.

This is a delightful account of the impressions of the author's visit to Japan. He has 'done' the country thoroughly and has seen all that travellers are usually shown. This part of the book is not particularly important; but what is important is the author's observations on the industrial organisation and social life of the Japanese people. In fact, no Indian visitor to Japan can fail to be impressed by the fact that this Oriental people with a special and religious background, very similar to ours, should have developed their material resources in the way that

they have done. It is true that one result of this has been somewhat to barbarise their nature and to make of them crude and cruel imperialist exploiters. But apart from that, it is clear that the Japanese people, in spite of a culture which is the offspring of the Indian, have nevertheless shown a remarkable aptitude for practical success in affairs of this life, commerce and industry, science and research and the like. Why has this been possible to them which has not yet been found possible in this country? Mr. Moledina suggests the answer in various passages of his very interesting book; it is their pure and unsullied patriotism which, higher than any religious discipline, fits them for national service and common endeavour. The results of the impact of western culture on an eastern people cannot be studied to greater purpose than in Japan, and this author employed his time wisely and well in making that study.

COME WIND, COME WEATHER. By Daphne Du Maurier. Allied Publishers, Bombay.

In these war time stories of actual life among different grades of people, the author of *Rebecca* finds that the spirit of Drake and Nelson still lives. Heroism is not confined to the theatres of war; there is as much of it among the ordinary people at Home, who are doing deeds of gallantry in their respective spheres. That is the burden of the stories which reveal the real strength of England in the present crisis. The types include a grocer, a labour revolutionary, a successful doctor, a stricken mother, a miner—each one of these showing how war-time worries and difficulties could be turned into opportunities to spread a spirit of victory on the Home front.

TO BEG I AM ASHAMED. By Sheila Cousins. Kitabistan Limited, Allahabad. Rs. 3.

The sub-title of this book, as the author herself describes, is an authentic autobiography of a London prostitute. She describes in lurid colours without any attempt at sophistication the day to day life of a Piccadilly Street walker, soliciting men who can afford to pay for carnal pleasure. There is wonderful psychology to be gathered from the various Piccadellies of the common tart. The anxious inquirer is curious to know the mental attitude of a woman, who hires her flesh for so much of a trash. He will find interesting information in this book in which is described how the woman, while allowing the hirer to have his heart's fill, is herself completely detached. It is a cold scientific account of the ways of a fallen woman, who feels pride and no shame in the life voluntarily chosen by herself to eke out her livelihood. The book does not seem to serve any useful purpose, except to satisfy the morbid curiosity of inquisitive introverts.

THE MAHARAJA RANJIT SINGH—Centenary Volume. Published by the Centenary Celebrations Committee, Cawnpore.

The Committee formed for the celebration of the Centenary of Maharaja Ranjit Singh at Cawnpore, has brought out this volume containing an introduction by Mr. St. Nihal Singh, who was greatly responsible for the successful conduct of the celebrations, and the Presidential Address of Dr. Sir Shafaat Ahmad Khan, who was invited to preside over the function, the Welcome Address of Mr. Narain Prasad Arora, Chairman of the Reception Committee, and also 17 papers on Sikh history from various scholars scattered throughout India.

AN APPROACH TO INDIAN ART. By K. Chandrasekharan. Published at the Madras Law Journal Press, Madras.

This is a print of the T. R. Venkatarama Sastri Birthday Endowment Lecture, delivered under the auspices of the South Indian National Association, Madras.

A very well-informed and suggestive lecture on a vitally interesting subject.

BOOKS RECEIVED

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A SHORT LIFE OF SWAMI VIVEKANANDA. Advaita Ashrama. Almora.

THE I. C. S. AND THE OTHER ALL-INDIA SERVICES. By J. B. Petit, Bombay.

CHARKA: A POEM. By J. V. Rangacharya. 5, Lakshmi Vilas, Daniel St., Thyagarayanagar, Madras.

REPORT OF THE MADRAS FAMINE CODE REVISION COMMITTEE, 1938, Two Vols. Government Press, Madras.

THE TRIAL CELESTIAL. By Suryadutt J. Bhatt. Karnatak Publishing House, Bombay.

THE POETRY OF VALMIKI. By M. Venkatesa Iyengar. The Bangalore Press, Bangalore.

BIKANER. (States Peoples' Conference New Series No. 6.) By Sarangadhar Das, Office of the All-India Peoples' Conference, 138, Meadows Street, Bombay.

FOR NECESSARY ACTION. Speeches and Judgments of Sir Douglas Young. Vol. II. Edited by Shri Ram, B.A., LL.B., and V. M. Kulkarni, B.A., LL.B. Indian Cases Ltd., Lahore.

THE RIGHT DIRECTION OF REAL PROGRESS. A collection of Sermons of H. H. Acharya Dev Shrimad Vijayaramchandrasurish Varji. Translated into English by Chunilal Vrajlal Mody, Secretary, Bombay Shroffs' Association, Bombay.

THE GENERAL BASIC ENGLISH DICTIONARY under the direction of C. K. Ogden. The Times of India Press, Bombay.

A GLOSSARY OF THE PARTS AND ORGANS OF THE HUMAN BODY. By Dadabhai Dordi, Navsari.

THE ENGLISH NURSERY SCHOOL. By A. F. M. Abdul Huq, General Printers and Publishers Ltd. 119, Dharamtola St., Calcutta.

PREPARATION FOR CITIZENSHIP. By Sophia Wadia. International Book House, Bombay.

Hyderabad

PRIMARY EDUCATION IN HYDERABAD

"I consider that the extension of primary education is the first step in the campaign against illiteracy, towards the removal of which we should continuously direct our efforts until every individual in the Dominions, whether young or old, is able to read and write and the curse of illiteracy is thus finally lifted," said the Rt. Hon. Sir Akbar Hydari, President of the Nizam's Executive Council, opening a primary school building at Dornakal in the Nizam's Dominions on February 12.

Declaring the school building open, Sir Akbar Hydari said: "Under the present circumstances we should not remain satisfied merely with starting and multiplying primary schools, but proceed boldly to devise other methods of eradicating ignorance by imparting knowledge and culture to the masses in such a way that not merely children but adults as well might benefit from those efforts.

For instance, extensive use should be made of the film, radio, and gramophone in order to spread learning in the true sense of the word."

HYDERABAD MEDICAL COUNCIL

The Hyderabad State Medical Council was inaugurated by the Rt. Hon. Sir Akbar Hydari on January 28. He said that the establishment of the Council was a landmark in the progress and organisation of medical relief in H. E. H. the Nizam's Dominions. Sir Akbar gave the assurance that the needs of the Council would always receive sympathetic consideration from the Government.

Mysore

DRIVE FOR SELF-SUFFICIENCY

In order to maintain a steady drive towards self-sufficiency in essential requirements in Mysore State, the Government of Mysore have sanctioned a scheme for increasing the cultivation of paddy by the raiyats in the State.

At present, Mysore is importing every year 10 to 20 lakhs of *pallas* of paddy valued from 50 to 100 lakhs of rupees. As the paddy area in the State is 10 lakhs of acres, the deficit in the production of paddy works out from 1 to 2 *pallas* per acre. To make up for this, the new scheme of Government contemplates the gradual decrease of the annual import of paddy by five-year programme for the extension of improved varieties of paddy in 20 talukas in the State.

NEW AGRICULTURAL SCHEME

The Government of Mysore have sanctioned a scheme for the establishment of an agricultural colony in the Irwin Canal area for the benefit of educated young men who wish to pursue an agricultural life. According to the scheme approved by Government, it is proposed that each colonist be given 15 acres of land on a six-year lease, a capital loan of Rs. 1,500 and an annual loan of Rs. 500 for working expenses. It is estimated that each colonist will be able to earn a nett annual income of Rs. 600.

If the colonists make a success of their venture at the end of the six year lease period, they would be given possession of the 15 acres at a nominal price to be recovered in 10 annual instalments.

Travancore

RESPONSIBLE GOVERNMENT

The Working Committee of the Travancore State Congress passed a resolution assuring the public that the State Congress stands unflinchingly by its objective of responsible government under the aegis of His Highness the Maharajah and that it will lose no time in reorganising all political forces within the State willing to work towards that objective through all peaceful and constructive means.

Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyer, the Dewan, commenting on the resolution said in the course of an interview:

"The Government have no objection to the conduct of normal political work by any organisation within the State subject to the paramount consideration that at this time of economic stringency and war conditions, any speeches or actions designed or calculated to rouse bitterness amongst the communities or to embarrass the Government in their efforts must be guarded against."

GOVERNMENT ON DISPOSAL OF SUITS

With a view to eliminating delays in the disposal of suits in civil courts, the Travancore Government have decided that no increments should hereafter be granted in the cases of district judges, second judges and district munsifs as a matter of course. The Government will, as was done in the Punjab, and in consultation with the High Court, withhold all increments and promotions in the case of judges who do not whole-heartedly work for the elimination of arrears and delays. Government lay down certain tests to be considered in dealing with the increments of these officers.

Baroda

GIFT TO BENARES UNIVERSITY

His Highness the Maharaja Gaekwad has offered to the Benares Hindu University a Foundation in the following terms:—

To perpetuate the revered memory of the late Maharaja Sir Sayaji Rao, Gaekwad of Baroda, who all the life was deeply interested in fostering the study of Indian culture to which the different races and religions of India have contributed, His Highness the Maharaja of Gaekwad of Baroda is pleased to make the annual endowment of Rs. 15,000 to the Benares Hindu University for the purpose of establishing a Chair to be called the Sayaji Rao Chair of Indian Culture and History and Fellowships to be attached to the Chair.

The donor believes with his illustrious predecessor that there is a distinct type of thought and life in India, which has been enduring through the centuries and which is India's greatest contribution to the world; in it, the Hindu and Moslem, the Christian and the Parsi find common ground. It will be the main function of the Professor and the Fellows to promote the cultural unity of India by means of scholarly publications and lectures. Such publications will be included in the Sayaji Rao Gaekwad Series to be inaugurated as part of this Foundation.

An annual report of the work done by the Foundation shall be furnished to the Government of Baroda. The Benares Hindu University has accepted the Foundation.

GIFT TO SPITFIRE FUND

Among the latest gifts gratefully acknowledged by the Minister of Aircraft Production, Lord Beaverbrook, for the purchase of aircraft are: H. H. Maharaja Pratap Singh, Gaekwar of Baroda's £50,000 for a flight of Spitfires and also one of £977 from Mr. Henri Hain of Cairo.

WOOLLEN INDUSTRY IN BARODA

The State has made a grant for the development of the woollen industry at Amreli. Shepherds and goatherds will be trained in the latest scientific methods of fleecing and other matters connected with the wool industry.

Cochin**CHRISTIAN SUCCESSION ACT**

The Cochin Legislative Council at its meeting, on February 1, decided to circulate, to elicit public opinion, Mr. A. V. Moothedan's Bill to amend the Christian Succession Act, which seeks to provide for equal share to a son and daughter in the matter of intestate succession.

Mr. T. P. Poulse, opposing the Bill, said that abstract considerations of equality ought to play only a minor part in the important question of succession. The Christian community recognised the absolute powers of the owner of property to dispose of it as he pleased. It was necessary that the rules for intestate succession should be adapted to the tendencies of testamentary disposition and to suit the social and economic conditions of the community.

Mr. M. Sivarama Menon, Law Member, explained that the Government proposed to remain neutral at that stage. It was necessary, they felt, that the majority opinion of the community should be taken before they decided their attitude, particularly because of the diversity of views expressed in the House. He advised the mover to circulate it for public opinion. Mr. Moothedan accepted the suggestion for circulation.

COCHIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

A review of the work of the Cochin Legislative Council, during the year ended the middle of August, shows that during the 26 days' sittings, the Council dealt with 42 Bills—24 official and 18 non-official—1,018 questions and 215 resolutions.

Nine adjournment motions were tabled and all but one were either ruled out or withdrawn after discussion.

Kashmir**RELIEF MEASURES IN SRINAGAR**

The population of Srinagar is again threatened with scarcity of rice.

A Special Officer is now in Srinagar to deal with the situation. He has called tenders for the supply of rice, but it is believed that the dealers are not prepared to bring their stock in the market. To counteract this, the Government have issued another notification authorising the Governor of Kashmir to seize the stores of rice and *shali* wherever found and put them on sale in order to relieve the city population from the scarcity.

OVERCROWDING IN CENTRAL JAILS

The Report of the Jail Department for the year 1994-95 refers to the recurrence of overcrowding in the Central Jails. This trouble was aggravated with the impulse of more political prisoners. To remove this overcrowding, Government ordered the release of 136 prisoners who had served half or more than half of their sentences.

Indore**KIST REMISSION IN INDORE**

Land revenue remissions amounting to 6'25 lakhs of rupees and the appointment of a standing finance committee, consisting of three officials and three non-officials, to advise the Government on financial matters for one year were announced at a special durbar held in Indore.

HEALTH AND EDUCATION

His Highness the Maharaja of Holkar has approved of the appointment of a Standing Committee for Public Health and Education in accordance with the desire to associate the popular element with the Government.

INDIANS OVERSEAS

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Malaya**INDIANS IN MALAYA**

Indians in Malaya are determined to have a square deal. With this object in view they have joined in large numbers an organisation started to assist them in their efforts—the Central Indian Association. The President of the Association, Mr. N. Raghavan, addressing the general body meeting the other day at Kuala Lumpur, expressed its firm resolve never to be a party to the creation of a politically depressed Indian community. Nor would the Association, he made it plain, view unconcernedly large numbers of Indian men and women being brought to the country for developing its resources without their being accorded their rightful share in its prosperity. Deploing the condition of Indian labourers who are still paid only pre-war wages, Mr. Raghavan pointed out:

Experience has shown that prices may soar high, international quotas and releases may reach their peak, the prosperity of the industry may be seen reflected in good dividends, large reserves and ambitious schemes of development, but the wages of plantation labour display no sudden variation or improvement. It is peculiar variety of solipsism that makes some so unresponsive to the needs of their own Labour.

Mr. Raghavan added:

But conditions are heading for a betterment. At least that is our study of the situation. The need for full production and the absence of surplus labour as a result of the ban may in our view soon create a position when employers will have willingly to concede some higher wages. They will then collectively recognise what many a fair-minded manager has individually realised that there is no magic in the figures of 50 cents and 40 cents which in the conception of some at least have long remained the high water mark of human achievement as far as an Indian worker's daily effort is concerned. Anyhow we shall not lose hope, but wait and see.

Criticising the Trade Union Ordinance and Enactment, Mr. Raghavan remarked: "We have grave doubt that Unions created under these laws may be but a machinery for the control of workers by employers."

Fiji**INDIAN EDUCATION IN FIJI**

About 8,000 Indian boys and girls are attending schools in Fiji out of a total Indian populations of 85,000 in colony. Of this about 6,000 were boys and the rest girls, says the annual report of the Department of Education in Fiji, which was presented to the Legislative Council of the colony recently.

There are 64 assisted Indian schools in the colony receiving grants-in-aid, amounting to £6,500. The number on the roll of these schools is 5,804. There are seven un-assisted schools with 162 boys and 102 girls. There are seven Government Indian primary schools, and a provision has been made for the erection of a new girl's school. The course of instruction in Indian schools in Fiji is similar to that in Fijian schools except that Hindustani is the medium of instruction in the first four classes.

The interests in hand work is on the increase. A very fine exhibition of hand work was exhibited in the Suva Town Hall recently on the occasion of the Fiji teachers annual conference.

The first Indian immigrants arrived in Fiji in 1879, and the first school for Indians was established in 1899 when the late Hon'ble Badri Maharaj started a school at Wanuku. The first government school for Indians was established at Natabua in 1919. By 1930, the development of school education had proceeded upon an organised planning, and now most of the provinces in Fiji have got Indian schools of some type or other.

Trinidad

INDIANS IN TRINIDAD

There were over 161,000 Indians in Trinidad on December 31, 1939, and they owned nearly 114,000 acres of land, says the local Protector of Immigrants in his annual Report for the year 1939.

The principal crops grown are cocoa and sugar-cane, the largest acreage 50,188 being under cocoa and next largest 20,125 under sugar-cane.

Indians enjoy the same political rights and privileges as other sections of the Island population and follow practically the same occupations which include those of landlords, merchants, shop-keepers, dairy many peasant proprietors, professional men and civil servants. Three Indians continue to be elected members of the Legislative Council. The East Indian Advisory Board established in 1937, to advise Government on matters concerning the community functioned satisfactorily during the year.

South Africa

INDIANS IN NATAL

An inquiry into the social and economic condition of Indians in Natal will shortly be started by a Commission set up by the South African Institute of Race Relations in collaboration with the Natal University College. This will be the first full inquiry made among Indians.

The object is to provide facts on which a policy can be based by assessing the effects of the new social, economic and cultural forces upon them, evaluating the contribution which the Indian people make to the well-being of the country and considering what place they are to have in the political, economic, and other spheres of the state.

Ceylon

INDO-CEYLON TRADE

The aggregate value of Indo-Ceylonese trade in 1939-40 amounted to Rs. 8'20 lakhs as compared with Rs. 5'54 lakhs in the preceding year.

The principal items among imports into India from Ceylon are copra, coconut oil and tea, which taken together represented 68 per cent. of the imports from that country.

Imports of copra amounted to 35,700 tons (Rs. 68 lakhs) as against 44,500 tons (Rs. 61 lakhs) in 1938-39. Imports of coconut oil from 1'7 million gallons (Rs. 14 lakhs) to 2'6 million gallons (Rs. 29 lakhs).

Arrivals of tea declined from 291,000 lbs. to 248,000 lbs. The recorded value, however, remained stationary at Rs. 2 lakhs.

Among exports to Ceylon: rice, not in the husk, by far the most prominent item, was valued at Rs. 1'11 lakhs, showing a fall of Rs. 6 lakhs over the preceding year. Cotton piece-goods, the next principal item of export, showed a slight improvement and amounted to 23'5 million yards as compared with 18'9 million yards in 1938-39.

Exports of tea totalled 7 million lbs. as against 4 million lbs. and supplies of coal 407,000 tons as compared with 255,000 tons.

Out of a total of 358,000 cwts. of fish, excluding canned fish exported from India, 237,000 cwts. valued at Rs. 36 lakhs were sent to Ceylon. Other important items of shipments were fruits and vegetables, chillies, oil-cakes, pulses and manures excluding oil-cakes.



TOPICS From PERIODICALS



ALTERNATIVE TO SATYAGRAHA

Satyagraha was resumed after the Christmas truce along the same methodical lines chalked out by Gandhiji. Those acquitted hasten to court arrest again and again. The whole thing looks harmless enough, says the *New Review*, and some people wonder what Gandhiji can expect "from so orderly a disorder".

What developments he intends must be left to his recondite simplicity; what must be foreseen can be told from the usual working of mass mentality. The present quiet agitation carries the pacifist message to the masses and popularizes the issue; by this time even the humblest villager knows that something or other that concerns him is afoot. Gandhiji has declared that he intends no mass movement; yet there is mass information and propaganda; as the leaders are successively arrested, the crowds cannot help growing anxious and restless. Once the masses are roused, their behaviour escapes prediction and control. Though Gandhiji is the uncontested leader of the Indian masses to-day, will he be able to control them? They would not have been led to agitation against him or without him, but, once roused, will they be plastic in his hands? Will he not have to confess another 'gigantic failure' or one more 'Himalayan blunder'? A blunder and failure in the present circumstances might prove fatal, though one does not see how the *satyagraha* movement can hamper the British military effort so as to jeopardise a British victory or even how a failure could stifle national patriotism. Moreover has not Gandhiji promised not to embarrass the British Government? What is really at stake is the existence of Congress itself and Gandhiji's supremacy.

But so far Gandhiji keeps his hold on public opinion and the efforts of Mr. M. N. Roy to rally a few ex-Congressmen has failed to make any deep impression

on the electoral masses. For as the *New Review* observes:

Mr. M. N. Roy may be a live wire and many other things; he is losing whatever popularity he had. His was a poor choice as a leader and the eulogies heaped upon him by a certain section of the press can only embarrass him with Indian nationalists and the labouring classes. The best asset for the war effort in India lies in the natural abhorrence of masses for any extremist regime and the resentment of tropical people against any form of violence.

What then is the way out of the impasse? In the opinion of the writer, Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru's proposal for a compromise between Gandhiji and Mr. Jinnah is "out of the question at present". For both are committed to definite views on fundamental issues: "India one and indivisible on the one hand, and the Pakistan scheme on the other."

A way out can only be found if Indian life can go on without Gandhiji or without Mr. Jinnah or without both. The best suggestion made so far is the boldest; to shift responsibility from England to India; to start a Dominion Government of some sort or other at Delhi by passing measures, as Dominions do, without reference to England to make the position clear not only in England but especially in India.

Provisional measures taken in an emergency are well along the lines of British constitutional development; creating precedents is what matters to realistic politicians and statesmen who find that war time is no season to draft academic constitutions. What is vital for the British Commonwealth of Nations and for the world is to secure a whole-hearted co-operation from the 400 million Indians to a cause which is of interest to the whole of mankind; what matters is a living system which would muster all the talent and all the resources of the country for the common undertaking; what is urgent is a working administration which is rooted in the soil and can draw whatever is in the soil for the world enterprise.

GANDHIAN DOCTRINE

"To be great is to be misunderstood," says an old adage. In spite of his best efforts to put the case for non-violence, his attitude of pacifism in the present war has been greatly misunderstood and misinterpreted. But as I. D. observes in the *Twentieth Century*: "It is one thing to say that the Mahatma has done no service to India or the cause of humanity by pushing his pacifist theory to the extreme and advising his countrymen to prefer silent submission to dictators to armed conflict with them; it is quite another to maintain that by the line he has taken up, he ranged himself on Hitler's side, as the *Statesman* has repeatedly done." Fairness requires that his critics should try to understand the implications of his philosophy.

The Gandhian doctrine admits of no 'final' surrender to wicked aggression but tends to overwhelm brute force with spiritual weapons. While it is legitimate to protest against the Mahatma's facile assumption that his prescription is enough insurance against the forces of evil, it is fantastic to interpret his teachings as a brief for Hitlerism. The *Statesman's* laboured argument that the Mahatma is an ally of Hitler, betrays a confusion of thought and a lamentable lack of realities. In its attempts to expose and ridicule "the fallacies of thought which are costing the Congress dear", the *Statesman* has committed a heap of them and regaled its readers with a regular fantasia. To its novel proposition that "he offers the British no token of friendship", the answer is that the Mahatma is himself a moving 'token of friendship'. Has he put his foot down on an honourable settlement? Has he not proved that if only the British arrived at an understanding with the Congress, he would if necessary step aside into his philosophic shell and allow it to pursue its own course?

NATIONAL DEFENCE

Edward Mead Earle, writing in the *Political Science Quarterly*, justifies the plea that the problems of national defence have a claim upon the political and social sciences. For the need of security against aggression is "the most powerful dictator of national conduct". It involves one of the most delicate of political problems—"the reconciliation of liberty and authority, the provision of the maximum degree of security with the highest degree of freedom". The world being as it is, "national defence is a basic function of government in a world of competitive national states".

The organization of defence is by no means the problem of the soldier alone.

Under parliamentary and representative government, particularly as exemplified by Great Britain and the United States, the control of military affairs by civilian authority has been one of the foundation-stones of the arch of freedom. This does not necessarily imply that there is any inherent conflict between two mutually antagonistic forces, civil and military. On the contrary, it is essential that there be effective collaboration between the civilian, military and naval authorities in the interest of maximum efficiency and, of co-ordinate importance, that there be adequate and intelligent military implementation of national policies.

There is ample evidence that civilians and soldiers alike have come to recognize that it is vital both to military efficiency and to national integrity that war and the costly and elaborate preparation for war shall not be reserved either to technicians alone or to civilians alone. The organization of security and, in the event of war, the organization of victory require that there be sympathetic, intelligent and unreserved collaboration between the several groups which contribute to the total military efforts. A blunt civilian Clemenceau said: "War is much too important a business to be left to the soldiers." A distinguished British officer, Sir Frederick Maurice, agreed that as war requires the employment of the whole resources and the maximum power of the nation, it is "clearly not a matter to be left to soldiers or sailors, nor would any responsible soldier desire it to be so left". The mere mention of the names Rathenau, Lloyd George and Baruch will suggest what civilian influence meant in the last war. Even in the realm of military technology, one can point to innumerable instances in which civilian contributions concerning even the employment of weapons of war—as well

as their invention, development and supply—were outstanding and sometimes controlling: this was notably the case in questions involving tanks, convoys, artillery fire, machine guns, etc.

What was true in the war of 1914-1918 is likely to be even more true in the present struggle.

No modern war can be waged without the national effort going far beyond the boundaries of technical military efficiency into almost every realm of civilian activity. The British and American officer of today is encouraged to widen his horizons of knowledge to include an understanding of social and economic questions. There is no reason, in turn, why the civilian should not bring military affairs, which so vitally affect the nation at large and even himself as an individual, into his purview. After all, military problems do not dwell in the realm of the occult, the supra-temporal, or the recondite, for "secrecy" is largely confined to matters of material. Military problems are susceptible of analysis, criticism and practical contributions by informed laymen, and factual data upon which to base sound scholarship are generally accessible. Indeed, it is imperative that laymen, especially scholars, concern themselves with the problem of national defence, for failure to do so may be disastrous to the success of rearmament or of the war effort. Germany has become the foremost military power on the Continent of Europe not only because of the technical efficiency of German armed forces, but also because of acute realization of the role which theoretical studies of a non-technical character may play in modern war. Such studies existed in Imperial Germany but have been extended and intensified under the Nazis, with the result that Germany entered the present war well prepared in the non-military as well as the military phases of warfare. In fact, the "bloodless victories" which have distinguished the Hitler regime were the outgrowth of a long-range strategy which took into account all the known factors of economics, psychology, domestic politics, class prejudice, inertia, and the like. A covert war has been waged against Western Europe since 1933, with its victims seemingly unaware even that the struggle was going on. Comprehension of the true state of affairs was a civilian rather than a military responsibility.

As against German preparedness in which civilians in general and the universities in particular have played an influential part, British, French and American efforts seem feeble.

The result is attributable not merely to palsied leadership in London and Paris, but also to a fundamental failure to comprehend the intimate interrelationships of politics, economics, and military strategy. There has been a lamentable paucity of civilian discussion of geographic and demographic factors in international politics. There has been a good deal of muddle-headedness concerning elements of military power; potential

strength has been complacently confused with existing strength, although only the latter is available to initiate or to resist sudden and overwhelming attack. There has been woeful disregard of the strategic implications for Britain and France of the war in Spain,

There has in fact been virtually no informal *liaison* between civilians and soldiers in the democracies and even high placed British political leaders have been ignorant of the military view of the situation until the two wings of the states are co-ordinated for purposes of war.

Mutual suspicion between civilians and professional officers—which has been typical of Anglo-Saxon society, and which can be broken down only by continuous collaborative efforts in time of "peace" as well as in time of war—has prevented an over-all view of the situation, growing out of intelligent, wide-spread and frank discussion.

The truth of the matter is that, in a democratic society, it is imperative that we have the widest possible discussion of military problems, conducted on the highest possible plane. In the absence of such discussion, we cannot formulate intelligent and practicable foreign policies or, for that matter, domestic policies.

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SAROJINI NAIDU

The *Aryan Path* for February reminds us that India has overlooked the sixty-first birthday of Mrs. Sarojini Naidu, which fell on the 18th of February last year. It now takes the opportunity to atone for that neglect by paying a well-merited tribute to her life and work "of great national value".

We can trace an analogy between her own experiences and those of the India she so passionately loves and so devotedly serves, says the writer.

The inner urge which has been directly instrumental in her service of India is the same force which moves other children of the Great Mother to feel and to express the beauty of harmless and helpful actions which put the stamp of nobility on the national character, as also to offer sacrifices on the altar of pure patriotism. That inner urge, that hidden force, common to both the Great Mother and this particular daughter proceeds from the pain and the anguish which the Soul undergoes in creating a new order, a new polity. It is the force of bodily suffering, of mental struggles, of heart-aches, which have enabled Sarojini Devi to create her poems as well as to labour for the political emancipation of India.

The service life of Mrs. Sarojini Naidu may be divided into two main compartments—her work as poet and then as politician. Her political activities seem to commence at the close of her poetical labours.

Both phases of that work are born of suffering, and therefore express a message for suffering India. To apply her own words to her poetry, her "bridal-songs and cradle-songs have cadences of sorrow". And it is equally true that Sarojini has incarnated the national pain within herself and so her voice and her words find an echoing response as those of India. In her have come to focus the forces which are throbbing in the heart of India. A daughter suffering as does the Mother, enduring as the Mother does while rising triumphant over pain to express beauty and

strength—such is Sarojini. India expresses beauty through suffering and sacrifice and that is the message which the life of Sarojini Naidu offers to us all.

There is much in Sarojini Naidu which is reminiscent of Shelley, and the writer aptly quotes a passage from her "Soul of India", which breathes the Shelleyan spirit of liberty and revolt.

But the climax of England's unconscious wrong to India lay in what was surely meant to be the crown of all her conscious benefactions, embodied in a system of education which, doubtless, flawless and fruitful within its own familiar province, was not merely unsuited but even inimical to the genius of our race. For, education to become the incorruptible living wealth of a nation must be self-evolved and an authentic expression of the national spirit. But this foreign education sold three generations of denationalized Indian youth into a blind intellectual bondage to the West. The old learning that had enriched, the old art that had illumined our daily life were disowned; the old music that had invoked enchantment, the old religious vision that had kindled inspiration were disclaimed and forgotten. The grave and lovely ceremonials and courtesies of our social inheritance were discarded in a lamentable and futile imitation of western ways the beautiful Puranic and Qu'ranic names of our children were torn from them in our slavish passion for western nomenclature.

Could the degradation of a subject-race, however temporary and transient, be more sudden, more tragic, more complete? . . . to be retrieved, effaced, atoned for by the tears or the blood of her children's sorrow and repentance.

But the high gods that guard the secrets of the future hold the balance true, and the final issues are secure. By some sacred law of recompense or reparation, it is decreed that India which has reached the nadir of her downfall under foreign domination shall rise again swiftly and safely to the zenith of her hope by the willing aid and in the inseparable companionship of the self-same race that has wounded her honour, crushed her pride, challenged her capacity and denied to her so long the inalienable birth-right of individuals and nations—liberty, the very breath of life.

LIFE IN A DESTROYER

Mr. Douglas Macdonald Hastings gives an account of "Life in a Destroyer" in the *Picture Post*, London. The title "destroyer" was first given to vessels of 300 to 400 tons built in the nineties for the purpose of destroying small torpedo boats which, at that time, were a menace to capital ships. But the new class of vessels, instead of developing as torpedo boat destroyers, superseded their adversaries by becoming torpedo boats themselves.

A typical destroyer is nearly 200 men and 1,000 or more tons of lethal machinery packed in a steel case 330 feet long and 32 feet wide. One hundred and ninety men live, eat and sleep in a subdivision about the size of a couple of two-decker buses and about as uninviting as the inside of a boiler. Eight or ten officers eat and live in an iron box situated immediately above an ammunition magazine and sleep on the top of chests of drawers in cabins about the size of a taxi. The Commander has spacious quarters—two cabins and a bath—but, when the ship is at sea, he doesn't use them. He lives on the bridge, eats when he can and sleeps with his clothes on in a bunk by the wheel-house. Guns, torpedoes, depth charges, searchlights and machinery have the rest to themselves.

If heavy seas are running, the movement of the ship is such that even men inured to destroyer life become seasick. All the hatches are battened down in war time; ports and deadeyes are permanently closed at sea as a precaution against sudden attack, and any fresh air which seeps in through the ventilators into the crews' quarters brings the sea with it. Cooking becomes impossible. The crew reel about the decks with the aid of life-lines.

The destroyers of recent times are equipped, and it is interesting to know that

the armament of the different classes varies considerably. "Tribals" have eight 4.7 inch guns (ten to fifteen rounds of 50-lb. high explosive shells per gun per minute), four 21 inch torpedo tubes (effective up to five miles), high-tangle anti-aircraft guns, multiple "pom-poms" (2-lb. shell-firing machine guns to meet low-flying air attack) and depth charges to blow up submerged U-boats. Older types mount up to six 4.7-inch guns and up to ten torpedo tubes.

Every destroyer in the British Navy is equipped with the "Asdic", the wonderful instrument which searches out the U-boats as they lurk under the sea. No U-boat can lie so quietly on the bed of the ocean that it escapes the "Asdic's" notice.

NUDISM IN INDIA

Mr. Alex Peel writes to the *Orient Illustrated Weekly* on the above subject. He says that from time immemorial both men and women in this country had their special customs. While for the women it was mostly a complete covering for the body, men had only half-covering.

Even to-day there are some people, especially among the Hill Tribes, who still have leaf-covering. In Chotanagpur, Juang men and women move about with long soft leaves tied around them. Although many of the men among the Juangs have now begun to use small pieces of cotton, the women have not discarded the leaf-covering. Juang women believe that if they discard the leaves, they would be offending the River Goddess. There are other tribes in other parts of India who also move about in a semi-nude state. But most of these have come under the influence of cotton and they are quite willing to wear clothes if they could get them.

Neither Hinduism nor Mohamadanism encourages nudism. In fact, both are against it. Islam definitely discourages its members to show the human body above the knee. On the other hand, it encourages men and women to cover themselves completely.

Here in India, there is no movement to discard dress, but there is a movement to have more dress. The simplest dress among the advanced people of India could be seen in Malabar. Until quite recently, the loin cloth was the most common and popular dress among all sections of the people in that part. These were invariably white and were always kept neat and tidy as the social custom insisted on men and women to take their bath every day and wash their clothes. Among the women, it was quite common to cover only up to the waist. In fact, the women of certain castes were even socially forbidden to cover the upper part. In families that followed the matriarchal system, it was considered disrespectful for young women to appear before the senior members with any covering above the waist. Of course, these customs are now dying out. Yet even to-day many women walk about freely dressed only up to the waist.

In the West, nudism is practised for making the body beautiful. It is purely connected with a physical idea. It is a revolt against the too much dressed. But in India, nudity is forced by the economic causes.

WELLESLEY AND INDIAN POWERS

Mr. V. V. Joshi, analysing the real cause of British aggression under Wellesley on Indian powers, in the *Journal of the University of Bombay*, tries to find it in two facts: Firstly, the great weakness of Indian powers, whose nature and causes are explained in the next two sections that are to follow and, secondly, the internal geography of India. The internal geography of the country deprives Indian States of natural frontiers and their defence against each other becomes very difficult. At the same time it makes it incumbent on the strongest power in the country to carry on war until it brings the entire country under its sway. Indian historical development shows that perpetual war goes on in the country, unless either a foreign power conquers the land or a power rises in India which subdues all others. A void had been created in India by the anarchy of the 18th century after the fall of the Moghul Empire and an early extinction of Maratha nationalism. This void had to be filled and the Company was unquestionably the strongest power in India and, therefore, qualified to fill the void by subduing the entire country.

To sum up, the rise of the British power in India from a second-rate position to that of virtual paramountcy can be traced to the aggressive policy of Marquess of Wellesley. He justified his aggression by pleading that the Company's possessions in India were threatened by the French, the Tipoo Sultan and the Marathas. He overcame these dangers by a great increase in the political and military power of the Company accomplished

by a military overthrow of Tipoo and the Marathas. Moreover, he won over many subsidiary allies and made the Company a virtual successor of the Great Moghul. However, the grounds on which Wellesley justified his aggression were unsubstantial. The French had no chance of invading India without a command of the Sea and with the Continental Wars on their hands. In spite of his restlessness, the power of Tipoo was hardly equal to that of the Company, and he did not want to attack the Company. Finally, the Marathas, who were the strongest of Indian powers, had become too weak through discord, civil war, financial bankruptcy and poor leadership, to endanger the security of the Company.

POST-WAR ECONOMIC TRENDS

The two decades which lie between the end of the last war and the outbreak of the present one (1919-1939) represent an era of profound disturbance in the economic life of the world, observes Mr. R. Krishnamurthi, writing in the first Number of the new monthly, *Indian Commerce*, published by Mr. V. S. Rangaswami of Madras to perpetuate the memory of the great pioneer of commercial education, the late Mr. K. S. Aiyer of Bombay. Mr. Krishnamurthi asserts that "the dominant trend in the post-war world has been the triumph of nationalism over internationalism". The general character of the disturbance in economic life and thought, and the high degree of concord which obtains between theory and policy, can best be described as reaction against *laissez-faire* and drift in favour of far greater national State-control of economic life. The forces of nationalism gained a further accession of strength after 1939.

The present war again has unleashed the forces of nationalism and the combination of certain nations against certain others. All speculation into the coming post-war reorganisation apart, it seems certain that the task of constructive statesmanship consists in resolving the incompatibility between nationalism and internationalism. The task is not one so much for the economic theorist as for the practical politician.

YOUTH MOVEMENT IN AMERICA

A writer, in the *Newsweek*, (New York,) deprecates the separate movement for youth in that country as sinister. He continues:

Why should there be an American Youth Movement? What is there, in the name of Heaven, that sets youth apart politically? Do all young people have special political and economic interests common only to themselves? Do they constitute a 'natural' pressure group similar to those of labor, of the fruit growers, or of the bankers?

A national organization of people with a specific interest is created when there is a particular and well-defined thing that it wishes to keep or attain, by pressure for legislation or favorable public opinion. Hence we have veterans' groups, a Federation of Labor, a CIO or even an organization of women, as such—many different kinds of women, who nevertheless were banded together by a common interest, woman suffrage. By all means have such organizations. They constitute one of the means through which democracy can operate.

But youth! That's a different kettle of fish. Why a youth bloc any more than a middle-aged bloc? Are we to have separate movements for people in the thirties and forties and fifties? We already have old people's groups, but at least they base their coming together upon a specific economic demand and don't profess to be merely oldsters' movements.

For what purpose are the youth organized? Let's get down to reality. Youth movements here and abroad are actually political, devoted to the interest of some special political point of view. They are invariably directed by some minority—either violently radical or violently reactionary—that has no specific connection with youth, as such. They propagate wholly adult political ideas in the sweet name of youth.

It is time, concludes the writer, in a society whose unity is already rent at a hundred points to try to prevent further divisions.

We're all trying, or we say we're trying, to make a better country. Youth will inherit that country. There's no difference of purpose or interest here from the point of view of age. There should be no organized effort to create distinctions where no real distinctions exist.

GANDHIJI'S IDEALS

The January Number of the *Visvabharathi Quarterly* publishes extracts from the forthcoming publication of Dr. P. T. Raju entitled "The Idealism of Mahatma Gandhi". Dr. Raju asks:

Is Satyagraha true to facts? For every moral injunction the question may be raised: Is it according to reality? In non-philosophical language we ask: Is it according to nature? For, it is felt that no moral law is binding upon us if it is not based upon the nature of things. For, it is not morally binding upon man to fly with his hands in order to save some poor bird from the clutches of another. It is not morally binding upon a eunuch to be a father, though Manu declares that in order to pay off our debt to our forefathers (*pitrna*), we have to be fathers.

To this question, Mahatma Gandhi, says the writer, comes out with an affirmative answer. For,

Satyagraha means moral activity according to reality. Fichte long ago developed his system of philosophy to meet the demand, that reality should be such as to meet the demands of the moral will. If the moral law is opposed to the natural law, the former cannot be binding on us. Hence the two spheres of morality and nature must ultimately agree with each other. Mahatma Gandhi can say that his Satyagraha is true to reality, because it exhorts us to hold on to Truth and this Truth is the Law of the world, its essential nature. It is the only Existence. Everybody who does not hold on to Truth, is thereby heading towards non-existence. The nature of this Truth, Mahatma Gandhi says, is Love. Hence if we are to realise the Truth, we should weed away all hatred from our hearts. But this weeding away of hatred does not involve passivity, for mere passivity would be yielding to untruth and allowing it to triumph. Hence we have to assert Truth, which is Love, in face of untruth. Provided we are sincere, Mahatma Gandhi has no doubts about the results.

CASTE IN THE RIG VEDA

Mr. V. M. Apte, writing in the *Bulletin of the Deccan College Research Institute*, discusses whether caste was the normal development of the ancient Aryan institutions and holds that the caste system and class divisions had taken very deep root in Aryan society in the Rig Vedic age. The phase of the fourfold social division embodied in the Purusha-Suktha existed even in the early Rig Vedic period in substance. He concludes thus :

"About the *Sudra* class, I have already mentioned my view that the class existed even in the early Rig Vedic period, though it is not mentioned more than once (or twice, if the word *Vrsala* in X. 31. 11d mean a *Sudra*, as it does in my opinion, in the *Rig Veda*). It consisted chiefly of artisans, mechanics, and servants. In Indo-Iranian times, as the evidence of the Avestan literature shows, there was the practice of taking the defeated enemies as slaves. It is noteworthy that the Rig-Vedic Aryans absorbed the vanquished foes and subjugated slaves from among the *Dasas* and the *Dasyus* into the fourth class, which must have degenerated owing to this absorption of people of different colour and culture. But one good effect of this absorption seems to have been the disappearance of slavery as an institution. This view of mine that the fourth or the *Sudra* class suffered a degradation in the course of the Rig Vedic age, satisfactorily explains the seemingly anomalous position of the *Rathakara* in post-Rig Vedic literature. The *Rathakara* must have belonged to the fourth class in the Rig Vedic and pre-Rig Vedic periods and there was no stigma attaching to his caste or profession then. Later, however, when owing to the absorption of foreign elements the fourth

class fell from its old position, there was hesitation in assigning the *Rathakara* to the *Sudra* class. The *Taittiriya Brahmana* (I. 1. 4. 8) places him in a special class alongside the *Brahmanas*, *Rajanyas* and *Vaisyas*, but the *Katyayana Sruta Sutra* ranks him as a *Sudra*.

To sum up then, *caste*, in my opinion, was not formulated in the *Rig Vedic age*. The Rig Vedic Aryans came with the fourfold vision into India. What happened in the long interval known as the Rig Vedic age was that the Aryans absorbed into their fold large numbers of people at various stages of culture with whom they clashed or came into contact. Their fourth class and to some extent even the third absorbed the largest proportion of these new accretions and in the process became degraded. The danger of this degradation spreading higher up led gradually to a hardening of *caste distinctions* which, in my opinion, was really all that happened between the early and the late, i.e., *Purusha-Sukta periods of the Rig Veda*."

INDIA IN PERIODICALS

- INDIA IN 1940. By M. Bauwens. [The New Review, January 1941.]
- THE SCREEN AS A TEACHER OF HINDUSTANI. By K. Ahmad Abbas. [The Aryan Path, January 1941.]
- INDIAN POLITICAL SITUATION. By P. Kodanda Rao. [The Ashram Review, January 1941.]
- PROGRESS OF ART IN INDIA. By O. C. Gangoly. [Modern Review, January 1941.]
- THE CREDIT DISTRICTS, THE CIRCARS, AND THE NIZAM. By Diwan Bahadur T. Bhujanga Rao. [The Triveni Quarterly, Vol. XIII, No. 2.]
- PADMANABHAPURAM PALACE. By Dr. J. H. Cousins. [Travancore Information, February 1941.]
- LITERACY IN INDIA. By M. V. Danda, B.A. [The Social Service Quarterly, January 1941.]
- GITA AND WAR. By V. R. Talasikar, M.A., LL.B. [Prabuddha Bharata, February 1941.]

MULTUM IN PARVO

NEWS * DEPARTMENTAL * NOTES

Questions of Importance

INDIAN TROOPS IN SUDAN

Gen. Sir Claude Auchinleck, in his first broadcast as Commander-in-Chief in India, paid a well merited tribute to the gallantry of the Indian troops abroad. Recounting his personal experience of a visit to the Indian troops in Sudan, His Excellency said :

In the Eastern Sudan, I was privileged to see a number of our Indian units, some of which had already fought at Sidi Barrani and others which had come direct from India. The Italians had not then withdrawn from Kassala and their other advanced posts, and our men, inferior in strength to the enemy, were strung out over an immense front, awaiting reinforcements before beginning their attack. In spite of their relative weakness in numbers, they and the Sudan Defence Force, which has greatly distinguished itself, were in complete control of No-man's-land, having entirely deprived the Italians of their initiative.

I can say at once that, although I have served continuously with Indian troops for over 38 years, I have never seen Indian units which looked happier, fitter or more on their toes. I saw men of many classes and it was the same everywhere.

The British units of whom there are many with the Force, seemed to me, in the light of my considerable experience with British troops at home, to be of the very best, tough and fit, and adapting themselves to the conditions of that wild country as only British soldiers can. The combination of the two services seemed to me about as perfect as it could be.

I came away with the most comforting and gratifying sense of efficiency, purpose and determination. Conditions are, of course, often uncomfortable and the work is hard and strenuous, but a soldier expects this. The men are well fed, well clothed and excellently looked after. There is no doubt that in the Sudan, we have a modern army excellently commanded and led, trained to war under modern conditions, very well able to look after itself in all circumstances, and ready to give much harder blows than it will receive. I was able to visit also Indian reinforcement camps in Egypt and Indian units guarding the Suez Canal and other important points in the rearward areas. Here, too, I found the same state of cheerfulness and efficiency in spite of the less interesting nature of the work.

Even at this moment they are winning fresh battle honours for their colours. On the eve of the latest brilliant victory in Libya, I received the following message from General Wavell:—

"Indian troops were amongst the early reinforcements to arrive in Egypt and have been maintaining the defence of that country ever since. This long period of defence was rewarded by their participation in the Battle of Sidi Barrani, in which the magnificent work of the Indian troops enhanced the already high reputation they had previously held. Since then, Indian troops have taken part in several important actions in the Sudan, culminating in the most brilliant pursuit from Kassala to Keren. In this action, the Indian troops have performed extremely good work in most difficult conditions."

The fact that our British Indian troops took a leading part in the victory of Sidi Barrani, the battle which started the Italian rout in Libya cannot fail to make us here in India tremendously proud of them. They have won golden opinions everywhere and it is for us to see that the troops which follow them overseas shall lack for nothing that they need to enable them to keep the same high standard. The driving of the Italians out of Africa is a most important step towards winning the war and it is good to think that India is playing a major part in this effort. Here in this country, we can best honour the gallantry and devotion of our Indian soldiers overseas by doing everything we can to help to win that complete victory which alone will restore peace and security. To-day Indian troops in North Africa are fighting side by side with British, Australian, New Zealand, South African and Free French Forces to destroy once and for all the threat to bring war to the shores of India from North Africa. Our duty to them is threefold. We must ensure that their efforts are not rendered in vain by any failures on our part to make this country, that is this great country of India, secure against direct attack from any direction. We must place ourselves in a position to give our men actually facing the enemy in the field the greatest possible assistance and support of which we are capable, in the form of trained reinforcements and supplies. We must also—and here I would particularly appeal to those who, for one reason or another, may not be able to take a direct part in the immense military and industrial effort on which India has embarked with such striking results—provide our men overseas with all the comforts and amenities we can to lighten the hardships they are enduring so cheerfully. Equally important to their comfort and peace of mind is the assurance that those they have left behind them are being watched over and that their homes are secure.

MR. AMERY ON THE INDIAN CRISIS

A repetition of his former declaration regarding the constitutional issue in India was made by Mr. L. S. Amery, the Secretary of State for India, in a broadcast talk on February 24, in the B. B. C. Series on "Matters of Moment". Mr. Amery stated that the break-down of the Constitution in the Congress-administered provinces was due

to the pretensions of the Congress Party, the largest and best organised party in India, not only to immediate and unconditional independence, but in the name of democracy to override the claim of other important elements of India's complex national life, the great Moslem community and the Indian States, in particular, to safeguard their position.

After reviewing the progress of India's war effort, Mr. Amery asked:

What of her place in the moral and spiritual sphere? What is the relation of British policy in India to the ideal for which we are fighting? What is India's reaction to this policy and where does she stand on the main issue of the great struggle? We are fighting to-day for those ideas of justice, of individual freedom and tolerance and of self-government, which are the living principles of the growth and development of the British Empire. The declared goal of our policy for India is the same freedom as that which is enjoyed by the Dominions, or by ourselves, for that matter, as equal partners in the British Commonwealth or family of nations. There is no greater freedom, no higher status in the world. A far-reaching advance towards that goal was made in the Act of 1935. That Act is still in operation to-day in four Indian provinces—Bengal, the Punjab, Assam, and Sind. In these provinces, with a population of eighty-eight million, Indian Ministers responsible to democratically elected parliaments are most closely concerned with the daily life of their country.

Continuing, Mr. Amery said:

If that (India) Act has broken down in seven other provinces and has not been put into effect at a Federal Centre, that is not because it was unworkable, but in the main because at the pretensions of the Congress Party, the largest and best organised party in India, not only to immediate and unconditional independence, but in the name of democracy to override the claims of other important elements in India's complex national life, the great Moslem community and the Indian States in particular, to safeguard their own position. It was to meet that situation that His Majesty's Government have made it clear that while they are prepared to give effect at the earlier possible moment after the war to a new constitution shaped in consonance with Indian conceptions, it must be a constitution based—as all federal constitutions elsewhere have

been based—on agreement between the main elements in India's national life. It is against that insistence upon agreement that the Congress Party are at this moment carrying on a campaign of protest in the shape of speeches deliberately calculated to interfere with India's war effort.

If this campaign strikes a jarring note, it does not affect the universal detestation in which all shades of Indian opinion, including the Congress, hold Nazi and Fascist dictatorship, or the general desire of all India to see the victory of our cause. It does not affect the eagerness of recruits to come forward to serve in that cause. It does not affect the generous enthusiasm with which all classes of the Indian society have contributed to every fund connected with the war. Least of all does it affect the settled purpose of His Majesty's Government to help India to overcome those internal differences, which are the real obstacle to her progress towards the goal of free and equal partnership in the British Commonwealth. The attainment of that goal will mark not only the noblest achievements both of Indian and of British statesmanship, but the throwing of a bridge between Europe and Asia, which may mean much for the future peace and happiness of mankind. That would, indeed, be conclusive vindication of all for which we and India are fighting to-day.

SIR GIRJA ON WAR AND CULTURE

In a recent talk broadcast from the A. I. R. Delhi, Sir Girja Shankar Bajpai asked: "Is war consistent with culture?" and answered as follows:—

As an instrument of aggression—No; as the last resort of self-defence—Yes. If culture is the fruition of the human spirit, it is worth preserving even at the price of war. But culture is not spread by the sword, nor has it any element of arrogance in it. It recognises the infinite possibilities for good of the human spirit and the evil of suppressing any of them. That is why national cultures may be different and healthily competitive, but ought not to be mutually hostile. Were it otherwise, those professing to be cultured would be neither tolerant nor sympathetic nor understanding; in other words, they would not be truly cultured.

To sum up, culture is no other than the flowering of man's spirit; nourished by experience, coloured by sympathy, quickened by intelligence, neither aloof nor austere, nor other-worldly, but gracious and kindly and deeply human, not inert, but active like light in its radiance of brightness and warmth, company in solitude and at ease in company, wise counsellor in difficulty, and a source of solace in sorrow, strength in danger, fortitude in privation, comfort in adversity. You will be familiar with some words of Hamlet that I shall quote to you: "What a piece of work is man, how noble in reason, how infinite in faculties, in form and moving, how express and admirable, in action how like an angel, in apprehension how like a God." That, in sum, is the picture of what culture can make of man.

MR. SASTRI ON DOMINION STATUS

The Rt. Hon. Sastri, presiding over a meeting of the National Liberal Party addressed by Mr. V. N. Chandavarkar, President of the National Liberal Federation, at Madras, observed in the course of his concluding remarks:

"When Dominion Status for India was first mentioned several years back, some thought that the rising tide of Indian nationalism would be stemmed by stipulating beforehand that the Dominion Status that India could aspire to was that of the Westminster variety. The point in evolution, which Dominions reached at that time in 1919 was, by these narrow-minded statesmen, prescribed as a point beyond which India should not aspire. That mistake they should no longer give room for anybody to make. They ought to take care that the Dominion Status, which they asked for, was Dominion Status not necessarily of the Westminster variety, but that future Dominion Status to which all people were looking forward, that further stage of Dominionhood towards which, Canada, South Africa, and Eire might evolve. It was necessary to state this; for already he knew that as a matter of fact some legalist politicians in England had put forward the theory that if India wanted the Westminster variety of Dominion Status, she might have it. But Canada or Australia were no longer content with it. South Africa had already decided to shake it off. Eire had almost transcended the shackles imposed on her by that statute."

"We should take care," Mr. Sastri added, "in our statements that when we say Dominion Status, we mean not Dominion Status of the 1926 variety, but that form of Dominion Status to which Dominions are moving forward and which they will get at the end of the war when inter-Dominion relations are revised. When Liberal statesmen talk of Dominion Status, our friends of the Congress persuasion, wishing to show that we are in the wrong, always say: 'You fellows will never cease to be old fashioned. Canada and Australia are already overstepping the limits of Dominion Status and you are thinking of Dominion Status when everybody else has dropped it.' That is the way in which we are being criticised, because we always mentioned Dominion Status of the 1926 variety. Unfortunately such a statement has crept into one of the official pronouncements also. It has, therefore, acquired a certain political authority. But we are not bound by it and we ought to express our clear determination that if

we find at the end of the war that what is now described as Dominion Status is overstepped and a further stage in evolution is reached, it must be open to us to demand that further stage provided we are persuaded that it is advantageous to us. But some things may be advantageous to some Dominions and not to others. Not everything that is included in the word 'Dominion Status' is accepted by all Dominions. We must have the privilege, therefore, of going forward beyond the Dominion Status of the Westminster variety when other Dominions do so, in so far as we find that further progress will be advantageous to us."

PAKISTAN SCHEME DEPLORED

"An appeal to his countrymen, particularly the younger generation, to rise above communalism and work for unity, which alone could bring them freedom," was made by Sir Sikander Hyat Khan, Premier of the Punjab, addressing a students' gathering at Lahore in connection with the celebration of the Beasant Festival, which marks the advent of Spring.

Sir Sikander deplored Pakistan and Khalistan and other such like schemes and reiterated that in the Punjab there could be no other Government except that of the Punjabis."

PLEA FOR EXPANDED COUNCIL

That the Government should take an initiative by inviting leading public men who are willing to co-operate with them in their war efforts to assume the responsibility for the administration of the Central Government, is urged in a resolution passed by the Working Committee of the All-India Hindu League which met at Delhi, Mr. M. S. Aney presiding.

The Committee urge upon the Government "to proceed forthwith with the formation of an Expanded Council consisting purely of non-official Indians representing important elements in the national life of the country and place at least one of them in charge of the Defence Department".

EDUCATIONAL REFORMS

Speaking at the prize distribution of Union Academy, Delhi, on February 2, Sir Maurice Gwyer, Chief Justice of India and Vice-Chancellor, Delhi University, referred in detail to the reorganization of university education in Delhi and the part that secondary schools should play in future. He referred to the proposal made on behalf of the Delhi University and accepted by the Government of India, that the University's degree course should as soon as possible become a three-year course instead of two, and said the acceptance of this proposal will necessarily involve the reorganization, to some extent, of the secondary education system in Delhi. A secondary school education was not necessarily a prelude to entering a university, he pointed out. Boys and girls ought to leave the secondary school with a sufficient equipment of knowledge.

Proceeding, Sir Maurice Gwyer said:

There seem to me to be three avenues along which a schoolboy may have it in mind to proceed, one leading to the university, one to some kind of technical institute, and the third to a general training for his after-school life. The kind of education which he will require for each of these purposes is different and therefore I think that he should be given an opportunity some time before he would be leaving school in the normal course to make up his mind along which avenue he would desire to proceed.

In the majority of cases it will have to be the parents or guardians who make the choice, guided no doubt by the boy's own character or inclinations. A system such as this will require a differentiation in curriculum and examinations at an earlier stage than at present and that seems to be another reason for extending the length of the school course.

I hope you will not suppose that I am advocating a premature specialization in secondary schools. That would be a disaster indeed. But to give a cultural education, conceived on broad and generous lines, a bias in one direction rather than another cannot be called specialization. There are, or ought to be, certain elements common to every system of education, fundamentals which should become part of the intellectual apparatus of every educated man.

CHILDREN OF SCHEDULED CLASSES

That the Government of Bombay had issued explicit orders that no discrimination should be observed with regard to the admission and joint seating of Scheduled Classes children in common schools, has been revealed in the Annual Report on the working of the Backward Classes Department, Government of Bombay, for the year 1939-40, just published. These orders, the Report adds, are being observed in the majority of schools in the Province.

A sum of Rs. 6,500 in all was sanctioned during the year under report to the four Provincial Harijan Sevak Sanghs for carrying on their educational activities among the Scheduled Classes. These grants were sanctioned specially for the spread of literacy among the Scheduled Classes, but the Harijan Sevak Sanghas were also allowed to spend one-third of these grants for doing educative propaganda for the eradication of untouchability. The total amount sanctioned as grants-in-aid to the different hostels in the year under report was Rs. 42,776 as against Rs. 27,819 during the previous year.

CHANGE IN SCHOOL HOURS

The Bihar Government have decided to change the working hours in schools and colleges so as to suit the climatic conditions of the Province. According to the new proposals, the academic year will commence in January instead of June.

DR. C. R. REDDY

The Inter-University Board of India has, in the vacancy of the Rt. Hon'ble V. S. Srinivasa Sastri, elected Dr. C. R. Reddy, Vice-Chancellor of Andhra University, as its representative on the Central Advisory Board of Education.

A JUDGE'S STRICTURES

"To sentence a young man to one year's rigorous imprisonment for talking with an ex-detenu for five minutes, not anything which might be prejudicial for the defence of India, it being more than probable there was nothing objectionable in the talk, as their meeting was purely casual and as they were talking to each other on a public thoroughfare, strikes me as outrageously severe and the sentence must be reduced," observed Mr. S. N. Guha Roy, I.C.S., District and Sessions Judge, disposing of the appeal by Mr. Kamaniyakusum Das Gupta, an ex-detenu against the sentence passed by Mr. A. K. B. Karim for violating the restrictive order by talking to an ex-detenu. The Sessions Judge upheld the conviction and reduced the sentence to one month.

Mr. Guha Roy further observed that sentences like this tend to bring the application of the Defence of India Rules into disrepute and the sooner the Magistrates trying these cases see the folly of such sentences, the better for all concerned.

A AND B CLASS PRISONERS

The distinctions in treatment between A class and B class prisoners, except as regards the provision of furniture, have been removed by the Madras Government.

Following complaints about the treatment of "B" class prisoners, Government examined the whole problem and have decided to remove all distinctions in treatment between prisoners of the two classes, except in regard to the provision of furniture. The accommodation in Jails being limited, it is not possible to allow "B" class prisoners to use furniture—a concession which will continue to be enjoyed by "A" class prisoners.

HIGH COURT AND THE SPEAKER

That the Speaker "was guilty of deliberate and flagrant disobedience of the law" was one of the findings of Mr. Justice Dunkley in the case brought by Mr. U. Aye, Home Minister, against the Speaker for a declaration that the Minister was and still is a member of the House of Representatives.

Mr. Justice Dunkley recalled a judgment of the High Court in a similar case brought against the Speaker and observed that "laws are made by the British Parliament and the local Legislature and are interpreted by this Court from the law of the land which every inhabitant is bound to obey so far as it affects him," and added: "My learned brother's interpretation of the law was and is still binding on the defendant, who nevertheless once decided the very matter which he knew that he was prohibited by law from deciding."

The case which is the third suit of this nature before the High Court, is the outcome of some members of the House of Representatives having accepted Commissions in the Army.

DEFENCE RULES AMENDED

A number of Defence of India Rules have been amended by a Notification published on February 14, so as to provide that any one contravening them shall be punishable with imprisonment or fine or with both. The effect of the present wording of the Rules is that it is not legally admissible for a sentence of fine to be imposed with a sentence of imprisonment, substantive or nominal, being passed at the same time. For certain offences, a sentence of fine without the addition of imprisonment is manifestly appropriate and to this end the Rules have been amended.

LIFE INSURANCE IN INDIA

The Blue Book of Indian Insurance business gives figures for 1938, that is to say, the period before the war. It reveals that during 1938 the total new life insurance business written in India amounted to a total sum assured of Rs. 51 crores and 72 lakhs, of which the share of the Indian Companies was Rs. 43 crores and 30 lakhs. As compared with this, the total new life business written in India by Indian companies, during 1937 was Rs. 39 crores and four lakhs. There was a comparable increase also in the amount of new life business written outside India by Indian companies, the amount of such business being Rs. 3 crores and 39 lakhs in 1938 as compared with Rs. 2 crores and 70 lakhs in 1937. Thus the total sum assured under life insurance policies sold by Indian companies in India and outside during 1938 amounted to Rs. 46 crores and 69 lakhs—a figure which formed the apex of a steadily rising column.

RURAL INSURANCE IN HYDERABAD

A beginning has been made in the Hyderabad State to make the villager insurance-minded and steps are being taken to spread the blessings of insurance to rural areas. A fair measure of success has attended the efforts in this direction of the Hyderabad Co-operative Insurance Society, which was established in 1945 Fasli (1936 A.D.) During the four years of its existence, the Society has issued 4,452 policies of the total value of Rs. 36,63,945. The number of claims paid till the end of the last year was 10, involving a sum of Rs. 6,065. Of the total number of policies issued by the

Society, 35 were claimed by rural areas, the sum involved being Rs. 68,820.

With a view to giving further impetus to the scheme of rural insurance, Government have sanctioned Rs. 10,000 to be paid in three annual instalments, to be spent on organizational work for securing insurance business from agricultural classes. The Society has also contributed an equal amount for the same purpose.

The Society has also been devoting its attention to the question of providing facilities for mental employees of the Hyderabad Municipal Corporation, to enable them to share the advantages accruing from insurance. The number of policies issued to the menials under Municipal employ at special rates stands at 1,054, the total value being Rs. 1,10,796.

RELIEF TO INSURANCE COMPANIES

Certain concessions to young proprietary life insurance companies are contained in Sir A. Ramaswami Mudaliar's bill passed by the Central Assembly on February 14, to amend the Insurance Act so as to provide for the reduction temporarily of the amounts payable as instalments of the sum deposited by an insurer under Section 7 of the Act.

The need for the concessions had arisen, it was explained, because as a result of failing business and lapsing of policies due to war conditions; these young companies were finding it difficult to pay the fixed amounts of the deposits and were, therefore, in need of some relief.

Mr. Chapman Mortimer and Prof. Bannerjee supported the Bill, while Mr. Nauman opposed it. Mr. Lalchand Navalrai had amendments seeking *inter alia* to confine the concession to companies of less than 10 years' standing but he did not press them.

TRADE WITH THE STRAITS

India's trade with the Straits Settlements showed an improvement in 1939-40, the value of imports and exports having advanced from Rs. 4'13 lakhs and Rs. 2'17 lakhs to Rs. 4'82 lakhs and Rs. 2'74 lakhs, respectively.

India's imports from the Straits Settlements consist largely of spices, oils and tin unwrought. The aggregate value of the imports of spices amounted to Rs. 1'48 lakhs, betel-nuts alone amounting to Rs. 1'36 lakhs. Under oils, imports of coconut oil amounted to 7 million gallons as compared with 5'2 million gallons previously, while imports of mineral oils amounted to 14'1 million gallons as against 7'3 million gallons in 1938-39. Purchases of tin unwrought also advanced from 48,000 cwts. in the preceding year to 68,000 cwts.

The principal items of India's exports to the Straits Settlements consist of cotton piece-goods and gunny bags, both of which showed improvement. Exports of cotton piece-goods, chiefly coloured, totalled 23 million yards valued at Rs. 73 lakhs as against 17 million yards valued at Rs. 52 lakhs in the preceding year.

The number of gunny bags exported rose from 5'6 million to 10'6 million, the value rising from Rs. 13 lakhs to Rs. 21 lakhs.

TRADE COMMISSIONER IN AUSTRALIA

The Government of India have decided that New Zealand will be included in the charge of the newly-created post of Indian Trade Commissioner in Australia.

Mr. R. R. Saksena, the Trade Commissioner-designate, is expected to proceed to Australia shortly.

INDIA'S TRADE WITH S. AMERICA

There was a substantial improvement in India's trade with the South American countries in 1939-40. The aggregate value of imports amounted to Rs. 5 lakhs as against Rs. 3 lakhs in the previous year. India purchased fairly large quantities of nitrate of soda from Chile valued at Rs. 4 lakhs. Arrivals of mica from Brazil and Argentina amounted to about 1,200 cwts. On the export side, India supplied, as usual, jute bags and cloth, exports of which were valued at Rs. 3'99 lakhs as compared with 3'13 lakhs in 1938-39. Argentina took 1'6 million gunny bags valued at Rs. 9 lakhs; Chile 7'8 million bags valued at Rs. 20 lakhs; and Peru 8'3 million bags valued at Rs. 31 lakhs. Shipments of gunny cloth to Argentina amounted to 217 million yards. Exports to Peru and Uruguay were comparatively small and amounted to 3'6 million yards and 14'2 million yards respectively. Brazil took 34,000 tons of raw jute as against 25,000 tons, while Argentina took 15,700 tons as against 10,500 tons in the preceding year. Chile took 21,000 lbs. of tea as against 3,000 lbs. in 1938-39.

PROTECTION FOR ALUMINIUM

The Government of India by a resolution announce that in view of the fact that the production of aluminium in this country is an urgent war necessity, the Government of India are pleased to give an assurance to all who wish to undertake the manufacture in India that, provided their affairs are conducted on sound business lines, they will be given such measure of protection against unfair competition from outside India after the war as may be necessary to enable them to continue their existence.

WOMEN'S POLITICAL CONFERENCE

"Every possible assistance" to the constructive programme of the Congress was promised by the Delhi Women's Political Conference, which was inaugurated by Mrs. Asaf Ali on February 9.

The Conference resolved that in order to fulfil the object of giving greater impetus to the constructive programme of the Congress as outlined by Mahatma Gandhi, Women's National Service Committees should be formed wherever such organisations do not already exist and called upon the politically-minded women of Delhi to form such a committee.

By another resolution, the Conference welcomed the stress laid by Mahatma Gandhi on certain vital economic and social aspects of national problems in his Satyagraha campaign and assured him that all national Indian women would devote their energy to the use and sale of hand-spun and hand-woven cloth.

BRITISH WOMEN'S APPEAL

A letter to the *Times* over the signatures of 23 well known women makes an appeal to the Government for a new approach to the Indian situation. The letter says: "The present situation in India has been brought home forcibly to us by reason of the imprisonment of some leading members of the All-India Women's Conference—Mrs. Vijaya Lakshmi Pandit for example. With this Conference during past years, many of us have had close and vital connection.

We are fully aware of India's generous help to the War effort in terms of men, material and money. But alongside this comes the disturbing news of the imprisonment of outstanding national

leaders. We feel that this is not the time to go into the rights and wrongs that have brought about the impasse. A new approach must be made. A new atmosphere must be created.

In this connection, we welcome the news from India that an effort is being made by Indians themselves to end this disastrous situation. Cannot the British Government on their side make it possible by releasing political prisoners for men and women to meet together with a determination never to separate until an acceptable formula is found. We believe a solution can be found and we urge the British Government to co-operate in this effort to solve the constitutional deadlock."

WOMEN'S RIGHT TO PROPERTY

The Government of India are appointing a Committee with Sir B. N. Rau, a Judge of the Calcutta High Court as Chairman, to examine the question of Hindu Women's Right to Property, especially under the law of inheritance. Other members will probably be two eminent lawyers well versed in Hindu law. An official announcement regarding the personnel and terms of reference is expected shortly.

WOMEN FOR ARMAMENT INDUSTRY

Large-scale transfer of women workers from peace-time industry in Britain has begun. In Leicester, women hosiery operatives, clerks and warehouse staffs are to be released almost immediately for work in armaments industry elsewhere. A census of all workers in the hosiery industry in Leicester is to be taken this month and each manufacturer will be called upon to supply a quota of women employees.

NAZI BOMBS AND BOOKS

The book trade has suffered severely as a result of London's great fires.

A number of well-known publishing houses, formerly huddled together in the City's side-streets and alley-ways, have been completely gutted. But it was at Stationer's Hall Court, the home of the book distributing trade that the most incredible damage occurred.

It is now revealed, says the *Statesman*, that between three and four million books have gone up in flames; among them at least a thousand irreplaceable titles. In fact, when the staff arrived on the morning after the fire and found the premises burned out, not a page of uncharred copy remained. The stocks at Stationer's Hall ranged from the most obscure medical books to the most popular novels, carrying out the basic policy that when the man-in-the-street walked into a bookshop and asked for what might be an obscure title of any sort, the bookseller put it on his daily order form and Stationer's Hall looked it out from their stocks and supplied a copy.

But apparently it takes more than enemy vandalism to destroy other than temporarily one of our proudest heritages. Immediately publishers as a body unanimously decided to give all the help possible and the business of Stationer's Hall has now been taken over by the publishing trade as a whole, as it is the publishers' determination that a vital link between them and the retail trade world shall not fail.

MR. GANDHI'S STATEMENTS TO THE PRESS

After nearly six hours' discussion, the Standing Committee of the Newspaper Editors' Conference unanimously passed the following resolution proposed by Mr. P. D. Sharma and seconded by Mr. Francis Low:—

The Standing Committee is glad to know that the authorities appreciate the importance of Mahatma Gandhi's position in the public life of this country and the interest which attaches to his utterances and statements. It, therefore, requests the Government ordinarily not to ban publication of statements issued by Mahatma Gandhi, and in cases where they are inclined to take such a step they should consult the Central Press Advisory Committee before passing any orders thereon.

JINNAH-HUQ CORRESPONDENCE

The Huq-Jinnah correspondence is a revealing document. It shows how dissatisfied Mr. Huq is at the present state of affairs.

Referring to the present constitution, he says, it is absolute rubbish in as much as it gives all the powers to the Governors and the Governor-General and all the responsibilities to the Ministers. And he pleads: "Do please try to bring about a solution which will enable India to march forward."

But Jinnah is adamant. Huq's letter reveals that he is still uncertain as to the League's goal—whether it should be Pakistan. Neither does Jinnah throw any light on this. He is content with his present obstructionist policy.

MR. HENDERSON ON HITLER

When Hitler has nothing more to offer the Germans, when he realises that he has been cheating the people, he will scuttle himself as he scuttled the *Grif Spee*.

This is the opinion of Sir Nevile Henderson, British Ambassador in Berlin, at the outbreak of the war.

At a meeting at Oxford recently, Sir Nevile said: "When I left Germany, the two real leaders of Nazism were Himmler—the evil genius of Germany—and von Ribbentrop. Hitler is no longer the leader of Germany. I do not think he is responsible for anything the Germans have done. All Hitler has is faith. Plans are brought to him and he simply has faith enough to say 'go ahead'.

R. B. TILAK GIVES UP FAST

Mr. R. B. Tilak, who was on hunger-strike from January 12, broke his fast on February 3 at 3 p.m. by taking orange juice. Mr. Tilak told the *Associated Press* that he gave up his fast on receipt of communication from Sardar, Vallabhbhai Patel, Messrs. B. G. Kher, ex-Premier of Bombay, and Mr. K. M. Munshi, who are undergoing imprisonment in connection with satyagraha through Mr. Kher's son, to the effect that they would look into his case after their release from jail.

CHEAP CURE FOR RHEUMATISM

Faced with rheumatism, the scourge of armies, British army doctors have found how to give to sufferers first-class treatment with the most primitive of apparatus. Rheumatic conditions call for three forms of treatment: rest, warmth, and purgation.

Under normal circumstance, rest is given in the beds of hospitals; warmth from elaborate medicinal bathing establishments. Now in the field treatment quite as efficacious is provided by placing the patient in an ordinary canvas chair, wrapped in an army blanket with a copious stream of steam from a pipe led under his wrappings from a Primus stove.

Next, mud is mixed with olive oil and glycerine to form packs and sand is baked in pails and applied to the affected parts.

These primitive methods of field medicine have yielded results that compare favourably with those obtained under the best conditions of peace-time civilian medical treatment.

SOAP PERFUMES

Ionone and other perfumes used by the manufacturers of soap and scents will shortly be made on a semi-manufacturing scale in this country.

The Government of India have sanctioned a grant of a sum of Rs. 2,800 to Dr. M. N. Goswami of the Department of Applied Chemistry of the University College of Science and Technology, Calcutta, for the preparation of ionone and other perfumes from lemon grass oil, which is found abundantly in India.

DENTISTS TRAINED IN INDIA

The decision of the authorities to recruit dental surgeons trained in India for military service has opened up a new career for these surgeons.

It is learned here that the Selection Committee have so far selected eight persons for emergency commissions in the Indian Medical Service (Dental branch), their terms of appointment and service being the same as that of the Indian Medical Service. This is the first time that dental surgeons trained in India are being recruited for work with the Army.

FASTING

Fasting is as necessary as selection and restriction in diet, observes Mahatma Gandhi in "My Experiments with Truth". So overpowering are the senses that they can be kept under control only when they are completely hedged in on all sides from above and from beneath. It is common knowledge that they are powerless without food and so fasting undertaken with a view to control of the senses is, I have no doubt, very helpful. With some, fasting is of no avail, because assuming that mechanical fasting alone will make them immune, they keep their bodies without food, but feast their minds with all sorts of delicacies, thinking all the while what they will eat and what they will drink after the fast terminates. Such fasting helps them in controlling neither palate nor lust. Fasting is useful when mind co-operates with starving body, that is to say, when it cultivates a distaste for the objects that are denied to the body. Mind is at the root of all sensuality. Fasting, therefore, has a limited use; for a fasting man may continue to be swayed by passion.

EAT MORE GUR

According to Ayurvedic texts, the use of *gur* regulates digestion and promotes vigour, observes Mr. R. L. Chaturvedi till lately Registrar, Co-operative Societies, U. P. It cures consumption and asthma, relieves urinary troubles and vitalises the heart. Some authors have spoken very highly of its medicinal properties. There can be no two opinions about the superiority of clarified *gur*; but the mill-made sugar which is crystal clear, loses glucose and some essential vitamins. It is time to launch a vigorous 'eat more *gur*' campaign.

DR. S. RAGHAVENDRA RAO

The Syndicate of the Calcutta University has decided to admit Dr. S. Raghavendra Rao, of the Hyderabad State Medical Service, to the degree of Doctor of Science in Public Health. Dr. Rao's thesis, which was based on his work on certain aspects of the epidemiology of plague, was highly commended by the examiners appointed to adjudicate on the same.

A NEW MINT AT CALCUTTA

It is understood that the Government of India have decided to construct forthwith a new mint at Alipore, Calcutta.

It is explained that as the result of the war, the coinage demand in India has increased enormously, resulting in heavy strain on the existing mints at Bombay and Calcutta.

The Calcutta mint building over 100 years' old has an extremely congested lay out and is no longer suitable for modern requirements. Further, much of the plant is very old, almost worn out. It is, therefore, proposed to erect a new mint for silver coinage in the first instance.

The mint will have a capacity of six lakhs of rupees per day working normal hours, or approximately 12 lakhs of rupees per day working full overtime.

As soon as the situation returns to normal, it is proposed to close down the Calcutta mint and to extend the new mint so that nickel and bronze coins may also be struck there.

NEW RUPEE COINS

The new rupee coins consist of half silver and half alloy. The old coins contained 165 grains of silver and 15 grains of alloy. The new coins will contain 90 grains of silver. We are told that it is wasteful to keep the silver content of the rupee so high. If that is so, then why not make rupees out of copper or brass, asks "Economics" in the *Bihar Herald*. What is wrong then with paper rupees? Obviously public confidence is a factor to be reckoned with and this is likely to be shaken by a debasement of the rupee. Habit and education, however, may soon overcome the initial distrust. The new rupee has a security edge—a very complicated design. The Government intend to make it knave-proof. But the Government have forgotten one thing. The more complicated the security design, the more readily are suspicions likely to be aroused by any real or fancied deviations from it. When the new rupee gets a little worn out, its circulation is likely to be greatly hampered by all manner of unwarranted suspicions.

RAILWAY BUDGET

Railway estimates presented by Sir Andrew Clow in the Legislative Assembly on February 19 forecast for 1940-41 a surplus of 14'59 crores against a surplus of 8'29 crores originally estimated and for 1941-42, a surplus of 11'83 crores.

Revised estimate of surplus on railways for 1940-41 is more than the actual surplus of last year by about 10½ crores. Total traffic receipts of State-owned lines are expected to reach 109½ crores, about 11½ crores more than last year and 6½ crores more than the original estimate. Total working expenses, including, 12⅔ crores for depreciation, are a little below 66½ crores, or about 1½ crores more than last year. The surplus expected is 14'59 crores. The balance in the depreciation fund will stand at a little over 35 crores.

Budget estimate for 1941-42 assumes traffic receipts of 108½ crores, 1 crore less than in the current year. Total working expenses will amount to a little less than 68½ crores and will be about 2 crores more than the current year. The surplus is expected to be 11'83 crores. Balance of depreciation fund at the end of the year will be about 41 crores.

TICKETLESS TRAVELLING

The Assembly discussed Sir Andrew Clow's Bill to tighten the law dealing with ticketless travelling as reported upon by the Select Committee.

The Bill, said Sir Andrew, did not seek to introduce any new principle. The provision to deal with ticketless travellers already existed in the Railway Act, and the Bill only made the punishment for the offence more stringent.

S. I. RAILWAY

At a meeting of the South Indian Railway Advisory Committee in Madras, Mr. J. F. C. Reynolds, Agent and General Manager, who presided, said that fresh efforts would be made by the railway administration, as desired by the Committee, to remove the beggar nuisance and the Superintendent, Government Railway Police, would be requested to give the greatest possible assistance to the railway staff in that connexion.

THE ARTIST

The artist, writes Mr. Asoka Guha, suffers from split personality in his work of art. He emerges out as artist the first with art for his own sake; artist the second comes next with art for the people's sake; last of all artist the third ushers in with art for art's sake as his motto; and the work of art is complete.

Art for the people and art's sake snatch away their laurels every time a picture is put to the test, but art for artist's own sake, that is, the mind of the artist—the primary function of which is to select the subject matter—always slips into the background. The twofold chamber of the mind—the conscious and the unconscious (to certain school, the subconscious) are hardly taken into account in the estimation of picture. The connoisseur scarcely thinks that mind is the first to shed its lustre upon the work of art and thereby reflect in every stroke and rhythm of line.

ART AND POETRY

Like poetry, art is difficult. Because they are sisters, says L. S. Bangdel. The poet expresses his emotion with words and the artist in his work. As a means to an end, we associate it with craft and know it as the skilled use of mechanical means to achieve a more than mechanical result.

Art is an effort after expression and it employs every available means. The emotions find their ideal expression in poetry, and poetry appeals to the human minds through all the senses. It is poetry that clothes the limbs of naked marble with more than marble's beauty. It is poetry that transfigures colour with a light beyond its own; poetry that inspires tone and gives the wings of worship.

SRI AUROBINDO ON ART

Art galleries cannot be brought into every home, but if all the appointments of our life and furniture of our homes are things of taste and beauty, it is inevitable that the habits, thoughts and feelings of the people should be raised, ennobled, harmonised, and dignified.

CHAMPION WRESTLER

Quite a number of wrestlers with international reputations took part in the professional wrestling tournament, held recently at Los Angeles. The semi-finalists were Lee Wyckoff, Vincent Lopez, Sandor Szabo and K. O. Koverley.

Wyckoff defeated Lopez, and Szabo accounted for Koverley. In the final, Wyckoff beat Szabo and immediately issued a challenge to Jim Londos, who claims the world championship. Londos, miles away, disregarded the Californian Commission's demand that he should meet the winner of the tournament, with the result that Wyckoff is now recognised in California as world champion. His claim is only one more added to the galaxy of those describing themselves as "Champion wrestler of the world".

H. H. THE AGA KHAN'S STUD

The whole of H. H. the Aga Khan's stud is among the hundreds of the best thoroughbreds bought by Germans, according to an independent French Agency message from the German frontier.

Among the horses are many famous brood mares, including La Becassine, La Bourrasque and La Belle Dame. The purchase is stated to be the result of requests from German breeders and the transaction was carried out by the German Breeders' Union and the German Army Command.

CYCLISTS' FEDERATION OF INDIA

Mr. Janki Dass, Indian Cycling Champion, who is Secretary of the National Cyclists' Federation of India and Secretary of the Punjab Cycling Association, it is learnt, has resigned. Mr. Abdul Hamid, Tournament Secretary of the Punjab Olympic Association, has been nominated in his place.

RONALD SHAYES

Mr. Ronald Shayes, the well-known Davis Cup Tennis player, who was a Sergeant in the R. A. F., has been killed in an air crash. He was ranked third in British Lawn Tennis.

DISCOVERY OF A NEW COMET

A comet, observed from New Zealand on Saturday the 25th January, is now confirmed as a new discovery. It was sighted by Mr. A. A. McIntosh of Auckland when its position was right ascension 17 hours 21 minutes and declination 50 degrees six minutes south. It was moving south-east at the rate of five degrees daily.

Astronomers explain that it is not the comet discovered by Mr. L. E. Cunningham, an American astronomer, in September. The comet has also been observed at different centres in India.

SIR P. C. RAY HONOURED

In appreciation of his Asiatic researches in science including medicine, Sir Prafulla Chandra Ray has been awarded the Sir William Jones Memorial Medal by the Royal Asiatic Society of Bengal.

Other recipients of this honour have been: Sir Malcolm Watson, Sir George Grierson, Dr. Felix H. D. Herelle, Dr. C. Snouck Hurgronje, Dr. Sir U. N. Bhamchari and Dr. A. J. Wensinek.

RADIO RESEARCH BOARD FOR INDIA

The constitution of a Radio Research Board to study the possibility of manufacturing different parts of radio sets and microphones from indigenous materials is, it is learnt, now engaging the attention of the Board of Scientific and Industrial Research. At the request of the Chairman of the Board, Sir S. S. Bhatnagar, the Physics Department of the Science College of Calcutta University, has undertaken the task of preparing a comprehensive scheme embodying the various aspects of the proposal.

RESEARCH UTILISATION COMMITTEE

Sir A. Ramaswami Mudaliar will be Chairman of the Industrial Research Utilisation Committee which, it was announced in Calcutta, is to be set up in order to make use of the results of research carried out by the Industrial and Scientific Research Board. About a dozen representatives, Indian and European, of industries in India are expected to be on the Committee.

LEELA DESAI ON HER SCREEN CAREER

Charming, petite, vivacious Leela Desai answered an endless stream of questions at the Presidency College, Madras, on February 5, for nearly an hour with great good humour and bonhomie.

Amidst loud applause, Miss Desai replied to the first question, that she was going to continue her screen career.

She was not going to run any new school of dance but she wanted to dance. Her best performance was in the "President". She would suggest a screen career to educated young women in preference to a stage career.

Her favourite Indian actors were: Saigal and Kananbala for singing and Devika Rani for acting. Among the Western stars, she liked Norma Shearer and Vivien Leigh and Robert Taylor. Proceeding, she said she would prefer to be both a film star and dancer. She then related how she had been signed for New Theatres by Mr. Hem Chandra, who saw her when she was studying dancing at Lucknow.

She wanted to learn Tamil and appear in one of the Talkies.

FILM INDUSTRY IN 1940

Thanks to the facilities afforded by the British Admiralty, states a report published by the South Indian Film Chamber of Commerce on the "Film Industry in 1940", the shipping of raw films has been made regularly available to India from foreign countries, thus enabling India to maintain the average annual output of production.

Despite the rise in the price of raw film and railway freight, new taxes like the studio licence fee, etc., the output for 1940 did not suffer in quality and technique compared to last year.

South India contributes on an average one-third of the annual output of picture production in India. Eleven film producing studios functioned during the year under report in South India Mysore being included, as in the previous year. Eight of these studios were situated either in the City of Madras or in its vicinity. Coimbatore and Salem, between which there were three studios contributed to the quota.

RECORD SALE OF CARS

In spite of the war scare and bad weather, Detroit had its best Christmas, eve, and sold 400,000 cars to retail customers says a report from U. S. A.

One catch to this performance, although the 1941 model year began early, the early-season rush is still on. Also many buyers have been frightened into premature turn-ins by the thought that the 1941 models may be the last for some time. Yet the auto-makers, just as scared of rationing as their customers, have been anxious to build year-end inventories up to the level of 600,000 new cars. Sales were too fast for them. The November inventory increase (about 90,000 cars) put dealers' stocks up to only 450,000 cars.

Main reason for this retail crescendo has been (1) the assurance of future work guaranteed by rising order backlogs, (2) re-employment.

CARS AND TYRES

The faster you drive your motor car, the shorter will be the life of the tyres—this is a summary of part of an address given recently by a tyre manufacturer to a group of engineers. One driver, he said, may get 35,000 miles from a set of tyres while another, using the same kind of tyres, get only 5,000 miles of service. It was largely a question of speed.

According to his experience and the results of tests, front tyres lasted nearly half as long again, and rear tyres gave twice as much service at 55 m.p.h. than at 70 m.p.h. Too rapid acceleration and faulty driving around curves, in the opinion of this expert, were two of the chief factors responsible for the premature wearing out of tyres.

BOMBAY ROAD

The Bombay Government spent nearly Rs. 65'32 lakhs on roads in the Province in 1939-40, according to the annual report of the Public Works Department. Of this amount, Rs. 33'96 lakhs were from provincial revenues and were spent on the improvement of 19 provincial roads and Rs. 25'38 lakhs were from the Petrol Tax Fund and were utilised for metalling, modernising, construction, and other improvements.

WORLD'S LARGEST BOMBER

What is probably the world's largest bomber troop-carrier will shortly be in production in the U. S. A.

This is "B-19" Douglas Bomber which weighs 80 tons when fully loaded with its 18 tons of bombs and 10 tons of armaments. It has a range of 7,500 miles and carries a crew of 10.

With wing span 212 feet, this giant machine is driven by 4 Wright Duplex engines, each developing 2,000 horse power and attains a speed between 200 and 250 miles per hour at a height of 25,000 feet. It is stated that its armaments details, which are kept a close secret, enable "B. 1" to beat off attacks from several fighters at once without assistance from escorting aircraft.

RUNNING THE NAZI GAUNTLET

In addition to passengers and freight, British civil aircraft last year carried thirty million air mail letters, flying no less than five million miles despite German claims that Britain was encircled by an aerial blockade.

Even now in mid-winter, with severe weather added to the already considerable hazards of war time flying, approximately 10,000 miles are still being covered every week by the flying-boats and land-planes of British Airways.

Throughout the year contacts with Europe were regularly maintained despite Germany's overrunning of the Continent.

AIR CRAFT FOR FLYING CLUB

At a recent meeting of the Finance Sub-Committee of the Madras Provincial War Committee, Mr. G. A. Bambridge, the Chairman, referred to a report which he had received from Dr. R. J. Dyson, Chairman of the Madras Flying Club, stating that the Club had just received three Gypsy Metal Moths from England, that a fourth plane was on its way and that shipment of three Tiger Moths from Australia was expected to be made shortly. In addition to these aircraft, two more planes were on their way for use on the Central Government's Training Scheme. These planes have been supplied by the Government of India.

MANUFACTURE OF MARGARINE

Investigations for the manufacture of margarine for British troops has been taken up by two big Indian firms on the suggestion of the Board of Scientific Industrial Research. The Board has set up an exploratory committee for surveying the existing position of essential oils required particularly for soap industry, and two investigators have been asked to submit the programme of investigations, which may lead to the development of oil industry in India. An extensive programme of research has been drawn up for utilising vegetable oils mixed with mineral oils as lubricants.

ENAMEL WARES AND RUBBER PRODUCTS

One of the biggest enamel works in India is being called upon to manufacture enamel ware for the use of the medical stores department. This firm is already supplying some of the enamel articles required.

An improvement has been found in the resilience of samples of rubber tubing manufactured by a Calcutta firm. A trial order is being placed and if the article is found to be satisfactory, the entire requirements of India rubber tubing of the medical stores department may be obtained from this firm.

Samples of rubber corks submitted by an Indian rubber factory have been found to be satisfactory.

MANUFACTURE OF STOVES

An Indian firm has agreed to take up the manufacture of stoves and has been asked to furnish samples.

For the first time in India, the manufacture of oxygen field pattern outfits has been undertaken by an engineering firm in Calcutta and completed. The pilot sets received from the firm have been found to be satisfactory and an order has been placed.

It is proposed to manufacture in the medical stores depots a malt extract of cod liver oil. Samples of the article manufactured have been received and are being tried.

MILK YIELD IN INDIA

Mr. T. Bhaskara Menon, proprietor of a dairy farm, addressing the Rotary Club at its luncheon meeting at Ernakulam, spoke on "the Milky Way". Mr. Menon said that from the point of view of milk yield, Indian cattle to-day were the poorest. In fact, the position was that of English cattle in the latter half of the 18th century. The truth of the matter was that in India, the cow received too much veneration and too little food. Thanks, however, to the devotion of her cowherds, India still possessed some very good breeds handed down from generation to generation by poor ryots—breeds like the Sindhis, Sahiavals and the Ongole. The daily production of milk per *capita* in India was only eight ounces of which seven were consumed, which was far below the dietary requirements of a normal human being, which was 15 ounces at the lowest. Compared with other countries, it was a staggering figure. In New Zealand, the daily production of milk was 244 ounces per *capita* and consumption 56 ounces. In Great Britain, the daily production per head was 14 ounces, but consumption was 39 ounces.

AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION

The Government of Bengal, it is understood, have sanctioned the introduction of a scheme of imparting agricultural education in junior and senior Madrassahs in the Presidency. Hitherto, the scheme applied only to High and Middle English Schools.

PRISONERS TO WORK ON LAND

Italian prisoners, captured by the British forces in Libya, will be sent to Britain to work on the land, says the *Daily Telegraph*.

The object, it adds, will be to relieve the present shortage of agricultural labour, and the trade unions will offer no opposition to the proposal.

GUR FROM PALMYRA PALM

The manufacture of *gur* from the palmyra palm, which the All-India Village Industries Association has been carrying on in several districts of Bengal is, it is understood, engaging the attention of the Government of Bengal.

INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES

There were only 101 industrial disputes in British India during the quarter ending June 30, 1940, compared with the figure 128 for the previous quarter. They involved 268,580 workers and resulted in a loss of 2,474,263 working days the corresponding figures for the earlier quarter having been 273,990 and 4,003,016, respectively.

Of the disputes, 31 were successful, 18 partially successful and 47 unsuccessful. Five were still in progress at the end of the quarter.

The important strikes which occurred during the quarter were:

Bihar.—(1) The strike in the Peninsular Tobacco Factory, Monghyr. This strike was in progress at the end of the quarter, involving 1,600 workers and 121,800 working days lost.

Bombay.—(2) General strike in the Bombay Textile Mills, involving 156,598 workers and 1,409,653 working days lost.

Central Provinces and Berar. (3) The strike in the Empress Mills, Nagpur, involving 14,000 workers and 210,000 days lost.

INDIA'S INDUSTRIAL ARMY.

The first batch of 50 Bevin boys, selected from artisans employed in factories in India for training in the United Kingdom, are leaving India.

Of ages ranging from 18 to 35, these technicians come from all classes and parts of India and include electricians, fitters, blacksmiths, etc. They will form an advance guard of what is described as the first industrial army to leave India.

Announcing the scheme to train several hundred Indians in England, Mr. Ernest Bevin, Minister for Labour, said in November last: "The men will be paid the same pay as our own trainees from the Ministry of Labour, and their wives in India will be paid allowances by the Ministry according to the arrangements we are making. This is forging a new industrial link between the East and the West."

GANDHI-BOSE CORRESPONDENCE

The offer of his services by Mr. Subhas Chandra Bose entirely at the disposal of Mahatma Gandhi in connection with the Satyagraha movement and its rejection by the latter on grounds of vital and fundamental differences constitute the main points of a correspondence that had passed between the two leaders before Mr. Bose's sudden disappearance from his home last month.

The entire correspondence, which has now been released to the press by Mr. Mukundalal Sarkar, Acting General Secretary of the All-India Forward Bloc, with Mahatma Gandhi's permission consist of four letters, two from each side.

AIR RAID VICTIMS

As many as 11,424 people have been killed on the roads of Britain during the 15 months of the war. The Ministry of Transport, making this statement, says that the number is an increase of 3,141 over the number killed in the 15 months preceding the war. Most of the accidents occurred during the hours of darkness and over half of those killed are pedestrians. The number killed during November 1,146, is only 10 less than the figure for last December which is the worst month hitherto.

U. S. PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION

Complete returns of the Presidential Election show the largest poll in the history of the United States, 49,808,624 people voted as compared with 45,226,455 in 1936.

President Roosevelt received 27,241,939 votes as compared with 27,476,673 in the previous election.

Mr. Wilkie polled 22,327,226 votes. His poll was the largest ever polled by a Republican candidate.

MR. FAZLUL HUQ ON MADRASIS

Sincere admiration for the province of Madras in its being free from the virus of communalism was expressed by the Bengal Premier, Mr. A. K. Fazlul Huq, while presiding over the ceremony of the presentation of a purse to Mr. Kuppaswami Sastri, a retiring teacher of the National High School in South Calcutta.

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The Problem of Nutrition in India

BY ACHARYA SIR P. C. RAY

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ONE of the most important problems on which attention has been focussed throughout the world during the last 2 or 3 decades is the question of nutrition. Elusive chemical substances called vitamins present in natural food materials have been recognised only during the present century. That proteins from different sources are not equivalent but they may differ so greatly from one another as to make a tremendous difference in nutrition was also recognised



ACHARYA P. C. RAY

during the last few decades. The realisation is, therefore, being brought home in all countries of the world that attention must be paid, not only to the quantitative aspect of the question but also to the qualitative side. It is a question not only of enough food being supplied but also of the right kind of food.

It so happens, however, that the food materials required in order to supply energy and bulk are fairly cheap, being derived mainly from cereals like rice, wheat, etc. These are very rich in carbohydrates which constitute mainly the fuel of the food. Fats are also necessary and they too also

serve as fuel, but being weight for weight more energy-yielding than are the carbo-hydrates of cereals, their

requirement is quantitatively less and this is good, as fats are usually more costly than the carbo-hydrate-bearing materials. But so far as proteins are concerned, which are essential for nutrition and serve not merely as energy-producers but as tissue-builders, the question is more difficult. It has been scientifically determined that proteins derived from animal sources like milk, eggs, fish, meat, etc., are of a higher biological value than proteins derived from vegetable sources. The difficulty is, that it is precisely these materials like milk, eggs, etc., which contain the better proteins that are considerably dearer than the plant sources which supply the vegetable proteins. In general, again, no food materials which contain either class of proteins are cheaper than cereals which supply the carbo-hydrates. The same applies in a general way to the question of vitamins which are essential for life-growth and good health. They are derived usually from food-stuffs like wheat, pulses, eggs, carrots, green leafy vegetables, milk and liver oils. It has been found by Sir John Orr and other investigators that even in such a relatively rich country as Great Britain, nearly half the population lives below the normal nutrition level, particularly with reference to proteins, vitamins and certain essential minerals like calcium and phosphorus, because the people cannot afford the more costly food-stuff. The curves of nutritional level and income level of different groups of population were to be uncannily similar. This would, indeed, show strikingly that the problem of nutrition is not only a scientific problem but also a social problem, which cannot be tackled unless a social system, in which "in plethoric plenty people perish", is radically altered.

Even the League of Nations (which is now practically defunct) also recognised this position and although it is a conservative body, it did feel that the world produces sufficient food-stuffs for the proper nutrition of the people, but that the income of vast sections of the population is so low that they cannot afford to try these food-stuffs.

A balanced diet must contain sufficient good protein (about 100 grams per adult per day), carbo-hydrates, fat, vitamins and minerals like calcium, phosphorus, iron and iodine. McCarrison observed long ago that the diets usually consumed in all parts of India, except in the Punjab, were deficient in more than one important ingredient. For instance, young rats, which were allowed to grow on a typical Madrassi diet, made a very poor show. The Bengali diet was slightly better. The Mahrathi diet was still better and the Punjabi diet was the best, being superior to an average European diet. Considering, however, that Madras has produced some of the best intellects of India, like Ramanujam and Raman, it would seem that even better results might have been expected from such a talented section of the Indian people if their diet normally supplied was of optimum nutrition. So far as proteins are concerned, although I am a fish-eating Bengalee, I do not hold the brief necessarily for flesh foods. Vegetarians abound in Madras and they can obtain good proteins from animal foods like milk and eggs. If milk and milk preparations form an adequate proportion of the daily diet, there would be no question of deficiency of good proteins. If, in addition, eggs are taken by vegetarians, so much the better.

So far as the diets of different sections of the Indian people are concerned, it may in general be stated that a diet containing whole wheat, rice, millets, pulses, some root vegetables, green vegetables, fruits and milk or milk preparations would provide an adequate diet. If, in addition, eggs, fish and meat may be added to the diet, it would be still better. On the question of protein, I would only draw attention to the fact that, although the minimum amount of protein required for keeping the adult in nitrogen-balance may be of the order of 45 grams a day, yet the trend of reform in practically all countries is in the direction of considerably increasing the daily protein allowance so that optimum protein consumption may be assured. This seems to be a step in the right direction. The allowance of protein per day in Japan and Siam, which are Eastern countries, has been recommended to be of the order of 100 grams a day. The nutritional experts of the Soviet Union have recommended a figure even higher than one hundred. I have alluded to this point in slightly greater detail, because there have been attempts in this country by people including pseudo-scientists, who recommended a figure as low as even 60 grams. This only helps to keep the social conscience in India from being roused, as the protein consumption depends on the question of income and therefore the lower the protein allowance recommended, the less is the indignation against that political and economic system, which has made us the poorest people of the world.

There have been attempts in this country to prescribe what we call just an adequate diet at a low cost. While,

of course, such prescriptions are necessary for the guidance of the vast mass of poor people in this country, it should be clearly realised that such adequate diets are something different from really optimum diets. An optimum diet is such as will not merely just prevent frank deficiency diseases but would allow us to attain the best possible standard of growth, health and vigour within the limits set by heredity. It is now known that there is a large "no man's land" between frank illness and optimum health, and it is possible to be well without being as healthy as an optimum diet would have permitted. Under such conditions one is less energetic, less efficient and more prone to fatigue and infections than one would be on a diet affording optimum nutrition. The social conscience throughout the world has now been awakened not simply for providing just adequate diets but for providing optimum diets.

This brings us again to the social problem of nutrition to which I have referred above. Obviously prescribing an optimum diet is not enough. Society must be so organised that all people in the world do get this optimum diet. This cannot be done unless the system based on vested interest disappears and a system run in the interest of the community comes into its place. The bogey that has been raised in some interested quarters saying that the world is over-populated and has out-stripped the supply of food-stuffs should be ignored. Vaviloff, the Russian geneticist, calculated that if scientific agriculture by modern methods were adopted throughout the world and waste lands were utilised, then it could support 10 times the present population of the world. And if even the natural

food products fail us, even wood can be made to supply sugar as is now being done in Germany by the process of Bergius, and there is no inherent impossibility of making food from air. What is required, therefore, at the present moment is the establishment of a society where the interest of the community would be paramount and the use of scientific principles and methods would be universal.

Let us not say, however, that because circumstances in India are difficult, therefore we should not try to do our best. Progressive countries have taken concerted measures to improve the diet, particularly of their growing population, viz., children and adolescents. In England, the Government gives very cheap milk to tens of thousands of school children. In France, the municipalities did the same. In the United States, similar measures have been taken. In Japan, the entire young population is specially attended to. The Soviet Union has about a dozen nutrition institutes. Japan has got an Imperial Institute of Nutrition and nutrition laboratories are abundant in America. This would indicate the lines on which we might ourselves advance in India. Even if the Government does not help us, there is no reason why municipalities like the Calcutta Corporation and the Madras Corporation might not systematically spend a part of their income in supplying a good

milk diet either free or at a low cost to the children. There could be established free milk kitchens, particularly for infants who need it most. There could be established community restaurants by the Corporation or any other body on a non-profit basis, where, particularly in busy and congested areas, the people could get meals which are prepared under scientific supervision with due regard to their nutritive value and their palatability. These are some measures which may be taken certainly by the Central and Provincial Governments and, if not by them, even by the big City Corporations of India. If they do so, then the municipalities in the mofussil might also follow their example. It seems that there has been a gradual awakening of the public mind with reference to the appalling prevalence of mal-nutrition and under-nutrition in this country, but mere awakening will not do unless it crystallises into action.

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INDIA'S FINANCES

BY DR. P. S. LOKANATHAN

(Acting Professor of Economics, Madras University)

IN the midst of one of the greatest wars in history, it must be gratifying to note that India's finances remain not only unbattered and unshaken but appear to be extraordinarily strong and sound. The war has undoubtedly increased the scale of her expenditure and has brought about a diminution in revenues in some cases. But, on the other hand, it has also increased the income of the people of India and her taxable capacity; while the people have been willing to bear additional burdens of taxation and to accept new schemes of taxation.

The credit of India, which has always stood high, thanks to the extremely conservative and orthodox methods of financial administration pursued by her finance member, has been greatly strengthened on account of the large sterling balances which she has been able to accumulate. The scheme of repatriation of sterling debt, which the Government of India has been able to put through, is not only in itself a financial measure of no mean significance but has rendered her budgetary and ways and means position very much easier in the future. It has resulted in a definite saving of interest, reduced the burden of foreign obligations and released the rupee-exchange from its continuous nightmare of depreciation. What a momentous change has repatriation brought about in the future of Indian exchange will be clear from the fact that while even in the current year only £1 million has to be remitted to the Secretary of State, in the next year the Government of India expects a refund

from London of over £26 millions, and this is a bullish factor in the rupee-sterling exchange. There are critics of the repatriation scheme who argue, firstly, that we had to pay a high premium for those sterling securities instead of purchasing them at par; secondly, that we should have used our foreign balances to import machinery and thereby accelerate industrialisation; and, thirdly, that it was more to the benefit of Great Britain than to India. To all such, the answer may be made that considering the fact that the holders of the sterling stock were not bound to sell before the due dates which, in some cases, were as late as 1950 and the saving of interest to India is immediate, the prices paid were not excessive; secondly, that although much could have been done by the Government of India in the early months of the war, it may be difficult now, with Europe prostrate and America bending all her energies to speed up production for war purposes, for India to import machinery on any large scale and in any case it is almost impossible for her to digest as much as 130 crores of capital goods in a short period of two or three years; and thirdly, that the fact that it was to Britain's advantage does not minimise the gains to India.

The most significant feature in the budget presented in March by the Finance Member to the Government of India has been the very considerable fall in the revenue from customs and the very significant rise in defence expenditure. Both are the direct outcome of the War.

Customs duties yielded as much as Rs. 46 crores in 1938-39. In the current year the yield was only 37½ crores, while in the next year it is likely to shrink further to 34½ crores. This fall by nearly 25 per cent. is the result of a number of causes all traceable to the war—the restriction of imports, the lack of shipping, the inevitable cutting off of supplies from countries which had been formerly supplying India. The defence expenditure has increased from the normal scale of Rs. 15 crores to Rs. 72 crores in the current year and is expected to mount up to Rs. 84 crores in the next year. No one can assert that for the defence of a country like ours at a time like the present Rs. 84 crores is too high. The only question is whether even on the present scale of expenditure, India can be said to be fully prepared; but that is a question irrelevant to the purposes of this article.

How has the growing gap between expenditure and revenues been filled by the Government of India? Was it all met only by loans or by taxes or partly by taxes and partly by loans? If by taxes, were they such as may be regarded as equitable and fair, and as throwing the burden upon classes who have the capacity to bear them? On the whole the budget presented by the Finance Member comes out satisfactorily judged by proper canons of taxation. Some of the taxes had already been imposed during the current year and are only continued for the next year. The increase in postal rates is of all the additions imposed least desirable as it is a tax on education and communication of thought—intangible no doubt but not for that reason to be slighted. India

cannot bear more than a half-anna post card and anna letter. Anything more is a heavy impost. The new excess profits duty has not yielded much during the current year on account of certain administrative difficulties which only now have been set right; but the surcharge on income-tax has naturally brought the anticipated addition as no new machinery had to be devised. The deficiency in customs revenue was only slightly made up by increases from currency and mint, Posts and Telegraphs, etc., while the revenue from sugar excise had fallen to Rs. 3½ crores as against an estimate of 5½ crores. But the Government of India have been rescued from a difficult situation on account of the large contribution from Railways, which not only were able to make the usual contribution based on 1 per cent. on the total capital outlay but to add it a further sum by way of refund and an additional share. This large contribution was made possible, not only on account of the large movement of goods and increased passenger traffic but also on account of the increase in the railway charges levied last year.

The current year is expected to result in a deficit of 8½ crores of rupees, but in view of the provision of Rs. 3 crores for a sinking fund towards reduction of debt which will now not be utilised for the purpose, the net deficit is of the order of 5½ crores and this deficit remains uncovered and will be balanced by borrowing. For the coming year the expenditure including that for defence is Rs. 127 crores while on the present basis and levels of taxation the revenue is to be Rs. 106½ crores, leaving a deficit of Rs. 20½ crores. The Finance Member has proposed to wipe out the deficit to the extent of a

little over 6½ crores by fresh and additional taxation leaving about 14 crores to be got from borrowing. Purists will say that the whole of this gap between receipts and expenditure must be met by taxation; but upon the whole in view of the fact that the financial position of India is exceptionally strong and that excessive taxation might affect adversely industrial development, the danger of an unbalanced budget is not serious. Of the tax proposals, no objection could be taken against either an increase in the Excess Profits duty from the old 50 per cent. rate to 66⅔ per cent. rate or to an increase in the surcharge on income-tax from 25 per cent. to 33⅓ per cent. The new excise duty on pneumatic tyres and tubes is perfectly justified as on account of the war, imports have been reduced and the present producers are reaping large gains. The increase in the duty of artificial silk yarn and thread has the effect of aiding the Indian cotton textile industry which, but for the war, would have continued to be in a difficult plight. The only duty to which, on grounds of equity, exception could be taken in the increase in the excise duty on matches; but it has the saving quality of productivity and the incidence of the tax falls lightly on the shoulders of the masses. The tax is really a tax on cigarette smokers and, therefore, falls on those who may not mind it much. On the whole, the fresh taxation imposed may all be defended on the ground that the alternatives are not likely to be very much better.

The budgets of the provinces reveal paradoxically enough a better state of affairs this year than at any time since the beginning of provincial autonomy.

Two or three factors were primarily responsible for this. There has been no serious famine in any part of India and the monsoons were both favourable and appeared at the right time. The old dictum of Sir Guy Fleetwood Wilson that the Indian budget is a gamble in rains is still applicable to provincial budgets. The Punjab, whose finances had been badly affected by three years of successive famine, has been immune for the first time this year. Secondly, the provincial share of income-tax increased during the year and every province was able to get increased receipts, thanks largely to the large surplus from Railways. Thirdly, many of the provincial governments had embarked upon new schemes of taxation, with a view to their undertaking nation-building activities, and these taxes are now bearing fruit while the need which brought them into existence have either ceased or greatly diminished. Thus in Madras and Bombay, the financing of Prohibition required the levy of new taxes—the General Sales Tax in Madras and the Property Tax in Bombay—and they have proved to be remarkably productive. The result of all the above factors is that, for the first time after many years, all provinces, except Assam, enjoy a surplus budget, and even chronically deficit provinces like Sind and Orissa have this year had balanced budgets.

The interruption to the beneficent work of Congress Ministries on account of their resignation, and the administration of several provinces by Advisers, has necessarily led to a slowing down of the pace of expenditure on developmental functions. But in some provinces, notably in Madras, the budget reveals not merely an inherently sound financial position but a

continuance of the policies that inspired the popular Ministry. The financial statement issued by the Government of Madras in March this year is notable for many sound features, although it is characterised by conservative and even extreme caution. Madras has paid in the past a heavy price for its excessive purity and financial integrity, and the present budget reveals the same tendency to utilise revenue surplus for capital expenditures, which had been characteristic of previous administrations. The creation of a Revenue Reserve Fund to which the surplus, after deducting cost of collection of the Sales Tax and the financing the loss from Prohibition is to be credited, is undoubtedly a wise and praiseworthy step. As much as Rs. 1 crore will accrue to the fund. From the financial point of view, it is also wholly to be approved as marking one more step in the scheme of planned finance. Instead of abolishing the Sales Tax, as some critics desired—a step which would have been very reactionary—the Government have done well in setting it aside for the future. The only danger is that in schemes of Federal Finance, Madras, which on account of excessive prudence lays by moneys for the future, finds herself always handicapped every time financial readjustments are made. The spendthrift has always been benefitted at the expense of the frugal, and it is to be hoped that no raid will be made on this Fund and that this Reserve will not be used as an argument against an equitable distribution between the Centre and Madras. Another notable

feature in the budget is the provision for land colonisation scheme. The increased grant to education, the continuance of the grant to hand-spinning, the placing of funds to the co-operative building societies are only a few of the many useful lines of expenditure provided in the budget. The provision of Rs. 10 lakhs to the Rural Water Supply Fund is another welcome step, and on the whole the Madras Government have only continued the policies pursued by the Congress Ministers, and even in the continuance of land revenue concessions, they have only followed the previous government, though it is time that the rate is permanently scaled down.

It is not necessary to refer at length to the finances of other provinces. Bengal has yet to face squarely the problem of new taxation. She has been content to follow the beaten track with the result that for a province of that size and population, the scale of expenditure still remains unduly low. Bombay has been able to reduce slightly the rates of property tax. Bihar has had to suffer on account of the depression and confusion in the sugar industry and has borrowed from the Government of India with a view to rehabilitating the industry. But no fresh taxation has been imposed. Indeed, no province has imposed any additional burden or embarked upon schemes of fresh taxation. All provinces have been content to carry on with existing resources. On account, however, of favourable conditions, these resources have not only not declined but have actually increased.

THE FUTURE OF INDIAN POLITICS

BY MR. DIP CHAND VERMA, M.A.

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THE future of Indian Politics would now be decisively influenced by two great events. The first is the European war in which England has been inevitably involved. Somehow Indian parties and leaders have failed to pull their full weight in this great event. At heart, India has been always convinced of the righteousness of the cause on which Britain and her Allies have taken their stand. The best mind of India—Gandhi, Nehru, Tagore—has always been opposed to Fascism and Nazism. Nehru in particular has strong views in the matter and he carried his convictions so far as to refuse to meet Mussolini during his last visit to Europe, when the Duce specially invited the Indian leader to his place. It is a tragedy that such a man should be behind bars, when democracy is in a life and death grip with totalitarianism. It is a failure of British and Indian statesmanship alike. There is no doubt that Gandhi is equally anti-fascist and feels strongly for the democratic cause. But in spite of this, he had to launch a movement of civil-disobedience against the British Government in India, because British statesmen are still moving around the old ruts and refuse to adjust themselves to a fast changing situation.

Other important groups and parties are no less sympathetic to the democratic cause. The Hindu Mahasabha, the Muslim League, the Liberal Federation, the Indian Christians, the Sikhs, the Princes, in fact anybody who counts in India, has openly expressed in favour of the British cause. But these sympathies have not sufficed to resolve the Indian tangle and, if anything, the situation is fast deteriorating.

British statesmanship has no doubt been bankrupt so far as India is concerned, but political bankruptcy has not been confined to the British side alone. The Indian leadership has been equally sterile and ineffective. The first instinct of Mahatma Gandhi, when he offered unconditional co-operation to the Viceroy, was correct,

Had the Congress Working Committee approved of that position, the present situation would have been quite different. The Congress protested that it was making any bargain out of the war, but the Congress demand on the Government constituted nothing but bargaining pure and simple. Once the greatest political party came down to this level, other groups like the Hindu Mahasabha and the Muslim League could not be expected to do better. The whole political situation deteriorated suddenly, and the British, ever ready to take advantage of Indian differences, exploited the situation to the full, so that it has culminated into the present impasse.

I do not think the British Cabinet was well advised to adopt the tactics it has adopted towards India. Mr. Winston Churchill is a great leader and deserves to be ranked amongst the greatest Englishmen of all times; like William Pitt, Marlborough, and Cromwell. He has given a most inspiring lead to his country and has marvellously reorganized the Empire resources in the great struggle against Hitlerism. Towards India, his attitude has been extremely disappointing; still John Bullish, still the Churchill of the Round Table Conference and the Act of 1935. It is a pity that a man so great in other ways should have proved so small in his dealings with India.

But the Indian leaders should have come forward in spite of Churchill. Indian leaders and parties should have presented a united front on the war issue. The August offer of the Viceroy, not itself important materially, was important in as far as it provided a common meeting place for Indian parties, and once the Congress and the Muslim League were brought together, the united national front, which the *sine qua non* of Indian freedom, would have automatically developed. Committed as the British Parliament is, for the establishment of dominion status after this war, it could not have evaded this commitment in view of the overwhelming national opinion that would

have demanded the fulfilment of its promise forthwith.

The Congress, however, chose the path of non-co-operation, and civil disobedience has been revived under the Gandhian leadership. Whatever may be the merits and demerits of the issue on which the Congress high command has thought fit to precipitate the struggle, the event would have a decisive influence on the future of Indian politics. Not even the Mahatma claims that his present move would enable the country to realise Swaraj. It is only a protest against Britain not conceding the right of freedom of speech to the Indian people. If the British win this war—and the chances are that they would win it—they would find at the end of the war that India is hopelessly divided and incapable of resisting effectively any constitution that they choose to set up. In the second place, at least the Congress would not have the moral right to demand anything from the British, as the latter would have won the war, not because of the Congress but in spite of the Congress. Other groups, the Muslims, for instance, who are co-operating, would succeed in winning favours for themselves and that would be an additional set-back to Indian nationalism.

If, on the other hand, the British should lose this war, which God forbid, the question of Indian freedom would disappear like the morning mist, and the world would be dominated by forces that would initiate an era of unprecedented aggression and tyranny. All the worse for the country that at so critical a time in the history of the world, its national will should be paralysed by an idealistic leadership that steadily pursues a mirage, without looking to the actual conditions that obtain in the world horizon.

At present there is little possibility of putting the various Indian parties on the same platform. Their plans and programmes are mutually contradictory. The Congress has by its Satyagraha campaign entered a lane in which there is no turning. The struggle has been precipitated on the issue of the freedom of speech and when the war has been concluded and the freedom of speech restored, the movement should automatically wind up. As a matter of

fact, as the past history of the movement of civil disobedience shows, the issues change as the struggle thickens and ultimately the movement peters out due to sheer exhaustion. The Congress is then forcibly driven to the constitutional or semi-constitutional path for fear of being completely annihilated.

The Muslim League is out for an Utopia and has made no practical contribution to resolve the deadlock. As a matter of fact, the League itself is mainly responsible for the present phase of Indian politics, as it has always provided the British diehards with the strongest argument to withhold Indian freedom. The demand for the establishment of Pakistan, or a separate homeland for the Muslims, merely shows the desperate position to which Indian affairs have been driven. Psychologists inform us that an object suffering from the inferiority complex behaves with aggression. The Muslims for years have been told by an interested leadership that they are in a hopeless minority and that in a free India they would be reduced to abject slavery by the Hindu majority. This propaganda has had its effect and now it has been possible for Mr. Jinnah to persuade a large section of the Muslim community to put forward a demand, which, on the face of it, is utterly absurd.

Other groups and sects have come forward with similar particularist claims and the result has been that the British have felt justified to maintain the *status quo*, without entertaining any claim, communal or national. It sufficed them to leave the whole initiative to the Indian leaders themselves, who should produce a scheme on which all the communities may substantially agree.

The present was an occasion neither for the satyagraha crusade, which can lead us nowhere, nor for the Pakistan stunt, which nobody can take seriously. It was a time when the Indian leaders should have put their heads together and framed a constitution for themselves, in which the majority and minority interests could be reconciled without tampering with the essential unity

of the country. The basic principles of the new constitution for free India should first be thrashed out in a small representative conference of the various communities, which may later be submitted to the National Constituent Assembly. The Muslim fears must be first allayed; they must be given practical proof of Hindu sincerity. They must feel assured that in the free India, their religion, culture and material interests would be perfectly safe. There was a great opportunity to do this, if in 1937 the Congress had come forward with a gesture and offered to form coalition ministries in the provinces instead of insisting exclusively on Congress governments. This was a time when the Muslim League had done badly in the provincial elections and the Congress gesture of friendship would have been greatly appreciated. There are many people in this country who sincerely believe that the parliamentary government of the majority rule is not suited to Indian conditions. Democracy can succeed in India only when a parliamentary understanding between the various communities with statutory guarantee of their rights has been arrived at. Amongst other things, it must provide coalition ministries in the province and, in the second place, it must provide for the greatest amount of local and provincial autonomy. The powers and functions of the central government must be reduced to the utmost possible, provision being made only that in the last resort the national will must be allowed to assert itself through the federal government.

In a recent speech, Mr. Jinnah *inter alia* remarked:

The idea of a unitary central government was dead, but if it was revived, the Muslims would resist it, as the Hindu minorities would make it impossible for the government to run with the aid of the central government with the Hindu majority at their back, and the Muslim majority would be virtually feudatories of the central government in all respects.

Nobody aims to establish a centralized unitary government in India with a view to tyrannise over the minorities. The future government of India must essentially

be of the federal type, in which the greatest scope must be given to local autonomy. The Congress is opposed to the present constitution not on account of its federal nature. The Congress aims to establish a real federation based on the principle of democracy and not autocracy as is at present the case. Mr. Jinnah must remember one thing. There is not the least likelihood of the tyranny of the central government over the provinces in a really democratic federal constitution. In the second place, Mr. Jinnah's fears of Hindu majority are mainly imaginary. When he claims protection for the Muslim minority, he must concede the same to the Hindu minorities in the Muslim majority provinces. What we really need is that the federal constitution of India should be so framed as not only to protect the provinces against unnecessary intrusion from the centre, but also to statutorily provide for coalition governments in the provinces, so that all minorities would be actively associated with the provincial administration. This must be provided at least for the initial stages for a fixed number of years. If by actual working, it is found that political parties tend to develop on a non-communal and non-religious basis, coalition ministries on the communal basis would be replaced by other combinations mainly based on well-marked political and economic principles. The provision of coalition ministries, however, would have served its purpose by bringing the communities together and thus ushering in the era of political freedom.

The federal government must be left with necessary powers, in the first place, to prevent the secession of any unit and, in the second place, to see that in the provinces the spirit of the constitutional act is not violated. Without these provisions, no constitution can work, but after conceding this there is no reason why the greatest scope should not be given to the principle of local and provincial autonomy.

It is on these lines that the future constitution of India must be drafted whenever the next opportunity presents itself.

BY

MR. P. R. KRISHNASWAMY, M.A.

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ACCORDING to the will of Alfred Nobel, the annual prize for literature should go to the person who has produced the most distinguished work of an idealistic tendency. This idealism occurs more naturally in the picture of the poor classes than in that of the higher classes, and the award for 1910 has been made to a Finnish writer of peasant life. Of writers on poor life within recent years, we have Mary Webb, the reputation of whose books was deservedly advanced by the former British Premier, Baldwin. The difference between Mary Webb and Pearl Buck is the difference between a gloomy world, characteristically Germanic, and a bright one presided over by the beneficent Vishnu. Charles Dickens is notable in English literature for depicting the life of the poor, but the poor of his books are migrating to the city and getting absorbed in that larger world. Thomas Hardy has, indeed, immortalised the life of the rural folk of the Wessex country in his novels. But Hardy has definitely the tendency to mix his rural heroes and heroines with romance that comes of books and sophistication. He keeps apart in every story a special group of rustics who retain their rusticity throughout, but the behaviour of the principal characters is not really rustic at all. Even if the picture is conceded to be genuinely rustic, Hardy's style is peculiarly unsuited to a narrative of rural life. It is learned and heavy and stands out apart from the world it describes.

Pearl Buck is the second American within recent years to win the Nobel Prize, but the writings of Sinclair Lewis are concerned with American life, while the glory of Pearl Buck lies in her picture of China. In the novels of Lewis, the European woman is depicted as showing a definite romantic turn about her fortieth year, whereas in Mrs. Buck's Chinese stories, it is the man who grows romantic as he grows older, and turns to other women than his wife.

Pearl Buck's novels fall easily into two classes, one which describes Chinese life and another which is of subjective interest. 'The Good Earth', 'The Mother' and 'The Patriot' are of the first class, as 'The Exile', 'The Fighting Angel', and 'The Proud Heart' are of the second. The personal life of the author may be inferred to some extent from the second set of novels, and they serve to explain some peculiar tendencies in the Chinese novels. 'The Exile' depicts an American wife in China, who struggles against odds, including a husband foolish in many ways and preserves her cheerfulness in her surroundings. From this picture it is easy to pass to the womanly martyr, who is the centre of interest in each of her Chinese novels.

Pearl Buck is the apostle of the domestic life of rural China. Hardly any detail escapes her painting. Her language is peculiarly adapted to her purpose. The study of it would enable one for instance to write on Indian life in English. 'The Good Earth' shows how the life of the peasant is intimately bound up with the soil. All the changes of the weather and of the seasons, with the corresponding changes of vegetation in the soil, dominate the life of the peasant. His attachment to the soil transcends ordinary reality. It is his waking and sleeping dream.

'The Good Earth' starts with the marriage of Wang Lung with the slave girl of a rich house. The old woman of the house parts with the slave, only because she is actuated by what will be regarded a Hindu sentiment, the acquiring of virtue (*punyam*) by helping the growth of the race. The shyness of the bride is exactly the shyness of the traditional Hindu bride. She labours hard for the family, both in the field and in the home, bearing children also regularly. A famine befalls the country, and the family is reduced to despair and migrates to the south. Wang Lung tries to make a living by

pulling the rickshaw, while his children and wife also struggle hard to earn their living. Then a revolution breaks out and with it plunder. Wang Lung obtains sufficient money to return hopefully to his home in the north.

In the third part of the story, we witness the quick growth to prosperity and with prosperity new troubles arise. Wang Lung is dissatisfied with his plain wife and seeks pleasure in a girl picked up at a tea-shop and brought home to live with the family. Olan the wife has added insults to endure. The eldest son also turned to the father's concubine in lust, "for vice comes only to young lords", and the father sends him away to a distant part of the country.

The martyrdom of the wife is the conspicuous feature of the story. She endures silently the vagaries of her husband. She has long kept a couple of pearls, the last of a number of jewels, with which the husband has bought lands. The husband asks for the pearls so that he may make a present of them to the woman who has become his favourite. The husband demands the pearls of her while Olan is engaged in washing clothes. After a short remonstrance, she parts with them:

But Olan returned to the beating of the clothes and when tears dropped slowly and heavily from her eyes, she did not put up her hand to wipe them away, only she beat the more steadily with her wooden stick upon the clothes spread over the stone.

She never tells the husband of the agony in her heart, though he can learn of it if he cast his eyes around. Once he gets a bitter reminder from his own younger daughter. This girl crying with pain attracts the father's notice and she complains that her mother has bound her feet and she has told her that if she will not endure the pain patiently, she may forfeit the affections of her husband to be, the same way her mother has lost her father's. Olan falls ill with a serious illness and the doctor is fetched. He demands five hundred pieces of silver before he can undertake to cure her.

Now when Olan heard the words, 'five hundred pieces of silver', she came suddenly out of her langour and she said weakly: 'No, and my life is not worth so much.'

This selfless woman has a will of the strangest strength, and she will hold her breath till her dearest wish in behalf of her family is fulfilled. Her ghost departs in peace only when her eldest son's bride is fetched home and both son and daughter-in-law sit on her bed and offer her comfort. Though the wife is a martyr, the husband is not a villain. The wife's death fills him with grief and with repentance. "And suddenly he wept a little, and he dried his eyes with the back of his hand as a child does." The last section of the novel is concerned with Wang Lung's life in the city to which he migrates with his sons and daughters and daughters-in-law. The joint family with the inevitable bickerings between the wives of brothers presents problems very much like those we know in India, though in China there is the further complication caused by the presence of slave girls in the rich families. War and revolution and the invasion by soldiers of peaceful homes are other features of the story.

Like other modern women novelists perhaps, Pearl Buck faces sex problems with courage and explains them not less effectively than Havelock Ellis or Marie Stopes. The hunger of Wang Lung continues to his very old age, and Pearl Blossom a young and pretty slave girl, prefers to live with the old man to being married to a younger man. A noteworthy figure in the novel is an imbecile girl as in Wordsworth or Rabin-dranath Tagore. The problem of looking after the imbecile weighs on the father and the mother. The father arranges to have her poisoned after his own death. A similar creation is the blind girl in "The Mother", who is the cause of infinite pathos.

To know in detail the customs of the Chinese and of the poor in special, we may turn confidently to Pearl Buck. The simple marriage customs, the crude worship of God, the constant reminders of death in the making of cere-cloths and coffins in anticipation of it, the obvious inferiority of status to which girls are doomed and the simple acceptance by women of child-bearing as their greatest task, all are

conveyed to us without effort in the course of an absorbing story.

When we turn to "The Mother", we come to a simpler story, and for that simplicity, better constructed. It is a story of touching pathos. It is so simple and so lucid in the telling that the author has dispensed entirely with names for her characters. Once again the woman is the mainstay of the home. She bears the burden of three generations, her husband's father and mother, the husband himself and his children. This domestic heroine knows how to make the last days of her husband's parent happy with prompt attention and assuaging speech. She bears children regularly without a murmur and even without aid from others, though the comradeship among women is strong and every one stands by every other. The daily domestic tasks are described minutely. Hot water is made in the morning and it is a luxury to put a few tea leaves in it before drinking it. Then the food is cooked and served, first to the oldest member of the house, then to the children, and later to the husband, and last to herself. Even after they have eaten their food the children cling to the mother while she is eating and relish specially little morsels handed to them by the mother. Life does not seem to lose its charm for the mother at any time, but with the husband it is different. He suffers from boredom quickly. It is necessary to remember that the Chinese woman marries usually one younger than herself, reversing the old Shakespearian maxim:

Let still the woman take
An older than herself, so wears she to him,
So sways she level in her husband's heart.

The Chinese wife can caress her younger husband and beat him and scratch him sometimes in a fit of anger, but all the same, her wifely devotion is ideal. The husband in "The Mother" makes his escape from the boredom of his home, never to return. The way in which the wife takes this desertion is sketched with extraordinary fidelity. The agony in her heart is so sacred that she will not share it with any other. For years she keeps up

appearances that the husband has gone only with her knowledge and must return some time. She resorts to desperate measures to keep up the delusion among the villagers, forging letters with the help of a letter-writer in another town. She wearies of this at last and feels she cannot deceive herself further. In the second part of the book, we see the mother yielding herself to the passion of the land-agent who arrives in the village to collect taxes. The same instinct of motherhood, which has hitherto preserved her as an ideal wife, induces her also to go astray. Has she not as an unmarried girl tried to soothe a child entrusted to her by offering her breast to drink from? The sin is atoned for by severe repentance and the normal course of life is resumed, though this is destined to be affected in other ways. The last part of the story is engulfed in utter pathos. The mother is overwhelmed with grief on account of both her younger children. The daughter is blind and nobody will wed her, and a girl in China can remain unmarried no more than in India. She is given away to the most unpromising and wretched of husbands, to suffer the most miserable treatment in his home. Thinking of her, the mother starts on a fateful trip to see her in her husband's home. After a long and terrible journey, she arrives at the destination only to learn that the daughter has just died. The other misery is the execution of her son as a revolutionary.

Attention may be drawn here to an aspect of careful construction showing the novelist's foresight. The matter of blindness of the daughter, destined to overshadow the evening of the mother's existence, grows from the beginning of the story. The child is alive to intense irritation in the eyes, but fate overrules the chance of medical treatment in the early stages. The father has had eye-trouble himself and he is certain no one can die thereby. For long it is not realised that the girl is absolutely blind, till finally it is borne in on all, in all its awful truth. Similarly, the desertion by the husband has its origin pretty early in the story.

The peasant life of China, like the peasant life of any other country, is nearest the eternal facts of life and Pearl Buck's novels must enjoy the immortality of her theme. But the author's literary powers demand fresh woods and pastures new. Already in "The Good Earth," ancient China is shown as affected by war and the enlistment of new armies. More exciting is the execution of the revolutionary in "The Mother". In "The Patriot", Pearl Buck proceeds to weave into her fabric the latest pattern, the phase of China afflicted by the invasion of Japan. The novel is verily a story of two nations, of two eastern nations, the sharp points of distinction between whom the foreigners little suspect.

The son of a rich Chinese banker is shipped off to Japan by his anxious father, to avoid his execution as a revolutionary. The Chinese young man lives in intimacy with a Japanese family and the different members of that family serve to illustrate sufficiently all the characteristic ideals of the Japanese nation. Patriotism is the highest virtue of the Japanese life, and if a man cannot enrol himself in the army to fight for the country, it is best for him to commit suicide. The nation is strong for being nurtured in a hard school, and this is nowhere so well realised as in the way in which the people face an earthquake, without a moan and without a complaint and start re-building when the earthquake has passed off. The Japanese army abroad commits heart-rending atrocities, of which the people at home are kept in ignorance by rigid censorship.

There are, however, more interesting things than patriotism, of Japanese social and domestic life. Much as she may pride herself on her modernity, the Japanese woman is essentially old world in outlook and thinks it her highest duty in life to be a good wife. To fit herself for this position, it is best for her to be instructed by a Geisha girl, so that she may know to please her husband in an important purpose she has to fulfil. A Japanese woman thinks nothing of bathing naked

in a public pool; it is only the lustful gazing that makes the sin. The Japanese woman accepts motherhood with the same courage and cheerfulness that may be associated with the Chinese type. The author has developed strikingly the conflict which arises in the Japanese wife of the Chinese husband, between the loyalty she owes to her own country and the devotion to her husband. There is no doubt about the final result, wifely duty is greater than patriotism. The last section of the novel shows us the Chinese young man returning to his own country and playing his part in the struggle against Japan. Along with a comrade of his boyhood in the revolutionary movement, he receives the commands of General Chiang-Kaishek, who gets into personal touch with his lieutenants, and Madame Chiang is also shown as co-operating ably for the prosecution of the war. Some characteristic details of the way are also depicted.

The subjective novels need but brief comment. "The Fighting Angel" is the complement to "The Exile" and develops the heroism such as may be conceded, of the husband who differs from wife both in temperament and in outlook. His evangelistic zeal is quixotic and eschews the human element. The world may be saved from this misdirection of human energy. "The Proud Heart" is of an American woman, who has the lifelong conflict between the woman's life and the devotion to an art for which she possesses obvious gifts. The book must derive its interest chiefly as revealing the author's own personality.

The distinctive work of Pearl Buck is contained in "The Good Earth" and in "The Mother". These stories have the further value of illustrating the possibilities of writing Eastern stories in English. Not long ago appeared a story of Turkish life by Madame Halide Edib written in excellent English. Both Pearl Buck and Halide Edib have known the wifely martyr (or even drudge) to be the best the East has so far done. Their art is a monument to this discovery.

HAILE SELASSIE: A MAN OF DESTINY

By Mr. A. EVERARD BARTHOLOMEUSZ

ETHIOPIA made a great advance by the introduction of European views and methods under Emperor Menelik II, one of the most remarkable figures of the modern Orient. He had to fight the Italians, who did not finally succeed in deceiving him by the falsified translation of the ludicrous Treaty, and he defeated them decisively at Adowa in 1896. He created a circle of European-minded friends amongst the Chiefs. Amongst them was the outstanding figure of Ras Makonnen, the father of Emperor Haile Selassie I. The sons of these men having been trained and educated in the French language and on French lines, and many of them having travelled in Europe and Asia, were the convinced collaborators of Haile Selassie I, and they are the same *Rases* (Governors) and Generals whose names we have read in the newspapers. Into such surroundings was born at Harrar on July 23, 1891, Haile Selassie the eleventh son of Ras Makonnen the trusted friend of Emperor Menelik II. The boy was first educated by a priest and later sent to a school where he displayed unusual ability, a love for work and a taste for science. When still a youth, he was appointed Governor of Sidame Province with the rank of General, where his intelligence showed that he was much above the average for one of his age. His marked ability and great capacity for administration later obtained for him his father's Governorship of the Province of Harrar. The dethronement of Menelik's grandson called him to play a more prominent part. In September 1916, the young Ras Makonnen was named Prince Regent and Heir to the Throne, being so crowned with the Empress Zauditu on February 11th of the following year. In October 1922, he received the Crown of *Negus* (King).

From the time of his appointment as Regent, he resolutely undertook to raise his country to the highest stage of civilisation and to secure her admission to the Comity of Nations. The achievement of which he was most proud, was the

law for the abolition of Rural Serfdom (the so-called slavery) which was passed in 1924—the legislative triumph of a great effort carried through against feudal opposition and religious bigotry. Others before him had taken measures to suppress the traffic in slaves, but they had not attacked the evil at its root. Under his enlightened administration, the country began to assume the appearance of a civilised State. With great patience and persistence, he set about to mould a modern empire. A wise man, he decided not to force the pace. As he was hindered by lack of supreme powers, his solution had been to spend time until he had got that supreme power in preparation and planning. He had to keep the European Powers quiet and he accomplished a master-stroke by securing membership of his country into the League of Nations on September 28, 1923.

His journey abroad in 1924 was itself an innovation, no Ethiopian Ruler having left the country since the ancient journey of the Queen of Sheba to visit Solomon. In Rome, he was received with full honours as Head of an Independent State. By the creation of Legations in the capitals of Europe, he continued to make his country better known to the world. He always pursued in internal as well as in foreign affairs a policy of understanding, of peace and progress. In 1928, he concluded the Italo-Abyssinian Treaty for establishing constant peace and perpetual friendship with Italy and which was subsequently violated by the latter. Assuming the name of Haile Selassie I, he became *Negus Negasti* (King of Kings) in that year. On the death of the Empress Zauditu on April 2, 1930, he was proclaimed Emperor, being so crowned with his wife Etegi Manen seven months later with great pomp and ceremony. The Duke of Gloucester represented Great Britain at the Coronation and all the Great Powers sent their Envoys. In 1931, he promulgated a new Constitution establishing a Parliamentary Government and thereby raised the status of Abyssinia and earned respect and honour among the nations.

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After his accession to the Throne, great strides were made in developing the country, building good roads, hospitals and schools and sending promising pupils to Europe to be educated at his own expense. The Schools in Addis Ababa, the capital, were excellent, as had been recognised by many European visitors. The proportion of the budget spent on education was extraordinarily high. Even in the outlying districts under primitive tribal conditions, the country school system was so effective that the British Sudan authorities sent representatives to study them as being advanced when compared with their own methods. The Negus performed a great work in establishing and organising Hospitals, Sanatoriums and Clinics and also for the hospitals welcome and magnificent aid rendered to beneficent missionary enterprises in the country. A great reformer in spite of innumerable difficulties, he achieved great success and, in 1933, he signed the Anti-Slavery Convention of Geneva. From the time when he preached his crusade against slavery, his people were willing enough to obey and respect his wishes, and slaves were liberated *en masse*.

During the Italo-Abyssinian conflict, he shared every possible risk and hardship with his soldiers. The Emperor left his Abyssinia not as a fugitive, but in the service of his country. He went to Europe not for safety but as a powerful pleader, as a member of what is, what should have been, what ought to have been an association of Powers each and all bound to put into practice those canons of justice and fair-dealing which the world now demands in all civilised nations and amongst individuals. He marched with his Army, suffered the effects of poison-gas, lay with his soldiers in the trenches, firing his machine-gun whilst the enemy planes circled overhead dropping bombs.

Acclaimed as a Hero and a Reformer, he has deserved well of his people and of the world. His enduring fidelity to the Covenant of the League of Nations has evoked respect and gratitude.

Haile Selassie has proved his mettle to all honest persons, he has no need to demonstrate either his courage, determination or capacity. He entered on the greatest task man ever undertook to safeguard the independence of the last remaining African State against the rapacity of Europe—a stupendous task. To serve the rule of law throughout the world and establish world peace upon an unassailable foundation is a task yet more stupendous. This has been the task of Haile Selassie—a Man of Destiny, in very truth.

Not from faintness of heart or fear of danger and difficulty, but from belief in the Peace ideal, he risked the ancient independence of his country on the honour and courage of European Statesmen of half a hundred Member-States. "Until the independence of my country is restored, I am a mourner, and if death comes to me in this struggle, I shall gladly accept it, I have no fear of death," he is once reported to have uttered. It was at the express wish of the Emperor to be in the vicinity of his country, that the British Government placed a house at Khartoum at his disposal.

It has now been revealed that the Emperor re-entered his country on the 15th January last where he was greeted by his two sons, the Crown Prince and the Duke of Harrar, after which he himself hoisted the Ethiopian Royal Standard. The Abyssinian revolt that had been smouldering in certain parts of the country ever since the Fascist conquest is bursting into flames owing to a clever plot hatched by the secret activities of the British Military Mission behind the Italian lines. Encouraged by the proclamation to lead his army in person, patriotic warriors are rallying to the Emperor's standard from all parts of the country. The unified revolt is gathering force and it is now only a matter of a few weeks before the Emperor will once again hold sway over his Kingdom . . . thanks to Great Britain's promise to crush acts of wanton aggression and cruel repression and to restore nations that have become victims of that aggression.

DHURPAD AND KHAYAL

BY MR. SUSHIL CHANDRA MATHUR, B.A.

(Sangid Visharad)

THE music of Northern India, popularly known as Hindustani music, is divided into different styles which, though essentially the same in melodic combination of notes, have so much divergence in them that distinct schools have sprung up on their basis. Out of these styles, the Dhurpad and the Khayal are by far the most important. Indeed, these two styles together comprise what is known as 'Classical' in Hindustani music, the rest falling into the category of light music.

The origin of the Dhurpad school dates back to the 15th century A.D. But the groundwork was laid with the advent of the Muslim rule in India. The impact of Persian music on the purely Hindu music considerably changed its character in the northern part of the country. The martial style of the Persian music was akin to the Prabandha, which was in vogue since the days of Bharat, the celebrated author of the 'Natyashastra'. Therefore, there was little difficulty in the formation of a new style which welded together the good features of both the types of music.

India saw great religious movements in the 14th and 15th centuries. The cult of Bhakti, Vedanta, and Sulism gave great fillip to the vocal literature of India. Chaitanya, Nanak, Kabir, and Tulsidas flourished in this period. That versatile genius and a great Sufi, Amir Khusru, also belonged to this age. These men combined the qualities of the poet, the philosopher and the musician in one. As the members of these different sects were drawn from all castes, a "tune suited to all people was needed and the result was the Dhurpad".

In this way, the Dhurpad remained for some time only a thing to be sung in temples or religious congregations. Its subject-matter was, as a rule, devotional. But soon it saw another light and received royal patronage. The four walls of the sacred temples, where it was born, were less congenial to it than the stately hall of the Durbars. The saints like Swami

Hari Das were thrown into the background in comparison to the professional Tan Sen. "Thus the child of humble parents, brought up and fondled by the rich, the Dhurpad in its blooming youth appeared graceful, majestic, noble and sublime, yet unostentatious."

It was Raja Man Singh Tunwar, of Gwalior, who first took special recognition of this style and himself headed the Dhurpad school of his time, which has come down to our day. He took pains to give scientific explanation of the different techniques which had grown round it. His efforts are embodied in a work called *Man-Kutuhul* of which he himself is the author. It appears that he had called notable contemporary artistes and had clarified different matters regarding the Dhurpad with their help.

If Man Singh started the school, it was Islam Shah Suri and Bazbahadur (famous as "singer without a rival") who not only contributed to the beauty of the style by their own genius, but gave every encouragement to the musicians till Akbar became the patron of the Art. Tan Sen himself, whose name is one to conjure with, was a past master of the Dhurpad style. Indeed, Dhurpad was the style which stood unrivalled for about two centuries after Akbar the Great, when the birth of the Khayal style gave a great set-back to its popularity.

Dhurpad is a Sanskrit word, meaning a poem of four stanzas. But technically it means a style of music, which has generally four parts, viz., Asthai, Antra, Sanchari and Abhog. Though the musicians in the early stage of the Dhurpad scrupulously observed the rule of the four parts, their successors are not the least punctilious on this point, and many compositions are found which have only two parts, viz., Asthai and Antra. But it must not be imagined that these four parts are only a repetition of one part after another in the same manner as is often found in the folk songs. Asthai is usually sung below the

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octave note, while Antra, as a rule, starts from the fourth or the fifth note of the middle octave, but its scope is above the octave note. Sanchari is like Asthai; but while singing, the musician has to treat it differently. He uses gamaks (prefixed grace notes) and tremors in this part of the song. Abhog is like Antra and is sung in a higher octave than Asthai.

Dhurpad has its own tale, quite independent of its rival the Khayal. It is sung in Chautal, Sulfak, Gajjhampa, Tivra, Brahma, Rudra, etc. These Tals are very grand and sublime and are played on the Pakhawaj, the invariable accompaniment of the Dhurpad.

Dhurpad is taken in slow tempo and, in its simple form, it is shorn of any studied ornamental flourishes. Its beauty lies in its simplicity—simplicity not of an uncultured rustic, but of a man of wisdom and taste. Proficient interpreters of the Dhurpad possess voices of extreme delicacy and compass. For singing Dhurpad, special voice culture is required and considerable breath control is needed in order to execute every part of the song with grace. The musician has to pass from one note to another with great dexterity before an unbroken text can be presented to the audience. Indeed, "many negligence seem to pervade the whole and the few turns that are allowed are always short and peculiar".

The Dhurpad style in India is becoming a rare acquisition. The popularity of the Khayal style, and the complex nature of the Dhurpad, have combined in giving the latter a severe blow. Dhurpad requires vast preparation, its rules are difficult to follow and its rendering requires mathematical precision.

Khayal is a Persian word, meaning imagination or thought. Indeed in the Khayal style, the singer has to expound his text or theme quite extempore and has to employ that faculty, which in poetry is called 'imagery'. He has a vast scope in which to render his musical ideas subject to certain rules. Words play but a minor part in the Khayal. The attention of the singer is concentrated on the development of the raga and all

things are made subservient to it. It has no austere simplicity of the Dhurpad; on the other hand, soft and subtle touches make it a thing of rapturous beauty. Again, unlike Dhurpad, the Khayal has simple Tals, which make it more easy for the singer to indulge in the raga development.

The origin of the Khayal is gradual, even obscure. The name of Hazrat Amir Khusru is usually associated with the origin of Khayal style. He is said to have invented the Qwali mode of singing from which, later, the Khayal style evolved. But the credit of making Khayal a perfect style goes to the genius of Niamat Khan and his brother Nobat Khan, better known in the musical world as Sadarang and Adarang. These two great musicians belonged to the Tan Sen family and were in the court of Mohamed Shah Rangila. Sadarang is very famous for his musical compositions and even today hundreds of them are extant. Paradoxical as it may appear, Sadarang gave no training in Khayal to any member of his family, nor he ever took pride in the fact that he was author of thousands of Khayal compositions. Being a descendant of Tan Sen, he could not stand the idea that any style of music could ever be superior to, or nobler than, the Dhurpad. He jealously guarded the cultural interests of his family in this matter and carefully kept his sons from the influence of the Khayal. There are stories current among musicians as to why Sadarang tried his genius in the field which was not his own. One such story, which is common and credible, tells us that the Emperor ordered him to train the eunuchs of his harem in the art of Classic music. At first he felt humiliation in initiating the unworthy and was reluctant to teach his family art. But he soon thought out of a device and composed songs in the Khayal style, which he taught to his pupils. These pupils devoted themselves assiduously and later were chiefly instrumental in the popularisation of the Khayal. Little could have Sadarang imagined that the creation of his pastime would ever become a deadly rival to so well founded and deeply rooted a system of music as the Dhurpad.

In its early stages, the Khayal received no recognition at the hands of the Artists of the first rank, who were all followers of the Dhurpad School. For them it is merely a child's play and indulgence in it was considered beneath their dignity. It had no access to the courts of the princes and it was pooh-poohed in the society of the cultured. Though the Khayal was almost despised by the exponents of the Dhurpad, it must not be imagined that it was a movement quite at an arm's length from the Dhurpad, or that the Dhurpad singers had no hand in its formation. It was really an undercurrent that burst out in the shape of the Khayal style. The glittering pageantry and mannerism of the Khayal, in contrast to the divine simplicity of the Dhurpad, caught the imagination of the people. Indeed, the musicians of the Nineteenth Century took to it with the zeal of a revolutionary.

Among those who helped the Khayal to come into its own were the three brothers: Haddu Khan, Hassu Khan and Nathu Khan of Gwalior. They were not only not content with the excellence they possessed in the Khayal style, but they popularised it in the whole of Northern India. It is said of them that they made a tour of the country with a view to impress upon the people the hithertofore unknown beauties and freshness of the Khayal. They demonstrated to the people at large that the Khayal style was the most natural and was incapable of being stereotyped, because the singer had full scope for improvisation according to his talents and training.

While the Khan brothers were pioneers in Gwalior, Manrang gave a new orientation to the Khayal style in Jaipur through his exquisite compositions. These compositions are superb in their originality of structure besides being beautifully interwoven with the rhythm of the song. Crowded notes at different places at once enhance the charm and make the music more emotional. In fact, through the descendants and pupils of these great musicians, the Khayal became very popular and a new wave spread in the field of music.

The Khayal is sung slow as well as fast. The most common *Tal* is the *Trital*. The Khayal has only two parts, namely, *Asthai* and *Antra*. After reciting the full text of the classical composition, the musician has to develop the *raga*. The music, in the first stage, is slow and graceful. With small combinations of notes and suitable periods, a vivid atmosphere is created. But soon the tempo increases and the musician begins to utter long series of notes.

The popularity and triumph of the Khayal lies in its independence and elasticity. With wide scope and freedom of expression, the musician has great chance of pouring out his heart to his audience. The Khayal appeals alike to the emotion and the intellect. For the Khayal singer, the notes of his *raga* are just what mortar and bricks are for the architect; he builds his musical ideas, carefully cementing one note with another till he has completed an edifice, whose graceful form can only be perceived through the mental eye.

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Chiropractic: A Drugless Art of Healing

BY MR. N. V. ESWAR

—:O:—

THE cry for a drugless cure of the manifold and nameless diseases to which humanity has fallen a victim, was raised at first feebly. But today it is a gainer both in momentum and volume. In apparent answer to this cry in the wilderness, a new art of healing in which drugs are wholly dispensed with was discovered by Dr. D. D. Palmer in America. It, as a science, has been in perpetual, though slow, motion since 1895. Yet the veil of hesitancy has not been torn off the face of the general public.

There are evidences today to prove that Chiropractic was understood and practised by the Greeks some two thousand and five hundred years back.

Hippocrates, whose oath of allegiance to humanity is taken even today by the medical man when he begins practice, understood thoroughly and applied the fundamental principles of Chiropractic, Osteopathy and other natural methods of healing. His invaluable advice to his contemporaries was: "Look well to the spine, for many diseases have their origin in dislocations of the vertebral column."

India which gave birth to Ayurveda (the Science of Life) shares with Greece the honour of having practised Chiropractic in the dim past. Even at this distance of time, when allopathic and other forms of treatment have penetrated into the remotest village, it is considered the supreme remedy for all diseases. And if any one suffering from any chronic disease for a considerable time, undergoes this treatment for fourteen days in a year consecutively for three years, he will be quite free from any disease.

Possessing no scientific instruments but human intelligence and fingers to locate where the free passage of the vital Nerve Force has been blocked, the Indian system advocates the whole body being given a massage with two separate *tailas* (oils prepared from herbs) for the head and body. The spinal column being the centre of the seven important nerves in the body receives most of their attention. February is

considered the best month for undergoing this treatment.

The patient is made to lie flat on a rectangular wooden frame 6' x 3' with edges rising up to 1½" on all sides. The whole frame is so constructed as to slope towards one end. At this end, in the centre, is carved out a bowl-like projection intended to collect all the refuse by way of sweat and dirtied oil from the patient's body. The entire framework stands 3" high from the floor level by means of four dwarfish clumsy projections below.

For the fourteen days of treatment and another fourteen days after it, the patient has to subsist on rationed food. During these twenty-eight days, he is attended to in the same manner as a child is. For all the nerves in his body have been administered, so loosening an effect that they are almost incapable of steadying themselves.

The above is the Indian counterpart of Chiropractic. Even today when modern ways of life have made considerable inroads into the traditional life of an Indian, it is resorted to as the final art of healing that will give a further lease of life.

In the advice of Hippocrates to the physicians of his day is contained the quintessence of Chiropractic as it is understood today. The sole and infallible guide of Chiropractic is the Spinal Column.

Chiropractic is based on the theory that "the cause of disease is due to the subluxation of vertebrae which produce pressure upon the nerve trunks and thus interfere with the normal transmission of vital nerve force".—*The Chiropractor*.

Working on the above basis, the Chiropractic objective, therefore, is to locate the point in the spine where abnormal nerve pressure is being exerted by a vertebral subluxation and to restore the subluxated vertebra to normality through proper adjustment by hand, which will release the pressure on the nerve involved and thereby remove the cause of disease.

The above theory is too simple and clear as daylight to require any elucidation. There is no intricate and un-understandable reasoning behind its back. The obvious truth is, that the necessary nerve force for the body to function properly is being supplied to the various organs of the body through the spinal column. It, therefore, follows that, if any disease is felt in the locality of a particular organ, it signifies the non-receipt of the vital nerve force by this organ. The next step is to find out the point where the supply has been interfered with. And if normal supply of the nerve force is restored, there is no reason why the disease should not disappear altogether.

The modern Chiropractor uses two scientific aids to locate the cause of nervous disorders. Through a nerve-recording instrument known as the Neurocalometer, the Chiropractor locates the points of nerve pressure. X-ray Spinographs are then brought to actually show the misplacement of vertebrae causing the pressure on nerves.

Seeing on paper the actual misplacement of the vertebrae by our very naked eyes, we can no longer dispute the efficacy of Chiropractic in ministering natural drugless cure.

Although miraculous cures have been effected on cases pronounced as incurable by expert medical men, Chiropractic is still considered an untried Science, if not a fantastic claim. It is but natural that the change-over from what one is accustomed to, to a new science will always be slow and hesitant. But Chiropractic, by the very simple and radical cure it promises, is sure to sweep away these obstacles before long. It, however, needs intrepid workers who see Chiropractic more in the light of a mission in life than as a profession.

Davenport (Iowa.) turns overnight into the Mecca of the Chiropractors all the world over in the month of August, during which time they attend the Lyceum course of the Palmer School of Chiropractic, the place where modern Chiropractic saw the light of day. This course is organised in order to acquaint every member of the profession with the

latest developments in the art. The attendance is voluntary and entails heavy material sacrifices, which are gladly borne for the sake of Chiropractic.

In August 1938, a scheme for building a Chiropractic hospital was drawn up, the cost of which was estimated at \$50,000. After two years have elapsed, only some \$45,000 have been collected. This amply demonstrates the public apathy towards the new science. The hospital thus remains in the embryonic stage of a half-realised dream. The consolation is that more and more members are being attracted by this new science, and those who have already contributed are persuaded to sacrifice more. Perhaps the Chiropractic hospital will become a reality in the near future. If such an hospital comes into being, Chiropractic will command a wide attention than it does today.

India can boast of only three Chiropractors. They have between themselves done much good work. The Chiropractor, who first came from America, attended on Mahatma Gandhi, who is also a champion of the drugless art of healing. Chiropractic knowledge is being spread over continually expanding areas and some of the ruling Indian Princes are reported to be taking a very keen interest in Chiropractic.

Chiropractic will gain the support of India; for her temperament is best fitted for adopting this new science. Furthermore, it is already a known science here. Hostility and hesitancy are, therefore, completely out of place. Religious susceptibilities, and the very mental make up of Indians, have ever persuaded them to discover a new drugless art of healing. And when modern science takes up the cudgel in favour of the ancient system of drugless treatment, the confidence of Indians in Chiropractic will naturally increase doublefold.

The existence of such a system as Chiropractic is known only to a few in India. If it is given a wider publicity, it will gain in countless supporters and ardent followers in India.

SOCIAL REFORM IN INDORE

BY MR. N. SWAMI, B.A. (HONS.)

—:O:—

DUE largely to the progressive outlook of the Rulers, and the peculiar facilities offered by the monarchical form of Government, much headway has been made by the Indian States, or at least the more progressive of them in regard to social reform. In certain aspects of social reform, they can well claim to be far ahead of the rest of India.

The first piece of Social legislation in Indore, the Indore Civil Marriage Act, was passed as early as 1916 and was aimed at giving unfettered liberty to individuals untrammelled by custom in regard to marriage. The measure, according to the Huzur Order sanctioning it, "secures liberty of action to those who wish to extend their social horizon beyond the limited circle of their castes and communities. It is believed that the measure will promote general welfare and tend to bring about a better understanding between the different communities in India". The benefits of the measure have been availed of by advanced sections of the community.

That marriage is an institution which admits of as much rationalism as any other, and is designed for human happiness and not for human bondage, is recognised by the Indore Divorce Act, which provides for the divorce of marriages under the Civil Marriage Act on grounds of idiocy, adultery, lunacy, etc. on the part of either of the contracting parties. Children born of such marriages are, however, to be considered legitimate though the marriage itself may be annulled.

It has been universally recognised that, perhaps, no other custom makes for such a thorough physical and moral atrophy of the nation as the institution of child marriage which has, unfortunately, become a rooted evil of Indian society. While the rest of India still discussed the evils of this system, and the most appropriate measures to combat them, the Rulers of Indore recognised the necessity of putting them down in a ruthless fashion by State effort. The result was the Indore Child Marriage Act of 1918, which prohibited the marriage of boys aged less than 18 and girls less than 14.

In special cases, provision was made for special permissions being given to marriages of boys aged 16 and girls aged 11. This Act was overhauled and re-introduced as the Indore Marriage Registration and Child Marriage Restraint Act of 1938. A very advanced and unique piece of legislation, this Act provides for compulsory registration of all marriages taking place in the State—a measure designed to the easy detection of child marriages. The Municipalities, the Sarpanch in the case of villages with Panchayats, the Senior school master, and in his absence, the Patwari in other cases are the registering authorities who are empowered to initiate prosecutions in case of child marriages. The marriageable age of boys and girls is kept at the old level, but provision is made for special permissions in cases where the boy may be not less than 15 and the girl 12. Marriages below this age limit are prohibited. Provision is made for prompt action to prohibit child marriages where information of any such marriage is received by the Magistrate and attempt to defeat the purposes of the Act by conducting them outside the State limits is also made punishable. The penalty for conducting child marriage without permission has been raised from Rs. 100 to Rs. 500. Within the short period the Act has been in force, it has proved to be quite a practical and useful piece of legislation. Old customs die hard and in spite of the stern measures taken under the Act (the number of prosecutions in 1938 amounted to 1,000), it is too early to expect that child marriage will be stamped out within the near future.

To the multitudes of Hindu widows, who are the victims of premature widowhood, the Indore Hindu Widow-Re-marriage Act of 1928 should offer welcome relief as it gives them full liberty to re-marry according to the dictates of their conscience and removes the bar of illegitimacy in the case of children born of such marriages. The only restriction in this case is that the girl should have completed her 16th year.

Another measure of a progressive character existing in Indore is the Prohibition of Marriages between Old men and Minor girls Act of 1927, which makes it penal for a man above 45 to marry a girl below 18. The practical enforcement of the Act, whose advantages are obvious, is secured by a Magistrate issuing a notice to the parties, forbidding such marriage as soon as he receives intimation of any such intended marriage. Adequate penalties are provided for in the case of a contravention of the Act.

With a view to limit, and as far as possible bring within reasonable limits extravagance in connection with marriage and funerals among Hindus, two rather novel laws are in force in Indore, the Indore Marriage Expenses Controlling Act and the Nukts Act. According to these enactments, no person shall feed more than 101 persons in the case of a marriage or nukta ordinarily and in extraordinary cases with special permission of a District Judge in the case of Nukta parties and a First Class Magistrate in the case of a marriage party, not more than 400 in the first and 500 in the case of the second. These measures are not a dead letter, but the practical difficulties in their enforcement have limited the number of prosecutions every year, the number for 1938 being 28. They, however, serve as deterrent to unchecked extravagance.

No article regarding social reform in Indore would be complete without a mention of the most important reform introduced of late, namely, the removal of untouchability. His Highness' famous Proclamation of 1938 removing untouchability in the State has rightly been considered to be a charter of liberty to a class of people kept under social suppression for ages.

The Indore Proclamation is in advance of similar Proclamations elsewhere in so far as the former allows Harijans to build houses in localities hitherto considered to be the preserves of higher communities. During the three years that the Proclamation has been in force, a general spirit of awakening has been in evidence among the Harijans. To give practical effect to the Proclamation, a Central Harijan Uplift

Committee was formed in Indore with branches all over the State. Pracharaks have been appointed for intensive propaganda work, to educate the Harijans in their rights and to teach them how to live a hygienic life. School education had been free to Harijans even from 1935; this concession was extended to College education also from 1940. About 3,500 Harijan boys and 100 Harijan girls were receiving education last year in the State High Schools, Middle Schools and special adult schools started in various parts of the State.

The epoch-making Proclamation of 1938 was followed up in 1939 by a declaration of His Highness' practical sympathy for this community. This year His Highness announced a recurring grant of Rs. 1 lakh for housing the poor classes, and the first instalment of his donation was given for the construction of sanitary tenements for the city Harijan sweepers—perhaps the poorest of His Highness' subjects. Situated in healthy open surroundings and provided with excellent roads, drains, lighting and water supply, the new Harijan colony, which has already neared completion, is expected to provide accommodation to 91 Harijan families and to permanently solve a serious problem that was facing the Municipality for years together. This scheme will be followed up by further housing schemes for housing the rest of the sweepers.

There are various other pieces of social legislation designed to provide for the moral and social well-being of the community. Mention may be made of the Prevention of Gambling Act, the Control of Brothels Act and the Children Act. The first two are enforced with vigour, while the last Act has not been enforced. Reformatory schools for dealing with juvenile offenders are being proposed to be started and when such schools are opened, the Children Act would be properly enforced.

If social reform can be considered to be one of the criteria of a progressive Government, Indore should with justice claim to have a proud position among such Governments.

THE NEW TURKEY

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Following Italy's attack on Greece and the Nazi thrust into Rumania and Bulgaria, Turkey's position has become not only more difficult but more onerous. For now as in the centuries past, she is the guardian of the Straits and she stands in the way of the Dictators' march on the oil-fields of Irak and Iran. A writer in the *War Illustrated* shows how a strong and rejuvenated Turkey holds the key position in the Balkans, stemming the tide of the Nazi menace.—[ED. I.R.]

IN our fathers' days, Turkey was the "sick man of Europe". She had been dying for centuries and during the long reign of Abdul Hamid II (1876-1909), it seemed that nothing could save her from dissolution. Province after province was lost, and after the old Sultan died the process was quickened. "In 1911, Italy seized Tripoli, and in the Balkan War of 1912, Turkey was so soundly beaten by the Serbs, Greeks, and Bulgars that she was almost driven out of Europe. True, in the next year when the victors fell out, she recovered Adrianople with Bulgaria's aid, but the issue of the Great War was even more disastrous. Despite her defeat by the British and French in the Dardanelles, by 1918 Turkey was completely crushed, and the conquerors deprived her of Syria, Palestine, and Arabia. Constantinople itself was occupied and nothing was left to the Turks save a tiny corner in Europe and Asia Minor, and even that was threatened with Italian and Greek domination.

In 1918, Turkey was down and out; the sick man seemed to be really dead. Yet before long there were many signs of a national awakening due almost entirely to that extraordinary man, one of the real makers of the modern world, Mustapha Kemal Pasha—Ataturk, as later he came to be styled. In 1922, Kemal chased the Greek invaders into the sea and bade successful defiance to the Allies in Constantinople. The last of the Sultans, Mohammed VI. took refuge in the British cruiser *Malaya* and escaped to Malta. Turkey was proclaimed a republic with Kemal as its first President, while Ismet Pasha—now President Inonu—formed a cabinet.

Thus began a sweeping reformation. In the course of a few years, Islam was disestablished as the State religion, and the new law code removed religion from public affairs altogether and made it a

matter of purely private choice; the fez was abolished, also the Arabic alphabet in favour of the Latin we use ourselves; polygamy was frowned upon, women were unveiled and given the vote; and in every sphere, legal and social, economic and political, the sexes were put on terms of equality.

So sweeping were the reforms, so rapid the pace with which they were effected, that it is not surprising that there were some of the older generations who protested, but the protests were soon silenced; some of the discontented were given the opportunity to change their opinions in gaol, while the more hardened and hopeless cases were strung up by the hangman. Kemal knew his own mind and was in a hurry.

Yet in spite of all, the nationalist revolution in Turkey shows every sign of being permanent. For the first time in history, Turkey is now a homogeneous country; perhaps it was from Kemal that Hitler learnt to "bring home" his Germans; for years ago Turkey arranged for an exchange of populations with Greece, so that now there is hardly a Turk left in Greece and hardly a Greek left in Turkey.

Because of its compactness of territory, its uniformity of racial composition, present-day Turkey is far stronger than the Turkey of the Sultans. As we have seen, it is the creation of two soldiers: Kemal and his lieutenant, Inonu (who succeeded as President on Kemal's death in 1938), yet since the Greeks were driven out in 1922, Turkey has pursued a policy of "peace, retrenchment, and reform". Though Communism has been strictly suppressed in Turkey, the relations between Soviet Russia and Turkey have been of the best since 1920; and since 1930, another old enemy, Greece, has been accepted as a friend. Turkey joined Greece, Yugoslavia,

and Rumania in the Balkan *Entente* concluded in 1934, and in 1937, she was a partner with Iran, Irak, and Afghanistan in the Saadabad Pact of non-aggression.

Much more important, however, is her adhesion to the Anglo-Franco-Turkish Pact signed at Ankara on October 19, 1939; under this treaty, Turkey promised to come to the aid of Britain and France if a European power commits an act of aggression leading to war in the Mediterranean area in which France and the United Kingdom are involved, and also to help France and the United Kingdom if, in fulfilling their guarantees to Greece and Rumania, they are involved in hostilities. It should be added that a protocol to the Ankara Treaty states that the obligations undertaken by Turkey cannot compel her to take action having as its effect or involving as its consequence, entry into armed conflict with the U. S. S. R.

But though she has followed the paths of peace and asks nothing more than to be left alone, Turkey knows that her

present position was secured by the sword and may have to be maintained by the sword. Hence no pains or money have been spared to build up the Turkish Army into a most formidable fighting force. Its strength in peace time is 20,000 officers and 175,000 men; military service is compulsory from the age of 20, and the annual contingent of recruits called to the colours is about 90,000. On a war footing an army of well over 2,000,000 men could take the field.

The Turkish Navy has been in the throes of reorganization for some time past. The principal vessel is the battle-cruiser *Yavuz*, which won fame in last war under the German flag as the *Goeben*; there are two cruisers and a handful of destroyers and submarines and a number of smaller vessels.

The Turkish Air Force has been recently reorganized and it is now equipped with fairly modern aircraft of British, American, Polish, and German makes, but its first-line strength is 550 aeroplanes.

"GANDHI MAHARAJ"

BY RABINDRANATH TAGORE

We who follow Gandhi Maharaja's lead
have one thing in common among us;
We never fill our purses with spoils from the poor
nor bend our knees to the rich.

When they come bullying to us
with raised fist and menacing stick,
We smile to them, and say:
Your reddening stare may startle babies out of sleep
but how frighten those who refuse to fear?

Our speeches are straight and simple,
no diplomatic turns to twist their meaning;
confounding penal code
they guide with perfect ease the victims
to the border of jail.

And when these crowd the path of the prison gate
their stains of insult are washed clean,
their age-long shackles drop to the dust,
and on their forehead are stamped
Gandhi's blessings.

March 15, 1941.

—Visva-Bharati Quarterly.

INDIAN AFFAIRS

BY "AN INDIAN JOURNALIST"

The Bombay Conference

It is too soon to assess the results of the Conference of non-party leaders which met at Bombay under the presidency of Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru in the middle of last month. Judging by the tone of the speeches and the text of the resolution adopted at the Session, one must count it as a great success in the present circumstances of the country. The Conference was one more genuine and determined attempt on the part of some of the leaders to end the deadlock.

The President, indeed, by his frank and courageous utterance gave the lead in unmistakable terms: "I maintain and maintain very strongly that there has never been a Government of India more isolated from public opinion and from the main current of thought in the country than the present Government of India," said Sir Tej Bahadur, and the Conference set itself to bridge the gulf by demanding the immediate reconstruction of the Governor-General's Executive Council, which should consist wholly of non-official Indians drawn from important elements in the public life of the country, and which should be treated in regard to all inter-Imperial and international matters on the same footing as the Dominion Governments.

The resolution, which was moved by Sir N. N. Sircar, also suggested that simultaneously with the reconstruction of the Government, His Majesty's Government should make a declaration

that within a specified time-limit after the conclusion of the war, India will enjoy the same measure of freedom as will be enjoyed by Britain and the Dominions.

This is a clear enough declaration representing "the greatest common measure of agreement possible in the country", and the Government will be well advised to take immediate steps in that direction.

Whatever Government's reaction to the unanimous demands of the Conference may be, it would be a pity if the work of the Conference should be confined to the two day session. We, therefore, welcome the President's announcement that a Standing Committee is to be appointed to continue the work to a fruitful conclusion. It is now for the various parties in the country to take advantage of the opportunity provided by the Conference to unite and press for the demands contained in the resolution.

Sir Visvesvaraya's Plea for Planned Industries

In recent months, particularly after the outbreak of the war, Sir M. Visvesvaraya, the veteran statesman and engineer, has pleaded for a planned drive for furthering large scale industries in the country. The tale of his failure to enlist Government support for his scheme of automobile manufacture in India has been told in these pages. He deplores that even the opportunities created by the needs of the war are lost on India. It is true that Government are just awakening to the need for stimulating certain industries directly beneficial to the war, but that is not enough. Addressing the Manufacturers' Conference at Bombay, Sir Visvesvaraya pointed out:

We must impress on Government that they will not have discharged their duty to the people of this country by encouraging only war industries, which can be in production by the middle of 1942, but that an endeavour is expected in this emergency on their part to make the country self-contained in as many requirements, both for peace and war, as possible.

He declared that their policy is definitely wrong as a long-range policy of a Government interested in the welfare of the people. In face of the Government's attitude, Sir M. Visvesvaraya called upon industrialists to meet the situation "by co-operative effort to the best of our abilities and opportunities".

The Commander-in-Chief's Statement

The new Commander-in-Chief, General Sir Claude Auchinleck, has begun well. His Excellency's speech in the Council of State marks a new and welcome departure in the policy of the Defence Department in their attitude to public criticism of their doings. His desire to conciliate Indian opinion is evident from his amendment to Pandit Kunzru's resolution, urging recruitment to the army from all classes and areas. The Amendment reads:

This Council, while recognising that, to begin with, the Army could be most speedily expanded only on the existing basis of recruitment, recommends to the Governor-General-in-Council that the Army authorities should now review sources of man-power throughout the country and should exclude no class or area from consideration for recruitment in the formation of new units.

His Excellency thus accepted the substance of the Pandit's resolution and announced that he had already issued instructions that the old Madras Regiment should be revived, and undertook to take steps to ensure the permanent representation of other provinces, hitherto not mentioned in the Army list, in the same way.

No wonder, His Excellency's Amendment was carried unanimously. We welcome his further announcement that the same policy will be adopted in regard to Air Force. For, answering a question on the subject earlier in the day, His Excellency made it clear beyond doubt that communal considerations would not be allowed to enter into questions regarding selection or retention of candidates in the I. A. F. "For recruitment," he added in reply to a supplementary question, "a candidate must be Indian and he must be suitable. There is no other criterion as already indicated." This is as it should be.

The Late Sir Shah Sulaiman

We deeply regret to record the death of Sir Shah Mahomed Sulaiman, Judge of the Federal Court of India and an outstanding personality in the world of science. As Judge and later Chief Justice of the Allahabad High Court, the late Sir Shah Sulaiman made most valuable contributions, but as a mathematician and scientist, he made his name known all over the world. Since he became Judge of the Federal Court, he extended his relations with jurists in America and England. His death is deeply mourned by a large number of friends all over the country and his loss will be irreparable to the University of Aligarh, of which he was the Vice-Chancellor.

In him, the *Indian Review* has lost a valued contributor; for, Sir Shah was a willing and ready reviewer of the most abstruse books on Science and Mathematics which lay-journalists hesitate to handle.

Mr. Jinnah declines League Co-operation

Declining an invitation of Mr. Ogilvie, Defence Secretary, to nominate two members of the Muslim League Party to join a party of members of the Central Legislature to go on a tour of military installations and institutions in India, Mr. M. A. Jinnah has written to the Defence Secretary:

I regret to have to say that this is one more effort on the part of the Government indirectly to get the Muslim League to bear the responsibility and associate with the policy of the war effort, which is being made without our having a real and substantial authority in the Government at the Centre and in the Provinces. . . .

What is the use of the Muslim League members of the Central Legislature merely going on a brief tour of military installations and institutions when they have no voice or share in the expenditure of money or any control?

Mr. Huq's Tirade against the Hindus

Mr. Fazlul Huq, Prime Minister of Bengal, has seldom distinguished himself either for sanity or self-restraint; but in his recent statement on the Census in Bengal, he outdid himself in vulgarity and malevolence. This is how he chose to attack the entire Hindu community of Bengal:

Lawyers, scientists, professors, lecturers, landlords, merchants, Brahmins and non-Brahmins and all the medley of caste and sub-caste have combined to tell lies and make false statements in order to inflate their figures.

What better can I expect when I find men, who have spent their whole life in the teaching of the youth, making false statements without the slightest qualms of conscience and indulging in an orgy of chicanery, perjury and falsehood in order to deflate the Muslim position?

Fancy, the Chief Minister of a great Province, responsible for its government, indulging in this stuff. It is bad enough in a private individual who can be hauled up for libel for such talk, but in a Minister of State, it is positively dangerous.

Anti-Indian Policy in Ceylon

It is now quite evident that the two bills now before the State Council for control of immigration and registration of non-Ceylonese are purposely designed to implement the policy of the Ministers—that of making it so uncomfortable for Indians in Ceylon that they would be forced to return to India. The European planter who made this observation at a recent meeting of their Association was obviously disturbed by the prospect of a dearth of labour. But apart from its repercussions on the planting interests, the fact remains that Indians stand to lose alike in material and moral rights. The Ministers contend that in the absence of such a check Indians would swamp the island. It is passing strange to think that they are seriously disturbed by the

prospect of a mere 600,000 Indians in any way trying to "politically swamp" over six million Ceylonese. It is an absurd screen to cover an unfortunate tendency to anti-Indian feeling that is growing in the island. Every one who has the interest of the island at heart has condemned the bills as ill-advised and ill-timed, and H. E. the Governor of Ceylon very properly emphasises

the necessity for a calm, cool, careful and collected approach to and attitude towards political controversy. The months ahead are bound to be a testing time for all and on each one of us using his powers of restraint and his sense of perspective depends more than one may choose to think.

The New Sind Ministry

The repudiation of the Azad Pact was quickly followed by the repudiation of Mir Bunde Ali, the Premier himself, by his own colleagues. The Ministry was forced to resign and Khan Bahadur Allah Bux was free to choose his own Cabinet. With him are the two Hindu Ministers, Mr. Vazirani and Rai Saheb Gokuldas, who resigned with him during the crisis. Pir Illahi Bux, who has stood by Allah Bux through thick and thin, is there in the Cabinet, as also Sir Ghulam Hussain Hidayatullah, who, as an experienced administrator, must prove a tower of strength to the Ministry in maintaining law and order which is assigned to him. Sir Ghulam may be expected to act with tact and courage in an emergency. Thus the Allah Bux Cabinet promises to work smoothly and efficiently, and we look forward to a period of comparative peace and security, that is to say, if the leaguers behind Mir Bunde Ali do not attempt again to place their personal or party interests above the interests of the Province. For, as the new Premier has declared:

By continuing our differences, we are putting off the day when India will attain Swaraj and the moment the Hindus and the Muslims patch up their differences, no power on earth will deny Indians their right to Swaraj.

Mr. Churchill's Confidence

IN the course of his address to the Central Council of the National Union of Conservative Associations, the Prime Minister, Mr. Winston Churchill, paid a tribute to the loyalty of the late Mr. Neville Chamberlain, who, when he realised that he did not command the unity essential to the task then facing Government, "with perfect self-abnegation, which will ever be an example to public men and which will long be associated with his name, stepped aside and resigned his office."

Mr. Churchill was consequently able to form an All-party Government and enable the country to get through the dark hours. The Premier expressed a note of robust confidence. He said:

I cannot pretend to you, my friends and supporters, that I took up my task with any other feeling than that of invincible confidence. That is the feeling which inspires me here to-day.

We have had the deliverance of Dunkirk, which gave us back the core and fibre of our regular army. Since then, we have had a series of notable victories.

First of all, the frustration of Hitler's invasion plan and the brilliant exploits of the R. A. F.;

Secondly, the frustration of his attempt to cow and terrorise the civil population of this country by ruthless air bombing; and

Thirdly, we have had the destruction of the Italian power and Empire in Africa by our army there which, although we were left unsupported by our French ally and although we were deprived of all strategic points necessary to maintain direct contact through the Mediterranean, nevertheless, has been able to remove almost all—and the rest soon—of the stain Italian tyranny has wrought upon African soil.

British Ambassadors Abroad

A white paper mentions that Viscount Halifax, British Ambassador in Washington, Sir Samuel Hoare, British Ambassador in Madrid, and Sir Stafford Cripps, British Ambassador in Moscow are filling their posts without salary. They receive only the expenses of representation.

President Roosevelt's broadcast and India

In a historic broadcast to the world, President Roosevelt has referred in unforgettable terms to the menace of dictatorship to liberty. He said that the American nation had been thoroughly aroused and was standing four square to the peril that threatened democracies everywhere. In tones of ringing eloquence, he declared:

The light of democracy must be kept burning. If democracy failed, freedom of speech, expression and worship, freedom from want and fear would become forbidden things.

Excellent. There is no doubt, great expectations have been raised in countries like India which are still praying for that light. What are his reactions to the Indian demand for freedom? The President has well said:

We believe that the rallying cry of the dictators and their boasting about the master race will prove to be pure stuff and nonsense. There has never been and never will be any race of people fit to serve as masters over their fellow-men. The world has no use for any nation which, because of its size and military might, asserts its right to goose-step to world power over other nations and other races. We believe that any nationality, no matter how small, has the inherent right to its own nationhood. Never in all our history have Americans faced a job so well worth while.

May we hope that the right of nations he pleads for is not to be confined to the whites only but to all nations, all the world over?

Cost of Jap Hostilities in China

The total cost of Japanese hostilities against China since the commencement of the war in July 1937 is approximately 17,500,000,000 *yen* (about Rs. 1,422 crores) according to official figures placed before the Budget Committee of the House of Representatives by the Finance Ministry of Extraordinary Military Expenditure. Of the grand total, 15,500,000,000 *yen* were raised by issuing Government Bonds.

Coup d'etat in Belgrade

A Dramatic turn has taken place in the European situation with the military *coup d'etat* in Belgrade on the 27th March, when King Peter suddenly assumed control of the country. He is within six months of his 18th birthday when he could normally assume Royal powers. The arrest of M. Tsvetkovitch, the Prime Minister, who signed the Axis Pact, was closely followed by the appointment of General Simovitch as head of the new Government, and the issue of a proclamation by the young King calling for unity and loyalty within Yugoslavia in the present crisis in the country's history.

The coup is regarded in London as a sensational turn of the diplomatic tide against the Axis. It is the first major political defeat sustained by Germany on the Continent and, as one diplomatist picturesquely described it, a "blow in the face for Hitler, which Mr. Matsuoka's presence in Berlin will not make it the less painful."

Japan and Indo-China

Reports of fresh Japanese demands on Indo-China are prominently displayed in the official central *Daily News* saying that Japan wants Indo-China to join the East Asia "Mutual Prosperity Bloc", the conclusion of a Japan-Indo-China trade treaty under which Japanese goods will be accorded reduced import duty and "Most Favoured Nation treatment". Japan to be allowed to station 2,000 troops and warships at Saigon's Bay forts in Camrah Bay to be leased to Japan for 15 years, no restrictions to be placed on the number of Japanese troops stationed in areas north of Haiphong, and Japan to be allowed to develop "waste land" in Indo-China.

Anglo-French Alliance

The British Government have formally agreed to provide credits for financing the French war effort. This is one of the two agreements just reached between the British Government and General de Gaulle. The second agreement deals with foreign exchange questions between the British Empire and the Free French Empire. It re-establishes pre-armistice parity between the pound and the *franc* at 176'625. Each colony can freely dispose of foreign exchange proceeds of exports and gold production under the control of the Council of Defence of the French Empire, which will be in a position, if necessary, to use the surplus of exchange resources of one colony to meet the deficit of another, or for the Free French forces as a whole.

Soviet-Turkish Agreement

The Soviet Government has informed the Turkish Government that should Turkey be the object of aggression and be led to go to war for the defence of the territory, Turkey may count on entire understanding and neutrality of the Soviet.

This was officially announced on March 24. The announcement adds that the Turkish Government has expressed its most sincere thanks to the Soviet Government for this declaration and informed it that the U. S. S. R. on its part may, should it find itself in a similar position, reckon on the entire understanding and neutrality of Turkey.

Bulgaria Joins the Axis

Bulgaria signed a protocol adhering to the Three Power Pact on March 1. The text of the protocol is identical with that under which Rumania, Hungary, and Slovakia adhered to the Pact.

DIARY OF THE MONTH

- March 1. Bulgaria joins the Axis.
 March 2. German troops enter Bulgaria.
 March 3. Congress withdraws from Bengal Assembly.
 March 4. Turkish President receives Hitler's special envoy.
 March 5. Britain breaks off with Bulgaria.
 March 6. Sind Ministry resigns. Mr. Allah Bux summoned to form Ministry.
 March 7. King Carol escapes to Portugal.
 March 8. The Senate passes Lease and Lend Bill by 60 votes to 31.
 March 9. Government's repressive policy is condemned in Assembly.
 March 10. In the Council of State, H. E. the Commander-in-Chief pays tribute to Indian troops' action in Africa.
 —Maharashtra beat Madras by 6 wickets.
 March 11. Sir Sikhandar suggests new constitutional scheme.
 —President, U. S., signs aid to Britain Bill.



SIR SHAH MAHOMED SULAIMAN

- March 12. Sir Shah Mahomed Sulaiman is dead.
 March 13. The Bombay Conference of non-party leaders meets under the presidentship of Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru.

- March 14. Bombay Conference demands Indianisation of the Viceroy's Council.
 March 15. President Roosevelt reaffirms American unity and determination.
 March 16. Hitler, speaking in Berlin, asks the country to make heavier sacrifices.
 —Mr. K. M. Munshi is released.
 March 17. Viceroy opens meeting of the Princes' Chamber in Delhi.
 —British troops recapture Barbare, capital of British Somaliland.
 March 18. Mr. Churchill discloses destruction of Nazi ships and U-Boats in the Atlantic.
 March 19. Serious communal riot in Dacca.
 —British troops capture Jig Jiga in eastern Abyssinia.
 March 20. Cabinet split in Yugoslavia.
 —Fierce air raid on Plymouth.
 March 21. British troops occupy Hargeisa in British Somaliland.
 March 22. The Assembly passes the Finance Bill, Muslim League and Nationalist Party voting against.
 —Soviet assurance to Turkey.
 March 23. Matsuoka in Moscow reiterates Jap adherence to Axis Pact.
 March 24. Britain's last warning to Yugoslavia not to sign Axis Pact.
 —Turkish assurance to Russia.
 March 25. Sir Feroze Khan Noon arrives in New York.
 —Yugoslavia signs the Tripartite Pact.
 March 26. Demonstrations in Yugoslavia protesting against Axis Pact.
 March 27. Agreement signed in London leasing Atlantic bases to U. S. A.
 —Bloodless military coup in Yugoslavia.
 March 28. Mr. Jinnah declines Defence Secretary's offer to League nominees to go on tour of military institutions.
 March 29. Germany demands an explanation of the coup in Belgrade.
 —French batteries open fire on British Naval Forces.
 March 30. Standing Committee of the Leaders' Conference meets in Delhi.
 —Mr. Jinnah reaffirms demand for Pakistan in his Cawnpore speech.
 March 31. The Sind Governor denounces Pakistan.



The WORLD of BOOKS



THE STRUCTURAL BASIS OF INDIAN ECONOMY: A Survey in Interpretation.
 By H. Venkatasubbiah. George Allen and Unwin. 7sh. 6d.

There are certain attractive features about this book. The author wields a powerful pen. In a number of passages he attains a high standard of excellence. Particularly noteworthy is the Chapter on Agricultural Economy, where he gives us a brilliant analysis of the policy of the Government from time to time and the consequent reactions on our agricultural development.

There are, however, certain structural defects and the title of the book is somewhat misleading. The author deals only with "certain selected aspects of Indian Economic Development as seen in the light of Imperialist theory". The lights and shadows not directly coloured by economic imperialism are, therefore, to be found missing in the picture he has drawn. Even the selected aspects which the author discusses do not seem to converge to any central thesis, though we have a very good post-mortem examination of the working of economic imperialism. It is also difficult to subscribe to some of the author's conclusions. For instance, when he asserts that "it is highly unlikely that India will ever become an industrial power", he seems to have completely ignored our immense potentialities for the generation of hydro-electric power for industrial purposes. In spite of these defects, the book provides us a very useful background for a study of certain important aspects of our economy and is a welcome addition to the scanty literature on the subject.

MEN IN THE LIMELIGHT: Life Sketches.
 By Khasa Subba Rau. K. Mahadevan, Royapettah. Re. 1.

These sketches of South Indian celebrities attracted the notice of the more discerning public even as they appeared in a local weekly. Mr. Subba Rau, in giving them a more permanent form, has done well to respond to the wishes of not a few of his readers.

The dozen men of whom he treats with such evident sympathy and discernment in these pages, are well known figures in the public life of South India. It is a difficult thing to write about one's contemporaries with perfect detachment. You can neither praise nor blame them without being charged with flattery or malice. It is dangerous to pass judgment on them without yourself being ill-judged. Mr. Subba Rao has, by strength of his own integrity, managed to present a faithful picture of men as far different in temperament and aptitudes as S. Srinivasa Iyengar and C. Rajagopalachari, Dr. Reddy and Dr. Pattabhi, T. Prakasam and K. Srinivasan, S. Doraiswami Iyer and S. Satyamurti. On the whole, he has achieved a degree of "objective impartiality" on which he may well be congratulated.

But who cares for what he calls that "perfect objective impartiality"—happily unattainable—which may reduce an Essay pulsating with life into a cold Algebraic formula? Mr. Subba Rau has done well to let himself go in his Essays, and where his emotions play freely and without restraint, he is distinctly interesting.

A journalist writing of men of action is apt to look at things as they react on him at the moment, and Mr. Subba Rau has some difficulty in reconciling what seem like contradictions in a character like C. R. in different roles. But time smoothens all angularities, and in due perspective, who knows Mr. Subba Rau may yet revise his judgment of many things and men, including C. R.!

A KIPLING TREASURY: Stories and Poems. By Rudyard Kipling. Macmillan & Co., Ltd.

Kipling's stories are so varied that each reader is apt to have his own favourites among them. Those with an Indian setting are decidedly his master-pieces and we can conceive of no collection without that exquisite interpretation of jungle life: "Toomai of the Elephants." Two famous tales of the Merchant Fleet and the Royal Navy are welcome additions to this collection. The wealth of Kipling's verse can hardly be measured by the few pieces at the end of the book, but lines like those that follow seem specially appropriate to the times through which we are passing:

No easy hope or lies
Shall bring us to our goal
But iron sacrifice
Of body, will and soul.
There is but one task for all
One life for each to give,
What stands if Freedom fall?
Who dies if England live?

1. **KOVALAN AND KANNAKI.** BY A. S. P. Ayyar, M.A., I.C.S. Published by C. Coomaraswamy Naidu & Sons, 27, Chinnathambi Street, Madras. Re. 1.
2. **THREE FAMOUS TALES.** BY A. S. P. Ayyar, M.A., I.C.S. Published by G. V. K. Swamy & Co., Kumbakonam. As. 10.

Mr. A. S. P. Ayyar writes in his usual prolific and vigorous style. Kovalan and Kannaki is the justly famous Tamil love story, taken from the Tamil Epic, Silappadhikaram. It marks the high watermark of Tamil life and ideals eighteen hundred years ago and, as told by the learned author, makes very fascinating reading. The other book gives the three well known stories of Harischandra, Nala and Damayanti and Bimbasara in easy and flowing language and will appeal to all young readers.

SRI AUROBINDO AND THE NEW AGE. By Anilbaran Roy. Publishers: John M. Watkins, 21, Cecil Court, Charing Cross Road, London, W.C. (Available of G. A. Natesan & Co. Re. 1-1.)

Mr. Anilbaran Roy, the devout disciple of Sri Aurobindo, has already established his reputation as a lucid and clear interpreter of his master's message in several volumes, notably in his edition of "The Message of the Gita". The present volume is a collection of articles written to certain well known Periodicals in India. On different aspects of the teaching of Sri Aurobindo is the call to erect the basis of modern civilization on spiritual foundation. In the recently published three volumes on "Life Divine" by Sri Aurobindo, his message is set forth at great length. Man must develop into the true superman through the awakening of the spiritual in him. Aurobindo is one of those few great men who want to make Vedanta a living religion. The volume under notice is a brilliant introduction to the study of the philosophy of Aurobindo. Its special merit is the simplicity of style and the illuminating citations from the writings of Sri Aurobindo.

CHANGING INDIA. By Iqbalunnisa Hussain. Published by Bangalore Press. (Available of G. A. Natesan & Co. Rs. 2.)

The volume under review is a collection of addresses delivered by Mrs. Hussain, the enlightened Muslim lady of the Education Department of the Mysore University. The addresses record her impressions about the problems that affect women. Mrs. Hussain, unlike modern ladies, took to education comparatively late, after her eldest son had taken the degree. The book is interesting reading.

OUR CULTURAL HERITAGE. By D. Iswara Topa. Kitabistan, Allahabad. Rs. 3.

The author, Reader in History of Indian Culture, Osmania University, Hyderabad (Deccan), makes a valuable, though polemical, contribution to the study of the cultural factors in Indian life and civilisation. The first part of the book deals with the Dravidian culture and the Aryan invasion of India. The second part deals with the cultural ideas of Indo-Muslim kingship in India. He thinks that Akbar the Great is the creator of a New India or an India surcharged with germs of a common national culture in India. "If we study medieval India and her problem scientifically, we are sure to come to the conclusion that we—Hindus and Muslims—have contributed our full quota to the evolution of a common cultural heritage"—an exceedingly timely thought at the present day.

THE STATUS OF WOMEN IN ANCIENT INDIA. By Prof. Indra. Published by the Minerva Bookshop, Lahore. Rs. 3.

In this very interesting volume, the author has given us a vivid survey of women's position—social, religious and political and legal in ancient India. He maintains that women enjoyed in the Aryan society represented by Vedic literature a much better position than in the later ages of the *Dharmashastras*. He seeks successfully to corroborate his statements with profuse citations from ancient Indian scriptures.

In a brief and spirited introduction to the book, Srimati Vijayalakshmi Pandit points out that women emerged from the domestic to the political stage so early as the twelfth century.

To the leaders of the feminist movements in India, Prof. Indra's book is a valuable guide, in that it faithfully records the exact position of women in ancient India.

BOOKS RECEIVED

—:O:—

THE FALL OF THE IDOLS. By W. R. INGE, formerly Dean of St. Paul's. Putnam, London.

AN ENGLISHWOMAN IN THE U. S. S. R. By Violet Lansbury. Putnam, London.

THE NEW YEAR BOOK, 1941. Edited by T. Guha Thakurta, M.A., S.C. Sarkar and Sons, Ltd., College Square, Calcutta.

SERAN VANJI. By Dr. S. Krishnaswami Iyengar. Cochin Government Press, Ernakulam.

THE TRAVANCORE TRIBES AND CASTES. The Aborigines of Travancore, Vol. III. By L. A. Krishna Iyer, M.A. Government Press, Trivandrum.

THE WAR PREDICTION. By Gandhi Astrologer. V. K. Satagopachariar, Tiruttani. As. 12.

ALL ABOUT FRUITS. By Sukh Dyal, M.Sc. Industry Publishers Limited, Calcutta.

STUDIES IN INTERNATIONAL LAW. By R. K. Gupta, Kitab-Mahal, Allahabad.

REPORT ON THE MARKETING OF POTATOES IN INDIA AND BURMA. Manager of Publications, Delhi.

DOCK LABOURERS IN BOMBAY. By Rasiklal P. Cholia, M.A., LL.B. Longmans, Green & Co., Ltd., Bombay.

THE ANALYSIS OF KNOWLEDGE. By Ledger Wood. George, Allen and Unwin.

PUSHPA VATIKA. The Ramayana of Tulsi Das (in English verse). By Dwarka Prasad Srivastava. Dwarka Bhawan, Banda, U. P.

SWASTHIKA AND SWASTHI LIPRI. By Venkatadri-natha Sarma. (From L. V. Easwaran, Caltex India Ltd., Ballard Estate, Bombay.)

PROGRESS REPORT ON FOREST ADMINISTRATION IN JAMMU AND KASHMIR.

SRI SAI BABA'S CHARTERS AND SAYINGS. By B. V. Narasimhaswami. 74, Lloyds Road, Royapettah.

INTRODUCTION TO SAI BABA. By B. V. Narasimhaswami. 74, Lloyd's Road, Royapettah.

THE DECLINE OF RELIGION. By Cecil P. Martin. George, Allen and Unwin.

CONSCIENCE AND LIBERTY. By Robert S. W. Pollard. George, Allen and Unwin.

The Princes' Chamber

VICEROY'S ADVICE TO PRINCES

His Excellency the Viceroy, opening the session of the Princes' Chamber on March 17, at Delhi, stressed the importance of the Rulers of States "taking all possible measures to continue to deserve the reverence of the subjects and to strengthen and buttress the foundation upon which it rests." "Union and co-operation," His Excellency continued, "are the foundation and the source of strength." Lord Linlithgow urged that the Princes should not allow themselves or their advisers to be diverted by any considerations of a personal character from ensuring that

"where co-operation is necessary, it shall take a form which no critic can assail on the ground that it is half-hearted. Such co-operation must, I recognise, involve sacrifices, as it must involve some surrender, or as I should prefer to say, some pooling of cherished sovereignty. But the need for such sacrifices is a stark reality, and I am wholly satisfied that those sacrifices, when they are made, will be amply repaid by results".

Nearly 45 Princes were present. H. E. the Marchioness of Linlithgow was among the distinguished visitors.

The Chamber of Princes concluded its two-day session on the 18th after passing two resolutions, one on British victories and the other recommending to the Crown Representative the establishment of the War Advisory Council with representatives of the States and of the provincial Governments or through some other suitable alternative to be evolved in consultation with the States.

The Chamber before adjourning heard a statement from the Chancellor reviewing last year's work. The Princes' reply to the speech by the Viceroy was read by the Chancellor, after which the Viceroy adjourned the session *sine die*.

Hyderabad

STATE BANK FOR HYDERABAD

The establishment of the Hyderabad State Bank is foreshadowed in the current year's budget. The institution which will naturally occupy the pivotal position in the State's banking and currency system, will be set up for the purpose of taking over the management of currency from Government and of carrying on the business of banking in accordance with provisions to be made.

The economic development of a State—be it agricultural or industrial—presupposes the existence of a sound and efficient banking and currency system. The agricultural and industrial development of the State has now reached a point where the present facilities for borrowing are found not only antiquated but also inadequate.

RELIGIOUS POLICY OF THE STATE

"It is the settled policy of the Ecclesiastical Department not to interfere with the religious beliefs of the people. It takes no part in proselytisation of any kind. The Government fully endorse this view and entertain no doubt that the Ecclesiastical Department will continue to act upon this policy," observes a Government resolution on the working of the State Ecclesiastical Department.

Within the State besides churches scattered all over it, there are 26,358 Hindu religious institutions including 24,000 temples existing side by side with 12,774 Muslim religious institutions including mosques numbering about 4,000.

Baroda

CO-OPERATIVE MOVEMENT

The policy of consolidation of the co-operative movement continued to be followed by the Co-operative Department of the State during the year 1939-40.

At the beginning of the year there were 1,244 societies. Ninety societies were newly registered and thirty-seven were cancelled during the year. The total number of societies rose to 1,297, of which those actually working at the end of the year were 1,097. Of these 18 were central, 1,026 agricultural and 258 non-agricultural.

The number of societies and membership increased respectively from 1,244 and 60,379 to 1,297 and 65,920. The average membership per society rose to 51 from 49 during the previous year. The working capital increased from Rs. 95'31 lakhs to Rs. 101'98 lakhs. The increase under loans from the Government is the result of the policy of the Government to finance cottage industries in the State.

DEARNESS ALLOWANCE

A cash dearness allowance of rupee one per month from September to December 1940 and Rs. 1-5-8 a month from January 1941 till the end of the war to the Kamdars of the Baroda, Yamuna and Jagdish mills is the substance of the arbitrators' final award in the dearness allowance dispute, according to a statement issued by the Secretary, Majdoor Mahajans, Baroda. The workmen of Sayaji mill are to get a dearness allowance of annas 13 according to the award.

All mill workers earning up to Rs. 60 are entitled to the allowance.

The grain shops, which were opened in pursuance of the *ad interim* award are to be now closed.

Mysore

MINOR MUNICIPALITIES IN MYSORE

Reviewing the administration of the Town and Minor Municipalities in the State for the year 1939-40, Government observe that the financial condition of several municipal councils was not satisfactory and the prescribed minimum had not been maintained by many of them. Government impress on the Councils concerned that they should observe the strictest possible economy to restrict their expenditure only to obligatory items.

Government are glad to note that the members of the municipal councils continued to evince keen interest in the municipal administration, which was on the whole satisfactory.

The incidence of taxation ranged from Re. 0-5-0 in the Naikanhalli minor municipality to Rs. 7-4-0. in the Koppa minor municipality. In some of the councils, the arrears were very heavy, and Government point out that good collection is very essential for successful administration.

THE JOG FALLS PROJECT

In these days of the larger generation of electrical energy for the industrial advancement of the country, the waterfalls play an important part. In Mysore, the Jog Falls has become important for the Hydro-Electric Project that has been in progress at the place.

The Jog Falls Project provides for works for the generation of electrical energy in four stages of 32,000 E.H.P. each. At present it is proposed to design the Works so as first to generate 64,000 E.H.P. and to be capable of expansion in future to provide another 64,000 E.H.P. or even more by suitable additions, which will prove economical now and in the long run.

Burma

INDIAN BUSINESSMEN IN BURMA

Excerpts from the proceedings of the Managing Committee of the Indian Chamber of Commerce reveal that the Chamber addressed a letter to the Central Board of Revenue, New Delhi, on November 18, bringing to the notice of the authorities the hardship entailed on several Indian businessmen settled in Burma as a result of the application of the provisions of the Income-tax (Amendment) Act, 1939.

It was pointed out that such Indians, in spite of the fact that they had for a long time settled in Burma and had for all practical purposes cut off their relations with their respective places in India, had got some ancestral property which for reasons of sentiment they did not like to part with. It was further pointed out that the mere possession of some immovable property should not be construed as the maintenance of a dwelling house and that periodical short visits by the owners of such properties to India should not make them liable to assessment to income-tax in India.

South Africa

END OF CAPE TOWN AGREEMENT

"The new year has given another tragic blow to the Indian cause in South Africa," observes Swami Bhawani Dayal in the course of a statement, and wonders "how many of us have pondered over the significance of the fact that the abolition of the Agent-Generalship in its essence virtually amounts to the diplomatic termination of the Capetown Agreement."

"Let us be frank with ourselves about the position of the Capetown Agreement. Who will look after its

provisions to be transformed into actions? In fact, the Capetown Agreement is no more a living issue; it is dead and buried. Indian leaders cannot be too careful in this matter. Unless they protect themselves and make their position clear beyond the shadow of a doubt, they may subscribe to a policy which may later on signify something very different from what they intended. It is hoped that the Indians will not be misled by the pronouncement that India's status has been raised to the sky in the creation of a new office of High Commissioner, but will take time by the forelock and demand an explanation from the India Government for their mysterious behaviour in abruptly closing the office of the Agency, which was originated especially to watch and protect the interests of the Indian community."

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faction to the human race.**

—Sir Dinshaw Wacha.

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TOPICS From PERIODICALS



STUDENTS AND POLITICS

Writing on this much-discussed subject, Principal P. Seshadri commends in the pages of the *XX Century* Mahatma Gandhi's "golden advice which should be taken to heart by the entire student world of India and acted upon with diligence and care, not merely in their own interests but also in the larger interests of their country":

"Students cannot afford to have party politics," writes Mahatma Gandhi to the Secretary of the All-India Students' Federation. "They may hear all parties," he continues, "as they read all sorts of books, but their business is to assimilate the truth of all and reject the balance. That is the only worthy attitude that they can take. Power politics should be unknown to the student world. Immediately they dabble in that class of work, they cease to be students and will therefore fail to serve the country. Even if the whole of the student world were to repudiate me, I am not going to be deterred from tendering my advice for fear of rejection."

Mahatma Gandhi is right in saying that you cease to have the right intellectual attitude worthy of a student, if you took a partisan view and supported one side against the other which is an essential feature of all politics. At what exact age a person should take part in politics may be a matter of controversy, but it may be laid down as a general rule that it cannot be before one is able to have a fairly sound judgment and is able to come to sensible opinions for oneself. Nothing can be more injurious to the atmosphere of true study than the emotional excitement of politics.

The heat of controversy has a very unsettling effect on the mind and the chances are that when a young man takes to politics, he will not be able to do so in a spirit of sobriety and inoffensiveness, especially as he is so immature. The result may be a cantankerous and self-opinionated creature and not a representative of culture, rising to the heights of the famous definition of "sweetness and light" mentioned by Matthew Arnold, as its highest qualities. Students of English literature are acquainted with the fact that even a person of the calibre of Milton, when he descended into the realms of political and social controversy in his polemical pamphlets, was guilty of great lapses of taste and even positive bad manners.

The futility of students trying to take part in politics, and the poor results they can possibly achieve, is another argument in support of the thesis that it cannot be an advantage to anybody concerned.

Neither in money nor in brains, nor in work of any kind can the student community be expected to be useful as far as politics are concerned. Want of time is a formidable obstacle and the chances of disruption due to youthful tendency towards independent leadership is another danger. The only certain consequence is the student's sacrifice of his career for nothing.

Among the other reasons why educational authorities insist on the eschewing of politics from schools and colleges is that they may ensure as common a platform as possible for sympathetic contact between master and student, and among students themselves:

Once the ugly temper of political difference is allowed to invade the sanctity of educational institutions, there is an end of such an atmosphere. It marks the beginning of differences and ill-will fraught with the gravest of consequences to the institution. Let us remember that it is only by the avoidance of politics that we can ensure conditions of equality and freedom and make the young men of all communities and schools of opinion feel that they have all a common home of learning. There can be no political coercion, nor could there be any encouragement to possible conflicts in college. The professed lovers of freedom must be able to respect all differences of opinion and at least a school or college can set up no other ideal before it.

THE DEADLOCK IN INDIA

The American Edition of Pandit Nehru's *Autobiography* has an epilogue from the Pandit's pen, which is reproduced in the *New York Nation*. The Pandit, in bringing the narrative down to the date of the present war, observes that India was drawn into the struggle without a word of consent or even consultation.

What were we to do? For years past we had thought about this and proclaimed our policy. Yet in spite of all this, the British Government declared India to be a belligerent country without any reference to our people, to the Central Assembly, or to the provincial governments. That was a slight that was hard to take; for it signified that Imperialism functioned as before. The Congress Working Committee issued a long statement in the middle of September 1939, in which our past and present policy was defused and the British Government was invited to explain its war aims, more particularly in regard to British Imperialism. We had frequently condemned Fascism and Nazism, but we were more intimately concerned with the Imperialism that dominated over us. Was this Imperialism to go? Did they recognise the independence of India and her right to frame her own constitution through a Constituent Assembly? What immediate steps would be taken to introduce popular control of the Central Government? Later, in order to meet every possible objection of any minority group, the idea behind the Constituent Assembly was further amplified. It was stated that minority claims would be settled in this Assembly with the consent of the minority concerned and not by a majority vote. If such agreement was not possible in regard to any issue, then this was to be referred to an impartial tribunal for final decision. This was an unsafe proposal from a democratic point of view, but the Congress was prepared to go to almost any length in order to allay the suspicions of minorities.

The British Government's answer was clear. It left no doubt that they were not prepared to clarify their war aims or to hand over control of the government to the people's representatives. The old order continued and was to continue,

and British interests in India could not be left unprotected. The Congress ministries in the provinces thereupon resigned, as they were not prepared to co-operate on these terms in the prosecution of the war. The constitution was suspended and autocratic rule was re-established. The old constitutional conflict of Western countries between an elected Parliament and the King's prerogative, which had cost the heads of two kings in England and France, took shape in India. But there was something much more than this constitutional aspect. The volcano was not in action, but it was there and rumblings were heard.

The impasse continued and meanwhile new laws and ordinances descended upon us by decree, and Congressmen and others were arrested in ever-growing numbers. Resentment grew and a demand arose for action on our side. But the course of the war and the peril of England itself made us hesitate; for we could not wholly forget the old lesson which Gandhiji had taught us, that our objective should not be to embarrass the opponent in his hour of need.

As the war progressed, new problems arose and the British Government, confronted with rude shocks in international dealings, continued their policy of appeasement abroad. If the British Government were slow of understanding and could not learn even from experience, what can one say about the Government of India, asks the Pandit.

There is something comic and something tragic about the functioning of this Government; for nothing seems to shake it out of its age-long complacency; neither logic nor reason, neither peril nor disaster. Like Rip Van Winkle, it sleeps, even though awake, on Simla hill.

The developments in the war situation posed new questions before the Congress Working Committee. Gandhiji wanted the Committee to extend the principle of non-violence to which we had adhered in our struggle for freedom, to the functioning of a free State. A free India must rely on this principle to guard itself against external aggression or internal disorder. This question did not raise itself for us at the time, but it occupied Gandhiji's mind, and he felt that the time had come for a clear enunciation. Every one of us was convinced that we must adhere to our policy of non-violence as we had so far done in our own struggle. The war in Europe had strengthened this conviction. But to commit the future State was another and a more difficult matter and it was not easy to see how any one moving on the plane of politics could do it.

Gandhiji felt, and probably rightly, that he could not give up or tone down a message which he had for the world. He must have freedom to give it as he liked and must not be

LONDON CHILDREN

Time, the well-known New York Weekly, observes that the worst sufferers in the War are the children in the affected area. 12,000 young Londoners are growing up on the firing line.

For 80,000 of them, between the ages of 5 and 14, there were even worse dangers than falling bombs. London's compulsory education system had practically broken down. Though the London County Council sent truant officers after parents and children alike, the average daily school attendance was only 26,000. Half of London's grade schools had been battered into rubble, or commandeered for other uses. The 365 still open, carried on with fewer hours of schooling in crowded class-rooms, their lessons punctuated by air-raid warnings.

Many parents kept their children away, some for safety's sake. But teachers told of young boys put to work hawking firewood to bolster family earnings, of girls taught to beg money on street corners. Some children simply ran wild.

... By 9 every morning, swarms of ferret-eyed, wax-skinned youngsters lined up with piles of bedding outside the tube shelters, waiting to go underground to hold the family 'pitch' till nightfall. Inside they played on the long platforms of the subway station, kept an eye open for the chance to steal a better sleeping space. Said one experienced mopper: 'School? I've got to get the seats, ain't I? Ma' goes home to do her work and sends me back to keep her place. Sometimes the women try to rush you. But they can't put it across me. I've got 'em beat.'

Efforts of Government and Press had failed to speed the evacuation of London's remaining children.

The mass translocation reached a peak in October, when 10,000 women and children registered in single day, but then it stalled. In a final attempt, London's big dailies wrote long, persuasive feature stories. The Ministry of Health fired a barrage of publicity. Leaflets explained 'Why You Should Let Your School Children Go'. Its advertisements asked: 'Mothers, Are Your Children Still in the Danger Areas?' Six hundred door-to-door canvassers drank thousands of cups of tea in thousands of kitchens, patiently explained reasons for evacuation. All told, about 40,000 more children were sent away, but the rest would not go. President of the Board of Education, Herwald Ramsbotham, threw up his hands admitted: 'Compulsory evacuation of school children is politically and socially impossible.'

kept back by political exigencies. So, for the first time, he went one way and the Congress Working Committee another. There was no break with him; for the bond was too strong and he will no doubt continue to advise in many ways and often to lead. Yet it is perhaps true that by his partial withdrawal, a definite period in the history of our national movement has come to an end. In recent years, I have found a certain hardness creeping into him, a lessening of the adaptability that he possessed. Yet the old spell is there, the old charm works, and his personality and greatness tower over others. Let no one imagine that his influence over India's millions is any the less. He has been the architect of India's destiny for twenty years and more and his work is not completed.

Congress, at the instance of Mr. C. Rajagopalachari, made yet another offer to Britain.

Mr. Rajagopalachari is said to belong to the Right in the Congress. His brilliant intellect, selfless character, and penetrating powers of analysis have been a tremendous asset to our cause. He was the Prime Minister of Madras during the functioning of the Congress Government there. Eager to avoid conflict, he put forward a proposal which was hesitatingly accepted by some of his colleagues. This proposal was the acknowledgment of India's independence by Britain and the immediate formation at the Centre of a Provisional National Government, which would be responsible to the present Central Assembly. If this were done, this Government would take charge of defence and thus help in the war-effort.

This Congress proposal was eminently feasible and could be effectuated immediately without upsetting anything. The National Government was inevitably going to be a composite affair with full representation of minority groups. The proposal was definitely a moderate one. From the point of view of defence and war effort, it is patent that any serious effort involves the confidence and co-operation of the people. Only a national government has the chance to get this. It is not possible through Imperialism.

But Imperialism thinks otherwise and imagines that it can continue to function and to coerce people to do its will. Even when danger threatens, it is not prepared to get this very substantial help if it involves giving up political and economic control over India. It does not care even for the tremendous moral prestige which would come to it if it did the right thing in India and the rest of the Empire.

As I write this, the Viceroy has given us the British Government's reply. It is in the old language of Imperialism, and the content has changed in no way. The sands of time run out here in India, as in Europe and the world.

So many of my colleagues have gone back to prison, and I envy them somewhat. Perhaps it is easier to develop an organic sense of life in the solitude of confinement than in this mad world of war and politics, of Fascism and Imperialism.

AMERICA AND THE WAR

"Evesdropper" of *Indian Finance* regards the passing of the Lease and Lend Bill as Democracy's authentic answer to the challenge of Germany, Italy, and Japan.

Now the Axis will know that the fate of Democracy is not in the hands of a hard-pressed island or even its far-flung Empire, but in those of a Power which is supreme over a whole hemisphere. German power rests on the effective stringing up of a number of countries and the pooling of their resources. On the side of Democracy, there has not till now been a similar phenomenon. The British Empire is distributed over the whole world and is not comparable in this view to the countries which Hitler has under his control. Now that President Roosevelt has the formal authority to convert the States into the great arsenal of democracy, the Axis is face to face with a combination which has unlimited potentialities of growth.

For the first time, therefore, the scales of war have been tilted against the Axis.

The old idea that Germany could concentrate the power of her air raids on Great Britain and keep in the background the vague threat of moving Japan in the Far East has to be abandoned. That Germany does not mistake the significance of America's aid is clear from the view current in Germany that American help will prolong the war. It is too much to expect a confession that it alters the entire look of things. But the admission that the Lease and Lend Bill will prolong the war is a confession of the disquiet that is prevalent in Germany. It could hardly be otherwise; for the Bill is but a beginning of radical changes that are yet to come. At the present stage it signifies primarily that the American people have at last defined their position to the war. At the beginning their reaction was one of unqualified adherence to the isolationist view. There was wide-spread fear that America might be cajoled into making large loans and then forced to throw good lives after bad money. Legislative safeguards against these dangers were tightened. But slowly the perils of isolationism became evident. The people were divided in mind. And Mr. Roosevelt skillfully assisted the public in its appreciation of facts. Now they know that their entry into the war, on which they still entertain strong views, is a matter of no great practical importance. What counts is the measure of help which America will extend to the Democracies. And this, the President is now free to give to the fullest extent possible consistent with America's own defence requirements.

If the war should spread, the significance of the Lease and Lend Bill will prove almost immeasurable.

The Dominions of British Empire have taken forced marches towards complete independence. Canada, by virtue of her position, came under the Monroe Doctrine and is now within the scope of the American scheme of defending the Western Hemisphere. The position of Australia, too, is not far different. In view of the Japanese menace in the East, Australia is forced to consult and collaborate with the U. S. A. without the intermediacy of British Cabinet. The efforts of the Democracies to remove the menace of Fascism may even involve American aid in the development of India's resources in munitions. So mighty an effort is bound to change the complexion of the post-war settlement. Woodrow Wilson was an almost unwanted intruder in the Versailles Conference. Mr. Roosevelt's position would be far different. He may be found to champion democracy as vigorously after the war as during it.

STARS AND MEN

Mr. Frederick Carter, writing in the *Dublin Magazine*, says:

"The life of man is involved in the heavens as well as in the world beneath. His thought links itself with the cosmic figures that he established for his own better guidance in the skies. . . . And man's mind can only discover itself fully in the motions of the heavens and all the complex factors which reveal its processes. And so the secret of Time. For that end, man set the archaic images there to represent the profoundest symbols of his thought. And in succeeding ages, out of that imagery he has sought to interpret the plain significance of fate amid the rush and turmoil of passing events."

Men cannot but see that similar happenings recur. "To account for the immutable event we devise the banal saying that history repeats itself." The ancients "in their day saw the historic movements of humanity as controlled by the wide motions of the stars above and so marked their groupings and figures with high symbolical significance".

INDIA AS A VITAL BASE

Because of the possibility of a Sudan *blitzkrieg*, the British Government's handling of the Indian problem assumes new importance, comments the *London News Review*.

"After the last war, a Royal Commission was set up to inquire into the conduct of the campaign in Mesopotamia. One of the conclusions reached has a direct bearing on the position to-day, namely, that military operations in the Near or Middle East must be supported by an industrial base east of Aden. The point carries more force now than then owing to the mechanisation of the Italian Army and the awkward position in the Mediterranean resulting from the French collapse.

If Hitler and Mussolini between them could make the Mediterranean route unsafe, General Sir Archibald Wavell and his Army in the Near East would depend more than ever on supplies from India.

That country already produces pig-iron at the rate of 2,000,000 tons, steel ingots at a million tons, and finished steel at one million tons a year.

But there is no "Go To It" spirit among the Indian masses, whose Congress Party leaders demand self-government for India before they will preach co-operation with the British."

THE SCHOLAR'S REWARD

"The world expects scholars to get their reward in the discovery of truth and it may be hoped, says Douglas Bush in the *Atlantic Monthly*, "the world is right since they get nothing else".

"They toil for years, they scorn delights and live laborious days and when they have written a book, they are lucky if they can get it published. If they do, they usually have to pay for it, though

the professorial salary does not allow for subsidies to publishers. Sometimes, a scholar has the superlative good fortune to get a book published for nothing. Sometimes, the work of many years cannot get published at all. It is by no means a sufficient explanation to say that scholars can't write; many a scholar writes well, but if he objects to the cheaper arts of salesmanship, the world will have none of him. The popular middleman, however, spends a few months in a public library, dashes off a book in time for the Christmas lists and receives handsome royalties. The scholar meekly accepts the way of the world, but he does wonder now and then why the swift-footed gentlemen of letters do not more often pause to take account of scholars' findings."

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U. F.

SCIENCE AND RELIGION

Under the heading "Viswarupa", Mr. S. V. Ramamurti, I.C.S., contributes an article to the latest quarterly journal *Triveni*. Science and religion, according to the writer, seek the union of multiplicity and unity, but they start from opposite ends. Mr. Ramamurti explains:

The way between multiplicity and unity is long and difficult. It is perhaps to be expected that, for all except the hardest spirits, science tends to believe primarily in multiplicity, and to believe in unity only so far as the multiplicity of observers can see. So too in religions, the perceiver of unity tends to be obscured in his vision of multiplicity. The way to rectify science is more science, and religion more religion. Each is the other when completed. Incomplete, they are subject to dangerous short-circuiting.

The view of being both as multiplicity and as unity is itself one step removed from the view of being as having no quality whether of multiplicity or of unity. Unity is the simplest form of multiplicity. It is also the concrete form of no quality; for a unity has no quality other than being itself. Being then has two fronts—that which is the source of becoming and that which is the goal of becoming. These are the Sakti and Purusha of Hindu thought. Purusha is the unity of being, into which all the desires of Sakti, all the processes of becoming lead.

The reconciliation of science and religion, for which the whole world is searching, is possible only in Hinduism, says the writer. For,

Hinduism is the religion of Viswarupa which is the form of the universe in which God is imminent. To the Hindu, the world is a flow which can ignore neither matter through and from which it flows nor spirit into and through which it flows. There is room in Viswarupa for all forms of energy, all existences, all categories of being, all qualities of becoming and yet it can never transcend the unity of God for which all religion stands. The reconciliation of science and religion, for which two continents of thought are searching, is possible in the old and yet young vision of Hinduism.

This vision of Viswarupa is needed now in India more than in the past when India is emerging from a *pralaya* of stagnation. India needs to keep before herself more than ever the concrete expression which the South Indian artist has given to Viswarupa in the conception and execution of the figure of Nataraja.

BRITAIN AND INDIA

"The finest anti-Nazi material is in India and it is nothing short of a tragedy that she is still mainly unreconciled," says Sir S. Radhakrishnan in the first issue of the new quarterly *Art and Culture*. "If freedom of all people is the aim of this war, as it should be, then those who were conquered in the past must be set free."

To win the war will not mean much if it does not remove the great wrongs of the present world. We must demonstrate even to the enemy that we reverence the ideals of justice and freedom which we condemn him for rejecting.

British statesmen do not seem to realise sufficiently what new forces are at work which require a new outlook and interpretation. We need not doubt that the present government contains as high an average of ability as was ever found in a British Cabinet.

Its members, however, are fitted more to carry on traditional administration than appreciate new factors or initiate new policies. The Prime Minister, who is bending all his indisputable genius and prodigious energies to the supreme task of winning this war has, in spite of his boldness and vision, become a specialist and is studiously reticent on the Indian question. The other members belong to an era that has passed.

The position of Britain in the world has radically changed, and the old policy of slow compromise and fine adjustment is out of date.

New, strange, inconsequent forces are at work upsetting the old calculations. Statesmen cast in the old form with their servility to established institutions are not adequate to the new conditions.

Those who are in charge of India have the traditional virtues of dignity, honour, efficiency and even selflessness. They are most competent members of traditional governments, but are too firmly set in the old ways to be useful in the new world. They are immensely intelligent but highly insensitive.

Otherwise it is impossible to understand a policy which does not countenance the establishment of a popular government, which does not trust the leaders of the people with the task of building up the neglected defences of India and organising aircraft and shipbuilding industries in the country.

The sands are now running out. Will British statesmen take courage and give content to the noble phrases they utter and weld together in a great democratic federation India and Britain for mutual service and the service of the world?

NUDE SCULPTURES

"Erotic scenes on the temples of Orissa," is the subject of an interesting article in the latest issue of the *Journal of the Benares Hindu University* by Mr. Bhagwat Saran Upadhyaya, who justifies the presence of nude carvings in stones, not only in temples in Orissa but also in other parts of India by arguing that the cult of nudity is as old as the second century B.C.

Already the Indian mind had conceived of a lustful cult of the Yaksas and Yaksis, and so early as the Sunga period we come across the Yaksi images on the railing pillars of Sanchi and Bharhut which are semi-nude. The activities of the cult became even more pronounced as the Kusana and Gupta periods approached. The Muttra Museum is full of nude and semi-nude Yaksi figures of the Kusana period. And during the reign of Chandra Gupta II Vikramaditya, the great Sanskrit poet Kalidasa made a Yaksa the hero of his immortal lyric *Meghaduta*. Thus the Yaksas and Yaksis by the time of the Kusanas had come to represent both love and lust. On the Kusana railing pillars beautifully ornamented, Yaksi figures have been carved in high relief and are almost wholly nude except for a line running on the ankles to show that they are not. These generally bear the symbols of the spring—the *amramanjari* and the wine jar and the peg (*casaka*)—and standing in many cases under an *asoka* tree, they press under their feet the dwarf male. This dwarf male is the poor wordly man who crushed under the weight of his own iniquitous desires (which take the form of the nude Yaksis in the sculptural composition) lies crouching beneath.

What is the significance of the nude cult which pervades in temple architecture after the Buddhist period. The author explains:

The Yaksi figures are carved on railing pillars which ran round the stupa, commemorative of the *Nirvana* or some great incident in the life of the Master. The stupa represented the bliss outside the world. It is significant that each railing pillar is carved on the reverse with the scene of a *Jataka* story supposed to have been taken from an incident of the life of a previous Buddha. It may be noted that the nude Yaksi figures on the railing pillars would lie towards the world while the scene of the *Jataka* story would face the stupa, symbolical of bliss, while the devotee would go about in the *pradaksinabhumi* keeping an eye on the scene of renunciation on the railing pillar through which the idea of the stupa, i.e., of the highest bliss, would be achieved. And

outside was the world, vile and vicious, where poor, petty man was being crushed under the weight of his own desires that take the form of the Yaksi or that is represented by the woman.

It was because of this that Buddha was against admitting a woman into the Sangha and when one was actually admitted, he is reported to have said: "Ananda without a woman, the Sangha would endure a thousand years, but now since you have introduced one to it, it will live only for five hundred years."

CINEMA AND RADIO

Mr. E. M. Hough writes to the *Aryan Path* for March on the value of Cinema and Radio as means of education. Their value in formal education is vast and only a beginning has so far been made towards utilizing them adequately in the schools. The writer says that

films of historic accuracy can help incidentally to popularize the old wisdom which the race still needs today. Moreover, the choice of truly admirable characters for such depiction can render the children the greatest possible service of furnishing them with a worthy living ideal.

The presentation of short films of scenes in typical homes of foreign lands, of street scenes in their cities, of children at play or at school, should not be too expensive to produce on a co-operative basis and would do much to broaden the outlook and to spread the sense of acquaintance and of sympathy with foreigners on which the spirit of international fraternity must rest. It is a mistake to choose invariably the unusual and the spectacular as the basis of an interpretative film. The cinema can fill the place of travel for the stay-at-homes and it serves that purpose best when it presents the quiet pattern of day-to-day living in foreign lands. Rightly filmed, the latter will interest the cinema-goer exactly as every-day scenes intrigue the foreign visitor.

Similarly, the radio can be used to great advantage in the class-room, to acquaint the pupils with good music, Western and Eastern.

Occasional inspiring short addresses, broadcasted by outstanding thinkers and keyed to the mental level of a school audience also would be a valuable addition to the curriculum.

INDIAN FISCAL POLICY

In the course of a paper published in the *Journal of the Indian Merchants Chamber*, Dr. John Matthai observes that the position of industries after the war is causing a great deal of concern to industrial interests in the country.

It must be expected that when the war comes to an end, the position of Indian industries, both old established industries and industries which have come into existence or considerably extended their output since the war, will become extremely difficult. It would, therefore, be advisable to examine in advance the lines on which the policy of Protection should be revised to meet the difficult times which lie ahead. It is necessary, in the first place, to re-examine the principle underlying the policy. The conditions laid down by the Fiscal Commissions have not merely become out-of-date in important respects, but the working of Discriminating Protection has revealed the need for recasting these conditions on simpler and more practical lines. The present conditions are unduly stringent, ambiguously worded and difficult to work. A complete revision of the basis of our protective policy with reference to present conditions and in the light of the results of the working of the present policy should be taken up without delay.

The machinery required for administering protection so as to render its working speedier and more effective should also be examined.

As a means of securing promptness, continuity and proper supervision of protected industries, it is suggested that the Tariff Board should be replaced by the appointment of a single Tariff Commissioner with the Government of India, who would take over (1) the preliminary investigations now carried out by the Commerce Department; (2) dispose of all applications of a minor character; and (3) be charged with the responsibility of supervising the working of protected industries.

In the case of more important enquiries, the Tariff Commissioner should have the assistance of two colleagues with the requisite experience and knowledge of industrial and business problems co-opted for the purpose of each enquiry. Under this proposal, the effective working of the machinery will primarily depend on the person chosen for the post of Tariff Commissioner and the expert staff with which he is provided.

WAR AND THE BIRTH-RATE

Belligerent countries experience a fall in their birth-rates during the war, but usually a rise in the rate after the close of the war for obvious reasons. The New York correspondent of the *Insurance World*, writing in the February number, draws a comparison to the period after the world war of 1914-18.

These variations vary markedly in degree in different countries on account of the influence of such factors as the length and the intensity of the conflict, the rapidity with which it develops in each country, and the extent and duration of invasion of the belligerent's own territory. The experience during and after the World War, 1914-18, is of current interest, because it may give us some indication of the probable trend of the birth-rate during the next few years in the warring countries. . .

In the years immediately after the War, there was a rapid rise in the birth-rate. In Germany, Hungary, Austria, Belgium, and Bulgaria this occurred as early as 1919, but in England, France, and Italy a substantial rise in the birth-rate was not recorded until 1920. But even the maximum post-war birth-rates were usually below the pre-War averages. The post-War rise in birth-rates, moreover, was purely temporary; only France experienced a slight rise in the birth-rate as compared with the pre-War rate.

It is likely, says the Correspondent, that the present war will have similar effects on the birth-rate as did the last war.

INDIA IN PERIODICALS.

MASS EDUCATION IN INDIA. By A. Ghose, M.A. [The Calcutta Review, February 1941.]

THE DIFFICULTIES OF INDIAN ART CRITICISM. By Prof. S. N. Misra. [The XX Century, March 1941.]

TEMPLES IN TRAVANCORE. By R. V. Puduval. [Travancore Information, March 1941.]

ECONOMIC PROBLEMS OF INDIA. By P. Kallukaren. [The New Review, March 1941.]

HINDU EPISTEMOLOGY AND MODERN THOUGHT. By V. S. Talasikar. [The Aryan Path, March 1941.]

THE BRITISH ADMINISTRATION OF THE DELHI TERRITORY. (1803-57). By Dr. T. G. P. Spear. [Journal of Indian History.]

THE ADVENT OF ARYANS INTO INDIA. By Prof. Charanjit Singh Bindra. [Prabuddha Bharata, March 1941.]

MULTUM IN PARVO

NEWS * DEPARTMENTAL * NOTES

Questions of Importance

BOMBAY CONFERENCE RESOLUTION

The following is the text of the resolution moved by Sir N. N. Sircar, former Law Member, Government of India, and adopted unanimously at the Bombay Conference of Non-party leaders on March 15:

While India dislikes the idea of taking advantage of Britain's difficulties in her heroic struggle, the Conference is equally desirous that India's domestic problems should not be pressed to her disadvantage.

As a first step towards ending the present deadlock, and until a permanent constitution is brought into force, the Conference desires to emphasise the immediate need for the reconstruction of the Governor-General's Executive Council.

The Conference considers that the present Council, which consists of three European members from the Indian Civil Service and three Indians, of whom two are non-officials and one is a member of the Indian Civil Service, in addition to H. E. the Viceroy and H. E. the Commander-in-Chief, is neither adequate nor sufficiently representative to organise and direct India's war effort at this moment of grave peril.

The Conference is anxious that India's defences should be put on a firm basis and that the resources of this great country, in men and material, should be used to the fullest advantage not only to defend her own frontiers but to help the British people to the fullest extent possible, consistently with the best interests of India.

For the reasons mentioned above this Conference is of the opinion that the whole Executive Council should consist of non-official Indians drawn from important elements in the public life of the country. This would naturally involve the transfer of all portfolios, including the vital ones of Finance and Defence to Indians, while the Conference is willing, during the period of the war, that the reconstructed Centre may remain responsible to the Crown; and so far as Defence is concerned, the position of the Commander-in-Chief, as the executive head of the Defence forces of the country, may not be, in any way, prejudiced.

At the same time, the Conference is strongly of the view that the reconstructed Government should not merely be a collection of departmental heads, but should deal with all important matters of policy on a basis of joint and collective responsibility. In regard to all inter-Imperial and international matters, the

reconstructed Government should be treated on the same footing as the Dominion Governments.

The Conference is further of the opinion that to create a favourable atmosphere for the working of the reconstructed Central Government it is necessary to remove the doubts and misgivings of the people of this country as regards the genuineness of the intentions of His Majesty's Government by making a declaration simultaneously with the reconstruction of the Central Government that within a specified time limit, after the conclusion of the war, India will enjoy the same measure of freedom as will be enjoyed by Britain and the Dominions.

The Conference authorizes its president, the Rt. Hon. Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru, to communicate the terms of the resolution to H. E. the Viceroy and the Secretary of State for India, and to take such other steps as may be necessary to achieve its objects.

INDIAN TROOPS IN ACTION

In the Council of State on March 10, in reply to a question by Raja Yuveraj Dutta Singh, H. E. the Commander-in-Chief, Lt.-General Sir Claude Auchinleck, stated:

I welcome the opportunity afforded me by the Hon. Member to pay a personal tribute on the floor of this House to the magnificent part troops from India have played in destroying the threat of Italian aggression in and from North Africa.

Both British and Indian troops sent from this country, some of them as far back as the summer of 1930, have shown and continue to show a quality of training and fighting spirit second to none.

For many months these troops had to fill a role involving waiting on the defensive in anything but comfortable conditions on the hot desert plains of western Egypt and the Sudan.

They faced an enemy immensely superior in numbers, and possessed at that time of overwhelming superiority in the air.

In conditions far from inspiring, our troops never flagged in their zeal, and, as more and more equipment of the most modern type was supplied to them, they trained day after day with remarkable will and cheerfulness.

The result is already history. . . .

British and Indian troops had the honour of dealing the initial blow, which shattered the Italian threat to Egypt. . . .

DR. SAPRU ON THE IMPASSE

An earnest appeal to the Government of India to take the initiative in getting together leaders of the Congress and the Moslem League in an effort to resolve the present deadlock and if that attempt failed, to mobilise the large mass of unattached opinion in the country, was made by Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru, opening the conference of non-party leaders at Bombay on March 14. After referring to the "short-sighted" decision of the Congress to withhold help to Britain in the war, Sir Tej continued:

Frankly speaking I maintain and maintain very strongly that there has never been a Government of India more isolated from public opinion and from the main current of thought in the country than the present Government of India. The members of the Government of India should appear before the public, take the public into confidence, and they must not assume that the Indian Legislature, respectable bodies as they are, or one or two important political bodies constitute the whole of India. I should like to see members of the Government of India appearing on the public platform and telling us what really is happening. . .

I believe we have already exposed ourselves to a great deal of ridicule in this country and outside for our inability to compose our differences even at this critical junctures. It is therefore that I make an earnest appeal to these two bodies (the Congress and the Muslim League) and their distinguished leaders, to meet to discuss things among themselves and devise some formula for a settlement of the outstanding disputes, because it is imperative that some day or other these disputes should be settled. If it seems necessary for either of these two bodies, or to both of them, to requisition the services of any one of us as common friends, I am sure, none of us will stint our service.

But if those bodies were not prepared to compose their differences then the Conference should be prepared for some alternative.

It is not enough for the British Government to repeatedly refer to the existence of unfortunate differences. It is also necessary for the Government to say that they have done their best and that they are ready to do their best to bring about a reconciliation between the two bodies. In that respect the British Government had done practically nothing. It is not enough for the Viceroy to invite 52 men and see them individually or in groups.

Why could not the Government of India master courage and get together the leaders of the two parties and call a conference. They should have done that long ago. When a critical situation of the same character arose in 1917 the then Viceroy Lord Chelmsford called a war conference at which Princes were represented, the Congress, as it was in those days was represented, and even Mr. Gandhi was present it gave a great stimulus to the activity in the country in support of the war at that time.

It is, therefore, impossible to understand the present policy of the Government of India. I have reason to believe that if the Government of India move in the matter or if the Secretary of State move in the matter, those might be called upon to shoulder the burden who are willing, not permanently but only as a temporary measure, during the period of the war. They would be prepared to vacate the places if and when the Congress or the Moslem League or both, were willing to take up the burden. It all depended on who the men were who were selected.

I refuse to believe that the country of 400 millions is so devoid of men of experience and character that it would be impossible for the Government of India to find ten or twelve men who would command public support and confidence. An attempt should, therefore, be seriously made to bring the two parties together and to persuade them to assume responsibility. But if that attempt failed there is no reason why an attempt should not be made to bring into the seats of power other men who are ready to serve the best interests of the country not in the spirit of careerists or office-seekers but in the spirit of servants of the country who would not hesitate to make room for others.

Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru, winding up the proceedings of the Conference, said that it was absurd for any one to believe that the fortunes of 400,000,000 people could be settled by radio broadcasts and statements to the Press. He invited the Secretary of State for India and half a dozen British members of Parliament to visit India and see things for themselves so that they could come to definite decisions regarding the future of India. The president deeply deplored "the lack of imagination and big-heartedness on the part of British statesmen in dealing with the complicated problem of India".

Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru has appointed a Standing Committee of the Conference to implement the resolution passed by the Conference.

THE MADRAS REGIMENT

The Commander-in-Chief's amendment to Pandit Kunzru's resolution regarding the expansion of the Indian Army was approved unanimously by the Council of State.

His Excellency's speech, which was heard with attention and interest, contained sympathetic references to the claim of Madras. He explained how the efficiency of the old Madras Army gradually deteriorated on account of the threat to India being shifted from the south to the north-west. Lack of proper communications stood in the way of the Madras Army being shifted north and this necessitated recruitment in the north. His Excellency added that it was not the fault of Madras that the Madras Army as a whole lost its efficiency.

I may perhaps mention that since the war began, the strength of the Madras in the Army has risen from something like four thousand to well over ten thousand and is being still further increased at a rapid rate. The same process is proceeding in respect of other classes, but it is a slow process because there are no established units from which the nucleus of Viceroy's Commissioned Officers and Non-Commissioned Officers can be drawn. These must, therefore, be drawn from other classes and retained with the newly-raised units until these can find their own junior leaders. With our present system of class composition, I think it is essential that men of each class should have its own leaders with whose speech and temperament they are familiar, rather than that they should have over them men, who, though Indian, may perhaps be alien to them in speech, creed and habits.

His Excellency announced that he had already issued instructions that the Old Madras Regiment, which finally disappeared in 1926, should be revived and restored to its rightful place in the Army List.

The first battalion of this regiment, which will be a regular battalion, is to be raised forthwith and will carry on its colours the battle honours of the Old Madras Army some of which go back to nearly two hundred years. I hope before long to be able to ensure the permanent representation of other provinces hitherto not mentioned in the Army List in the same way.

UNIVERSITY TRAINING CORPS

In the Council of State, Pandit Kunzru moved a resolution recommending that the University Training Corps in India be trained and utilized like the Officers Training Corps at the British Universities.

He said that the central purpose of his resolution was to ask that the training of members of the U. T. C. should not be limited to that given to the rank and file. Advantage should be taken of their education to fit them for the performance of more responsible duties.

Sir Claude Auchinleck, Commander-in-Chief, replying on the debate, announced that he had issued instructions for reviewing and improving the syllabus of the U. T. C. and this work was now in hand. He was also considering to introduce the system of certificates for efficiency, which might shorten the period of training taken by a cadet to get his commission.

Sir Claude Auchinleck said that he would do his best to make the syllabus for the U. T. C. training as comprehensive and attractive as was possible. He would also give his best consideration to the question of introducing the system of certificates for efficiency, which might shorten the period of training for obtaining a commission for the members of the U. T. C.

Lastly, he would also examine the possibility of a separate interview board for the U. T. C. as far as recruitment for the officer rank in the Army was concerned. With these assurances he hoped that the resolution would be withdrawn.

The resolution was accordingly withdrawn and the Council adjourned.

DR. SAPRU ON UNIVERSITIES

Delivering the convocation address to the Calcutta University on March 8, the Rt. Hon. Dr. Tej Bahadur Sapru observed:

I have often asked myself the question as to what it is that the Universities may be expected to do at this time in our onward march; for while no one is more anxious than I that the academic serenity of our Universities should not be rudely disturbed by what are at times called the baser mundane pursuits, I also maintain that from a practical point of view no University in India can afford to live a sheltered life of isolation from the great stream of national life. It, therefore, seems to me that on two sides of their work the Universities can render lasting services to the country. On the scientific side I think our professors and post-graduate scholars can do a great deal to enrich the industrial and economic life of the country by the results of their researches. The field open to them is immense, the example of other countries whose economic and industrial prosperity is in no small measure due to the scientific work of their professors, teachers and graduates, should inspire them in this work, and in my opinion it should be the primary duty of every Provincial Government—and indeed of the Central Government—to help them in a generous measure with grants for the purpose of such useful pursuits. On the cultural side—and I use the word 'culture' in its largest sense as being something larger than mere book lore—the Universities can be a focus and centre for the synthesis of different cultures and for the evolution of that common culture which should be the highest aim of Indian nationalism to achieve, if that phrase is not merely an empty phrase or a deceptive slogan. . . .

To-day, the fundamental problem, which we have to solve, is the freedom of India, that is to say, the achievement by her of a position and the attainment of powers which may enable her to mould her future according to her best judgment and give her a place of equality and honour in the comity of nations. It is easy enough to state this proposition, but difficult to rescue it from the chaos which surrounds it. It is somewhat significant that nearly all the doctrines, under the spell of which we find one section or another of the country at present, are of Western origin, and, if I may speak frankly, Europe at present should be a warning to us rather than an example to follow. . . .

Is it altogether impossible for us to combine, and to unite for the achievement of common aims? Let the Universities—I say in all sincerity—rise superior to the tyranny of slogans and let them take stock of the situation as it is and of the forces working round and let them gaze upon the future steadily and advise the country accordingly. Let them be the seed-beds of a fertile unity and not the breeding places of a desolating disunity.

MADRAS SANSKRIT COLLEGE

The Founder's Day of the Madras Sanskrit College and the Venkataramana Dispensary was celebrated last month at the College premises, Mylapore. The Hon. Mr. Justice B. Somayya presided and others present included Sir P. S. Sivaswami Ayyar (President of the Committee of Management) and the Rt. Hon. V. S. Srinivasa Sastri.

Sir P. S. Sivaswami Ayyar, welcoming the gathering, said that the Sanskrit College had been in existence for 35 years and had been endeavouring to fulfil the aims of its founder, the late Mr. V. Krishnaswami Ayyar.

Prof. D. S. Sarma, Principal, Pachaiyappa's College, delivered the commemoration address.

EDUCATIONAL POLICY IN SIND

The Hon'ble Pir Illahi Bux, Education Minister, announced on the floor of the Sind Assembly that the Government had decided to revoke the orders of the Mir Ministry refusing recognition to non-Sindhi primary schools and withdrawing grants-in-aid to Gujarati, Marathi and other language schools other than Sindhi. He said that the Government would consider all schools on the same footing in the matter of grants.

BENARES UNIVERSITY

The total number of students on the rolls of the University was 3,603, showing an increase of 223 over the corresponding figures of last year. Out of these 2,303 lived in the University Hostels and approved lodges, the remaining were day scholars.

PATHAN MONEY-LENDERS

To check the growing 'menace of Pathan money-lenders' in the City of Madras, the Government have amended the Madras City Police Act empowering the Commissioner of Police with additional powers.

A statement issued by the Government in this connection says:—

Serious complaints have been received by the Government that these money-lenders ill-treat their debtors. It is reported that they freely resort to intimidation and threats of personal violence and that at times even criminal force is used by them for the recovery of their dues. There have been cases where in the absence of the debtors the members of their families have been intimidated and assaulted.

The Amended Act empowers the Commissioner of Police to order such money-lenders to conduct themselves properly or quit the city.

PROHIBITION ACT *ULTRA VIRES*

Sub-Section 45 (1-A) of the Madras Prohibition Act is *ultra vires* of the powers of the Madras Legislature as it prohibits the possession of *ganja* altogether and is therefore repugnant to the Hemp and Drugs Rules, observed the Chief Justice delivering judgment on March 17, on behalf of the Full Bench of the Madras High Court, which heard the criminal revision petition in what is known as the Madras prohibition cases.

The convictions of three accused under the Prohibition Act for the possession of *ganja* within the limits allowed by the Abkari Act were, therefore, set aside.

In the fourth case, their Lordships found the accused guilty under the Abkari Act as the accused possessed *ganja* exceeding the limit allowed by the Act and remarked that the conviction would not hold good under the Prohibition Act.

In view of the full bench decision holding that Sub-Section 401-A of the Madras Prohibition Act is *ultra vires* of the powers of the Madras Legislature so far as possession of *ganja* or any other dangerous drug is concerned, it is learnt the Government of Madras propose to rectify the defect and regularize the position by necessary legislative action.

REFERENCES TO FEDERAL COURT

A special reference has been made to the Federal Court by the Governor-General under Section 213 (1) of the Government of India Act 1935, in the matter of the following questions of law:—

1. Does either the Hindu Women's Rights to Property Act, 1937, Central Act XVIII of 1937, or the Hindu Women's Rights to Property (Amendment) Act, 1938 (Central Act XI of 1938) operate to regulate (a) succession to agricultural land? (b) devolution by survivorship of property other than agricultural land?

2. Is the subject of devolution by survivorship of property other than agricultural land included in any of the entries in the three legislative lists in the seventh schedule to the Government of India Act 1935?

SIR SIVASWAMI AIYAR'S PORTRAIT

Glowing tributes were paid to the qualities of Sir P. S. Sivaswami Aiyar as a lawyer, administrator and citizen by the Hon. Sir Lionel Leach, the Chief Justice, and Sir Alladi Krishnaswami Aiyar, Advocate-General, at a meeting held under the auspices of Advocates' Association of Madras on March 14, for the unveiling of a portrait of Sir Sivaswami Aiyar. The portrait was presented to the Association by Mr. T. R. Venkatarama Sastri.

NON-LIFE INSURANCE BUSINESS

The Insurance Year Book for 1938 discloses a most unsatisfactory position as regards the Indian companies' share in the non-life branches (*e.g.*, fire, motor, accident and marine) of the insurance business. During 1938, the total premium income of Indian companies from all non-life business in India amounted to Rs. 89 lakhs only. As compared with that the premium income of non-Indian companies from non-life business transacted in India was rupees one crore and 92 lakhs, that is, more than double the Indian companies' income. What makes the position more regrettable is the fact, says a critic, that the non-life business of Indian companies instead of disclosing an upward tendency actually got a set-back. For the premium income for 1938 was less than the 1937 figure by seven lakhs. The decline in the non-life business of Indian companies outside India was much more phenomenal and alarming. In 1937, the amount of such premium income was rupees one crore and eight lakhs which declined to Rs. 78 lakhs only in 1938. Since then, the war has certainly added to the difficulties of Indian companies doing business outside India.

REGISTRATION OF COMPANIES

The scale of charges contemplated by Government for renewal of registration of insurance companies are given in the report of the Select Committee on the Insurance Act Amendment Bill presented by Sir Ramaswami Mudaliar in the Assembly. The report says the charges will be such as to fix the fee at Rs. 100 where the annual premium income of the insurer in the class of business

concerned is rupees one lakh, Rs. 200 when it exceeds one but does not exceed two lakhs, Rs. 300 when it exceeds two but not four lakhs, Rs. 500 when it exceeds four but not six lakhs, Rs. 750 when it exceeds six, but not 10 lakhs, and Rs. 1,000 when it exceeds 10 lakhs. The scale will also secure that the total of the fees payable in respect of all classes of business exclusive of life insurance business will not exceed Rs. 1,500.

The Committee say, they understand, that conditions will be prescribed to provide that an agent who has secured policies on its different lives including his own is a bona fide agent.

In a separate note appended to the report, Sir Cowasji Jehangir, Haji Esaak Sait and Mr. Ghiasuddin say, they understand, that Government's contribution to the cost of the working of the insurance department would not be more than Rs. 1,50,000. They add they would like it made clear that Government's contribution will not be less than this amount and that in future, if circumstances demand, this contribution will not be the maximum.

WAR TIME INSURANCE

The Government scheme for War Risks insurance of commodities provides for fixation quarterly of the rate of premium to be charged, states a press *communiqué*.

In the first two quarters during which the scheme has been in force, it was found possible to charge the low rate of half an anna per Rs. 100 per month, but in the present circumstances Government have decided that it is necessary to raise this rate and that the rate for the quarter beginning on April 1, 1941, shall be one anna per Rs. 100 per month.

SUPPLY OF RICE

In the Council of State, the Labour Secretary, Mr. H. C. Prior, told Mr. Shantidas Askuran that production of rice in India during the current year was likely to show a decrease of 13.5 per cent. as compared with the average of the last three years. The Government will, he added, adopt such measures as were necessary and possible to ensure that there was a sufficiency of rice in India to meet the needs of the people.

As for the question whether ships on the Indian register requisitioned by the Government would be released for the purpose of carrying rice from Burma to India, Mr. Prior said that such ships would be released as soon as the urgent needs of the war situation rendered this possible.

CUSTOMS AGREEMENT

The *United Press* learns under the agreement recently executed with the Government of India regarding customs and other matters, the Government of Free French India will get annually Rs. 6,20,000 from the Government of India, who have taken charge of supervision of customs arrangements in Pondicherry and Karaikal.

Under this arrangement, excise restrictions applicable to British India will also apply to French India.

No arms and ammunition will be manufactured in French India, and books and literature prohibited in British India would not be published in French India.

The agreement is likely to continue till March 31, 1942, or any subsequent year until one year's notice of termination is given on either side.

PROTECTIVE DUTIES

A bill to continue for another year the existing protective duties on iron and steel manufactures, silver thread and wire and sugar was introduced by Sir A. Ramaswami Mudaliar in the Central Assembly on March 18.

It is explained that these existing duties are due to expire this month, and under present conditions it is impossible to ascertain the quantum of protection, if any, required during normal years for the different articles; hence the decision to maintain the *status quo* for another year.

The Commerce Member also introduced a Bill to continue the protective duties on wheat and wheat flour. Since the passing of the Indian Tariff (Second Amendment) Act 1940, the Government of India, it is explained, have maintained a careful watch on the course of wheat prices and they are satisfied that taking all circumstances into consideration, it is desirable to continue the protective duties on wheat and wheat flour. The Bill, therefore, proposes to extend the existing import duties on these commodities for a further period of one year, namely, upto March 31, 1942.

INDO-BURMA TRADE

It is learned that the Government of Burma has arranged to meet the representatives of the Burma Chamber of Commerce, the Burmese Chamber, the Burma Indian Chamber and the Chinese Chamber on various dates to discuss with them questions relating to Indo-Burma trade negotiations.

MRS. BRIJLAL NEHRU ON EDUCATION

A plea for a thorough overhauling of the system of education in order to equip the individual with the necessary training to get the best out of life and to fit him to be a useful member of society was made by Mrs. Brijlal Nehru, President of the All-India Women's Conference, delivering the Convocation Address at the Lahore College for Women.

She said that it was necessary for a woman to have a profession as it was for a man, without which women's economic independence could not be achieved. "Marriage is a vocation by itself," she remarked, "and every woman, in addition to her own profession, should be specially equipped with training to fulfil the obligations of marriage life."

She advised the girl students to take full advantage of the opportunities offered to them by modern education and asked them to study psychology and more particularly psycho-analysis.

THE WOMAN'S LOT IN GERMANY

When Hitler came to power, the people were told that, while men "ruled the world," women "ruled the kitchen". War however and wartime economy have made this rule of the kitchen an illusion. At least 15,000,000 German women are now working 10 hours a day in factories.

Many women in factories are suffering from exophthalmic and other goitres. These complaints are signs of glandular disorder due to overstrain. Insomnia, restlessness and palpitations are other less obvious symptoms of the epidemic indisposition among women workers in German factories.

Probably the frequent suicides among working-class women are due to the attacks of depression to which people with glandular troubles are subject.

Equality of treatment for women in the Third Reich is confined to the concentration camp. At the women's concentration camp at Lichthurg in Pomerania, the inmates are in the care of S. S. men. Women prisoners have to do the same heavy work as men carrying railway sleepers, breaking stones, working on road-making for 12 hours a day in the hot sun or in rains and also receive the same punishments as the men.

BURMESE PRINCESS' STATEMENT

In the course of a statement, Princess Ashin Teiksu Nyut Paya Latt, Second Princess of Burma, says that her attention had been drawn to a statement published regarding the so-called "request by the daughter of Burma's ex-King."

"I have never sent," she adds, "or authorised any one to send such telegrams to the Premier of Burma or the Government. My husband and I do not see any necessity for such a request. We believe in the free citizenship of the world, at least of India and Burma.

"The fact was that in November, 1940, the Sub-Divisional Officer of Kalimpong enquired whether we were willing to return to Burma. We gave our reply expressing willingness and adding that the Government should see that our father's (the late King's) private properties held by the Government be returned to us so that we could go and live there.

"The Government are aware that I did not accept and receive pension for more than 20 years, although they have replied in the Legislative Assembly that they are paying the same."

HARIJAN TO RESUME PUBLICATION

A Wardha message states that *Harijan* and allied weeklies are likely to resume publication shortly. It may be recalled the last issue of the *Harijan* was dated November 10, 1940. Explaining irksome circumstances created by the orders promulgated under the Defence of India Rules, Mahatma Gandhi wrote at the time: "... the suspension must, therefore, continue while the gagging lasts."

If the papers are re-started, credit for it is due in no small measure to the work of the Editors' Conference, which has pressed its advice on the Government.

TRIBUTE TO SANSKRIT LITERATURE

"Language and literatures have an imperishable element in them. . . . That which is of value in Sanskrit, no social persecution, no petty animosity, no mean malice can destroy," said the Rt. Hon. V. S. Srinivasa Sastriar, presiding over the Annual Meeting of the Loyola College Sanskrit Association, held recently.

Mr. Justice K. S. Krishnaswami Iyengar, who delivered the valedictory address, put in a fervent plea for the study of Sanskrit as the language which enshrined the cultural heritage and the spiritual treasures of Hinduism.

JOURNALISTS AND SATYAGRAHA

Mahatma Gandhi, writing in Hindi in reply to a letter from a member of the editorial staff of the *Aj*, a Congress Hindi daily of Benares, advises him as follows:—

"Your fulfilling the responsibilities as an editor has as much virtue (*punya*) as that of going to jail. Only those should go to jail who could be free from essential service and are qualified in other ways."

INDIAN HISTORY CONGRESS

The fifth session of the Indian History Congress will be held at Hyderabad (Deccan) on December 21-23, 1941, with Mr. C. S. Srinivasa Chari, Professor of History, Annamalai University, in the chair. This will be the first time that the Session is held in an Indian State.

RAJ TARANGINI

The Government of Kashmir and Jammu propose to bring out a new edition of Sir Auriel Stein's translation of *Raj Tarangini*, last published about 40 years ago,

SIR DADIBA DALAL

The death is reported at the American Hospital, Paris, after a long illness of Sir Dadiba Dalal, the first Indian to be High Commissioner for India.

Sir Dadiba Merwanjee Dalal was High Commissioner for India in U. K. from 1923 to 1924. He was member of the Council of Secretary of State for India in 1921; delegate for India at the International Economic Conference, Geneva, and representative for India at The Hague Conference in 1922. He was also delegate for India at the Imperial Economic Conference in 1923.

Sir Dadiba gave evidence before the Chamberlain Currency Commission in 1913, and was member of the Committee on Indian Exchange and Currency in 1919.

MR. M. A. JINNAH

At one time, says "Saka" of the *Indian Express*, Mr. Jinnah was a great nationalist. "I, sir," he once said in the Assembly, "stand here with a clear conscience and I say that I am a nationalist first, a nationalist second and a nationalist last. I appeal to this House, whether you are a Mussalman or a Hindu, for God's sake do not import the discussion of communal matters into this House, which we desire should become a real National Parliament."

DR. PATTABHI SITARAMAYYA

Dr. Pattabhi Sitaramayya, President of the Andhra Provincial Congress Committee, was arrested at Masulipatam on March 19 under Rule 26 (1) of the Defence of India Rules at his local residence and sent to Vellore the next morning.

MR. AND MRS. MUNSHI

Mr. K. M. Munshi, ex-Home Minister, Bombay, has been released on grounds of health from Yerawada Central Jail.

Mrs. Munshi has also been released to enable her to be with him.

MR. M. P. GANDHI

Mr. M. P. Gandhi, formerly Secretary of the Indian Chamber of Commerce, has it is learnt, been appointed Assistant Controller of Supplies, Bengal Circle, at Calcutta.

KAMALA NEHRU MEMORIAL HOSPITAL

"This is a mission of mercy and service. This hospital is for the poor mainly. It is neither for Hindus alone nor for Muslims alone. It is for all alike without distinction of caste or creed or community, because disease and death are with us all without any such distinction," said Mahatma Gandhi in his speech, opening the Kamala Nehru Memorial Hospital at Allahabad on February 28.

"Our word to collect Rupees five lakhs stands fulfilled to-day as we have been able to collect Rupees five lakhs and ten thousand, but this is not enough. This is a very big hospital and one of the finest in the country. In its maintenance all should help with whatever mite they can. The United Provinces Government has been very generous; the Allahabad Municipality has been very generous. We are also grateful to the various donors for their contributions," he continued.

Mahatma Gandhi said that as soon as control of the hospital has been decentralised, the responsibility of maintaining the hospital would mainly be on the local people.

"This is a sacred moment and all those who have assembled here have taken part in this consecration and have given their blessings. The mission of this hospital will ever be "service to all alike", concluded Mahatma Gandhi.

FREEZING THE PATIENT

The eminent scientists in America believe they have discovered a unique method of fighting certain heart and mental diseases and cancer. They pack the patient with ice like a fish and freeze him to sleep. In about three hours the bodily temperature falls to 89 degrees Fah., and the patient sleeps on, sometimes for so long as five days. During this period all internal functions cease and the digestive organs lie dormant. Outwardly the patient is dead, but his heart continues to beat. After this hibernation, the sleeper is awakened by a dose of strong coffee. The freezing process has many excellent results; for it gives the organs a long rest.

Curiously enough, the healing processes, however, are not retarded and the patient may eventually awake completely cured.

WAR AND NUTRITION

The war has brought nutrition to the limelight and it is now realised that a fighting spirit and resistance to disease are incompatible with an under-nourished population, said Dr. N. G. Baptist in the course of a lecture on "Things We Must Eat," at Colombo.

The activities of the human body were such that they entailed special dietary requirements, which were conveniently divided into the following three groups:—

1. Certain elements and simple inorganic salts, such as iron, sodium chloride or common salt and calcium salts.

2. Organic substances which the body was unable to synthesise and which should be supplied in the diet. The main members of that group were ten essential amino-acids contained in proteins.

3. Organic compounds which were necessary for the smooth working of the animal organism and which were called vitamins.

Dr. Baptist next referred to the biological values of proteins and said that the deficiencies could be made good by including in the diet a variety of foods containing a mixture of proteins. The best proteins from a nutritive point of view were also the most expensive, such as eggs, meat and milk. A varied diet was necessary for all, especially for the young.

PHYSICAL DEFORMITY IN CHILDREN

The mistakes in relation to his own body, which an adult may ignorantly or carelessly make, are colossal but those which are made in relation to children will be criminal, writes a medical man in the *Irish Press*.

From the baby in his cradle to the child in school, physical development needs to be watched and, where necessary, to be corrected. If a child habitually sleeps with toes turned in, or its ears turned out, either may be the beginning of an ugly deformity; but the misplaced feet may lead to trouble which will extend so far as the spine.

The soft leg bones should not be allowed to take the weight of a fat little body (like heavy ornaments) when they are not able to carry for more than a few minutes until they develop strength.

LOAN TO CHINA

Britain has agreed in principle to lend £10,000,000 to China.

Announcing this decision in the House of Commons, Mr. R. A. Butler, Under Secretary for Foreign Affairs, said that an advance of five millions would be made to the Chinese Stabilisation Fund. The remaining five millions would be made available for purchases in any part of the sterling area.

The Chinese Government had been informed of the decision and requested to make arrangements for early negotiation of a preliminary technical agreement on which the possibility of these further credits depended.

Exclaiming the necessity for the sterling area proviso, Mr. Butler said that the British Government had to conserve gold and the United States dollar resources for the essential war needs of the sterling area and hence Britain could not offer to China United States' dollars or sterling which was convertible into dollars.

STERLING DEBT REPAYMENT

The Government of India have taken action to repatriate as far as possible the whole of the terminable Sterling debt. The scheme involves the repayment of the sterling debt in question and its replacement by rupee debt in India, the arrangement being that the Government of India will compulsorily acquire under the Defence of India Rules all stocks of these loans as are held by residents in British India, who will be paid either at rates fixed by the British Government converted into rupees at the rate of 1s. 6d. to the rupee or given the option of taking out rupee counterparts of these loans at par.

In view of this compulsory repatriation of loans, the Government of India have decided, on the analogy of the sale proceeds of dollar balances held by residents in India, that the proceeds of such sterling loans as are converted into rupees should be treated as capital receipts and not as remittances of foreign income for purposes of income-tax and supertax assessment.

WAR ALLOWANCES FOR RAILWAYMEN

The Government of India have decided to grant an increase in pay to certain classes of railway employees. It raises several important issues. The allowances now announced differ from those proposed by the Court of Inquiry. Although not so large in all cases (the Court proposed a flat rate of Rs. 3), they apply to a larger number of employees, including those earning up to Rs. 60 a month. The Court was concerned only with the G. I. P. Railway. The scales now announced apply to all State Railways. But the most important difference is, that the allowances bear no direct relation to the cost of living. They are not dearness allowances but war allowances or war bonus. The basis of the Court's calculations has been discarded. Moreover, the Government confess to a preference for results based on negotiation between the parties over results 'based on analytical methods'.

RAILWAY PURCHASES

It appears from the report of the Railway Board on Indian Railways for 1939-40 that the total value of stores purchased during the year by state-managed railways was Rs. 10,26,75,000 and by company-managed railways Rs. 7,40,10,000 and that the value of stores purchased through the Indian Stores Department was Rs. 4,69,32,000 and Rs. 28,68,000, or 45.72 per cent. and 3.87 per cent. respectively. The Stores Purchase Committee, which was appointed in 1920, wrote: "It appears from the evidence tendered to us that, as a whole, they (company-managed railways) fail to encourage or take advantage of indigenous industries as far as desirable." The figures quoted above, observes the *Leader*, show that the company-managed railways are as reluctant to encourage Indian industry as they were 20 years ago.

RECOGNITION OF RAILWAY UNIONS

The representative character of the All-India Railwaymen's Federation was questioned in the Central Assembly.

The Communications Member made it clear that the Government recognised unions which threw open their ranks to all communities and creeds.

INDIAN ART IN LONDON

Despite Blitzkrieg conditions more than a little notice has been attracted to an exhibition, recently held in London, of the work of Mr. J. F. Arora, a young Indian artist. Apart from his high standard of execution, Mr. Arora makes claim for distinction if only because he combines a talent for commercial art with a flair for portrait painting and sketching. In the latter category, his drawings of shelterers in the underground, strike a vivid and topical note.

As a commercial artist, Mr. Arora has already scored considerable success by his advertising illustrations designed with a special appeal to India.

SADHONA BOSE, A BORN DANCER

Sadhona, who has been giving her performances at Nagpur on the Variety Stage, is a born dancer. She took to the art at the age of nine when dancing was regarded with disfavour in social circles. And in her career, she has never stood still. Beginning from amateur recitals in charity and school shows, she moved on to the stage and later to films in progressive achievements under the inspiring influence of her husband, Mr. Madhu Bose. Included in the troupe are: Madhav Menon, Vasant, Bhargavi, Amini, Heera, Jayashankar, Jyotikakana and Gayatri.

THE LIFE OF THE ARTIST

The Life of the Artist, says a writer, is a hard one. "His work is unlike other men's work, which may be done mechanically by vote and almost, as it were, in sleep. It demands from him a constant expense of spirit. He gives continually of his best life and in return he receives much joy, it is true—much fame, it may be—but of material blessings, very few."

INDIAN DANCING

Indian dancing is governed by certain rules which, if not sedulously followed, are likely to mar the whole attempt. Pliant performance of all these technical details gives out what is obviously hidden inside and adds to it a dramatic charm, observes an art critic in the *Hindustan Standard*.

RANJI CRICKET FINAL

High praise for the proficiency in all departments of the game of both the Maharashtra and Madras teams playing in the final of the Ranji Cricket Trophy at Chepauk, and for the sporting spirit of the Madras crowd, was paid by Prince K. S. Duleepsinhji, the Test cricketer in an interview.

Speaking of the Ranji Trophy final in which the Maharashtra came out successful and retained the Cup, Prince Duleepsinhji said: "It has been a very interesting day's play. I am naturally happy to be watching the final of the Ranji Shield for the first time. It is a keen struggle between two very good sides. There was both good bowling and good batting and the crowd was very appreciative and very fair in their applause."

Speaking on the future of Indian cricket, Prince Duleepsinhji said that his advice would be to practise hard and concentrate on the game. If the game received proper encouragement and backing, they should produce as good cricketers as anywhere else in the world.

THE BENGAL GYMKHANA

The Bengal Gymkhana entertained the Maharaja of Patiala at a party at the Great Eastern Hotel, Calcutta. The Maharaja was received by Mr. J. C. Mukherjee, President of the Gymkhana, and later the members of the Gymkhana were introduced to His Highness.

Mr. Mukherjee, while thanking the Maharaja for honouring the Gymkhana by his presence, paid a tribute to the Patiala House for its contribution to sport in India. His Highness, in reply, gave one message to the sportsmen all over India and that was: "Let us have sporting politicians but not political sportsmen."

FOR VISITING SOLDIERS

Plans are now said to be ready to provide sport during the winter months for Empire and foreign troops at present in England. Football, both soccer and rugby and table tennis are among the many games in which English teams will meet representative sides, the proceeds of the matches going to war charities.

TATA EXTENSION PROGRAMME

Mr. J. J. Gandhi, General Manager, Tata Iron and Steel Co., Ltd., delivering his address at the naming ceremony of the Bihar Commercial Museum at the Tata Hall at Patna, narrated briefly the extension of programme of the Tatas owing to war time necessities and said that the Company had already installed two electric furnaces for the manufacture of wheels and tyres, and another plant for the production, not only of ordinary steel but also of acid steel. He revealed that experiments had enabled Tatas to produce bullet-proof armoured plates of special alloy steel for the manufacture of armoured vehicles and also special steels for armour-piercing projectiles and for drawing into telegraph wires. He observed: "This war will be won or lost on the steel front" and gave an assurance that Tatas would not fail in the grim hour of crisis.

TRAINING OF TECHNICIANS

A total of 77 institutions and training centres has been selected for training artisans, said Sir A. Ramaswami Mudaliar in the Central Assembly in reply to Sir Ziauddin Ahmed.

The suitability of 24 more institutions was under consideration and about 40 institutions and other known potential training centres had yet to be inspected. This list was not exhaustive and was being added to from day to day. Training classes had already started at 32 centres and a further 45 would shortly be ready to receive trainees. The total number receiving training in the different centres was 2,682. It was hoped that trainees would begin to pass out in appreciable numbers within the next six or seven months.

AMERICAN HONOUR TO SIR C. V. RAMAN

It is understood that Sir C. V. Raman has been invited by the Franklyn Institute to go to Philadelphia, U. S. A., on the 21st May to receive the medal awarded to him and also to deliver a lecture about his work. The Governing Council of the Indian Institute of Science at its last meeting decided to send him on a deputation to America in response to this invitation as also to enable him to visit important research centres in the United States.

WAR FILMS

"India Arms for Victory", a short film recording the work being done in Indian factories in the production of war material, will shortly be released for exhibition in India by the Film Advisory Board appointed by the Government of India in July last. For the purpose of this film, a film shooting unit accompanied the Roger Mission on a tour of industrial India.

Another film which is also ready for release, is an amusing comedy entitled "Whispering Legions", which shows the birth and growth of a rumour and the dangers of careless and alarmist talk. Yet a third, a film of the Indian troops in the Western Desert, is nearing completion in Cairo and is expected to be of exceptional interest in view of the recent British victories in which Indian troops played so gallant a part.

HELP FOR PRODUCERS

In Bombay, on representation from the film industry, the Government has made provision for minimising the worries of producers resulting from censorship objections.

The producers, if they so desire, can now submit scenarios of films to the Bombay Board of Film Censors for their prior approval before shooting is commenced.

A set of rules have been framed in respect of such voluntary submissions. One of these is that "nothing in these rules will be deemed to commit the Board to any undertaking, that it will in due course grant a certificate for the public exhibition of the film".

In Madras, too, a similar move was made, but the powers that be, gave it a cold shoulder.

HOLLYWOOD AWARDS

The Academy of Motion Picture, Art and Sciences has picked "Rebecca" as the best picture of the year.

John Ford was voted the best Director for "The Grapes of Wrath".

Ginger Rogers won the award for the best actress for the part of Kitty Foyle, and the men's award went to James Stewart for his acting in "Philadelphia Story".

MOTORISTS AND THE BUDGET

Motorists throughout India usually take a great interest in the Budget, which is presented to the Central Assembly; for there is generally something in it which affects them. There was a good deal of speculation as to what part motorists would have to play in making good a fairly substantial deficit, which was anticipated as a result of India's war effort. And, of course, motorists were hit to a certain extent, says the official organ of the Automobile Association of Southern India.

"Another 10 per cent. has been added to the cost of tyres and tubes and this the Finance Member of the Government of India anticipates will realise a sum of Rs. 35 lakhs. This is probably better than most motorists expected and it is not an item that should weigh unduly heavily on them; for tyre renewals are not things that are undertaken with any great frequency. It is decidedly better than the two annas which was added to the cost of petrol in the last budget."

EXCISE DUTY ON TYRES

In connexion with the proposed Excise Duty of 10 per cent. on pneumatic tyres and tubes manufactured in India, a bill in connexion with which is before the Central Legislature, it is learnt that the tyre manufacturing industry in India is making representations to Government, drawing attention to the effect of such a duty on the industry at this time.

It is pointed out that unless a countervailing duty is, at the same time, placed on imported tyres, the position of the industry *vis-a-vis* the importer is bound to be weakened. It is further pointed out that Government are proposing to take this action at a time when the industry is being pressed for increased production and for extensive development in connexion with the country's war effort, which must be affected if this tax on the Indian industry goes through without a countervailing tax on the imported tyre.

It is further pointed out by the industry that India is the only Tyre manufacturing country in the world, whose own market is unprotected.

INDIA'S AIR FORCE

As in other branches of India's fighting forces, the rate of expansion of the Air Force—and as a necessary corollary, of facilities for training pilots, observers and ground staff—has been remarkably rapid. From a single squadron at the commencement of the war, the strength has been raised to three, besides five coastal defence flights of the Indian Air Force Volunteer Reserve and a contingent of the Royal Air Force. The I. A. F. is entirely Indian and the coastal defence flights predominantly so, about two-thirds of the pilots and observers being Indian.

The service flying training school at Ambala, reorganised for an intermediate and an advanced course in flying (each of three months' duration) to cadets who have already been through an elementary course at Lahore, is intended to turn out pilots and observers capable of being absorbed direct into operational units wherever called upon to do so.

The authorities in charge of the school, says a Press report, seem to be singularly free from the prejudices, which long tradition sometimes tends to foster. As in the Air Force proper, these "air-men" (as the Ground staff is called) are recruited from all provinces and communities. There are no communal kitchens, the food being either vegetarian or non-vegetarian according to the pupil's way of living. No other distinction is observed.

During the six months airmen are at the School, they receive in addition to their technical training instructions in the various ancillary duties, which they are called upon to do as airmen. These include foot drill, arms drill, anti-gas drill, guard duties and general service knowledge and customs.

BARODA-KATHIAWAR AIR LINK

In order to link Baroda to Kathiawar by air, a subsidy has been granted to the Air Services of India, Limited, for a period of five years. The Company has undertaken to run a bi-weekly service from Baroda to Bhavnagar joining up there for Bombay to Okha and vice versa. A feeder line is also to be run from there to Amreli.

THE ROGER MISSION

"I do not think I am being indiscreet when I say that in India alone we have recommended factory expansion on a large scale," said Sir Alexander Roger, Chairman of the British Supply Mission, in an interview to the *Times of India*.

Sir Alexander added: "It is perfectly true that these factories are destined for war work purely, but it should be remembered that they will be equipped with modern machinery, which will be suitable for many kinds of peace work and will add very materially to the industrial capacity of India."

Referring to the activities of the members of the Mission, Sir Alexander said that they had visited over 700 factories and held over 500 conferences, and within the past few weeks they had compressed the results of their survey. "We have surveyed and reported upon fully every phase of the possibilities of munitions production in this country."

IRON ORE IN CEYLON

We read that discoveries have been made in Ceylon of fairly large surface deposits of iron ore which, in some places, has a metal content as high as 55 per cent. It is estimated that there are two million tons available from places already discovered. But we have no information about the steps being taken or under consideration for the development of an iron and steel industry in the colony. More than 100 tin mines have been opened in the Federated Malay States, 50 in Perak alone, and 17,000 additional labourers have found employment.

A NEW CHARKHA

A new charkha invented by the All-India Charkha Sangh was demonstrated before Mahatma Gandhi and Doctor Rajendra Prasad. This charkha, which gives two threads simultaneously, is capable of producing 2,000 yards of yarn per hour.

INDUSTRIAL ADVISORY BOARD FOR SIND

To explore the prospects of industrial development in the Province, the Government of Sind have appointed an Industrial Advisory Board for a period of three years.

TUBE-WELL IRRIGATION IN BIHAR

The immediate sinking of 20 more tube-wells in South Shahabad to supplement the irrigation water now being provided by the tube-wells already working near Dehri-on-Sone, is understood to have been recommended by the Lift Irrigation Department to the Provincial Government.

The recommendation, it is further understood, has been made as a result of the popularity of tube-well irrigation among the cultivators of South Shahabad, where it was introduced as an experimental measure and in response to the representations reported to have been made by the cultivators for its extension.

The new tube-wells would be similar to those already in operation, capable of supplying about 20 gallons of water per hour and of irrigating one acre in two hours. The existing 12 tube-wells have, during the last six months, irrigated about 12,000 acres. When the new wells are sunk, the total irrigated area would be above 30,000 acres.

The total number of tube-wells required for irrigating the dry part of Shahabad is estimated to be in the neighbourhood of 300.

KISAN CONFERENCE

The zemindary system was responsible for the poverty and indebtedness of kisans (peasant and cultivators); the system should be abolished for the good of the country as a whole, declared Mr. Jamuna Karjee, M.L.A., presiding at the eighth session of the Bihar Kisan Conference at Dumraon in Shahabad district.

Mr. Karjee claimed that the kisan movement in India had come to stay. It was necessary that the kisans should have an organisation of their own distinct from the Congress, which was a multi-class organisation. They could appreciate independence only in terms of economic freedom.

INDIAN METHODS OF FARMING

Mr. E. Rodrigo, Acting Director of Agriculture, Ceylon, in a speech at Anuradhapura recommended Indian methods of farming to Ceylon ryots. By that method, he said, he was able to cultivate 30 acres by himself.

DEARNESS ALLOWANCE

The Textile Labour Association has requested the Millowners' Association to revise the rates of the dearness allowance fixed by the Industrial Court, in view of the extraordinary improvement in the condition of the textile industry. The Labour Association also desires that the Millowners' Association would come to an agreement with it in view of the changed condition of the industry instead of again approaching the Industrial Court.

The Textile Labour Association has also demanded revision of the standardisation of wages of weavers fixed in March 1938, and introduction of standardisation of wages in these departments where it is not existing at present.

EMPLOYERS AND LABOUR

Important questions affecting employers and labour were discussed by Mr. H. S. Town, Chairman of the Employers' Association of Southern India, at the annual meeting of the Association on March 21. He referred to discussions that had taken place on the question of a dearness allowance based on the cost of living index and at the Federation's decision to leave it to the judgment of individual employers and their capacity to pay such an allowance.

He discussed the proposed labour legislation, particularly that referring to the appointment of Courts of Inquiry and the settlement of labour disputes and urged the establishment of sound Trade Unions. He also spoke of sickness insurance and criticised the indiscriminate granting of medical certificates to workers.

THE WAR AND LABOUR

His Excellency Sir Arthur Hope, Governor of Madras, declaring open the Madura Mills Workers' housing scheme at Harvey-patti on March 10, observed:

"Goodwill, peace and quiet in industry are very important in war time when all classes should pull together, both capital and labour, employers and employees. And right through the war, as in peace time, schemes like this will always help humanity."

WAR PRISONERS IN INDIA

The *Associated Press* learns that the Government of India have so far agreed to accommodate 44,000 Italian prisoners of war in this country.

There are now approximately 30,000 Italian prisoners in India, who are confined in the Ramgarh camp, which has a capacity of 12,000 and the Bangalore camp which has a capacity of 24,000. Preparations are now being made to establish a third prisoners of war camp at Bhopal, which will have a capacity of 9,000.

It is pointed out that the question of increasing the number of camps in India, or extending the capacity of the existing camps, is susceptible to revision as the situation develops, but that the cost of establishing and maintaining them, as well as the maintenance of the prisoners themselves, is borne by His Majesty's Government.

CENTRAL GOVERNMENT STAFF

It is learnt that, due to the war, a substantial expansion of staff working under the Government of India has taken place on the civil as well as military side.

The increase has been from 454 officers, and 3,739 clerks in 1938-39 to 652 officers and 5,147 clerks in 1939-40, and finally to 827 officers and 6,393 clerks at present.

This expansion has resulted in heavy demands for additional office and residential accommodation. Government propose to spend Rs. 8 lakhs to provide temporary accommodation.

GANDHIJI'S POLICY

The declaration that he does not wish well to India at the expense of Britain, in the same way as he does not wish well to Britain at the expense of Germany, is made by Mahatma Gandhi in the course of a letter to the *Times of India*, replying to certain criticisms the paper had made against Mahatma Gandhi's policy of non-violence. He reiterates his faith in non-violence and reaffirms its efficacy in meeting even Hitler's violence, if properly applied.

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THE TESTING TIME

By MR. G. A. JOHNSON

WITH the situation changing rapidly from day to day, it is difficult to supply a picture of the war which will be even approximately accurate at the time of publication. This is true of daily journalism. It is obviously true of a monthly article. Nevertheless, the limitations imposed on the writer have certain advantages. They help him to clarify his own mind, so far as possible; to decide if he can, what features of a situation are likely to remain important over a fairly long period.

Fortunately, guidance is available. On the high authority of Mr. Churchill and Lord Halifax, among others, it is learnt that the most important of the conflicts now raging is the Battle of the Atlantic, as it is called, the determined effort of the German Navy to prevent supplies reaching Britain from overseas and, particularly, from America. On the success or failure of this effort depends the final outcome of the war.

It would, however, be a mistake to imagine that, because the Battle of the Atlantic is of supreme importance, nothing else matters at all. Other things matter very much. The Battle of Britain has been resumed with vigour. It is, apparently, no longer the sole object of the German air raids on Britain to attack

British ports (and so continue on land the battle being fought on, over and under the sea). The attacks on London and on Midland towns suggest a return to the plans of last autumn and winter, although, of course, these attacks may be, as the Germans assert, reprisals. If that is so, continued and methodical bombing of London, night after night, is unlikely, so long as the Royal Air Force does not undertake the nightly bombing of Berlin. But whatever plan the Germans follow, and even if they have no plan except to create indiscriminate havoc and suffering, the Battle of Britain will remain important—and invasion cannot be ruled out entirely.

Of great importance, too—and this we in India can readily appreciate—is the Battle for the Suez Canal, if we may call it that. The evacuation of Benghazi came at the end of a period of encouraging success. It has been quickly followed by a series of set-backs. At the time of writing, the situation in Libya and the Western Desert is described as "stabilized". It is not a very satisfactory word, for it tends to suggest that there is nothing more to do when there is, in fact, a very great deal to do. For the present, while the situation in the Balkans is making heavy demands on reserves and reinforcements, a check to the enemy

advance is all that can be expected. But if these Germans and Italians now camping outside Sollum and Tobruk can be reinforced more quickly than our own forces, it is obvious that "stabilization" will be temporary. This threat to the Suez Canal will have to be removed at the earliest favourable opportunity.

It is about the Balkans, where the fighting is now heaviest, that one hears most belittling comment. The loss of the Battle of the Balkans would not be fatal to ourselves as combatants; but it would be disastrous to the Greeks and have serious consequences for the Turks, who might be compelled to come to terms at a time when terms would probably be far from favourable. It is, perhaps, unnecessary to emphasise that every step the Germans take towards the East is of direct interest to us in this country. The prizes on the road to India, particularly the oil wells, are too attractive to be neglected.

There is another feature of the Balkans situation which deserves consideration. It has been said that the most vital struggle is in the Atlantic. If that is lost, then, many believe, Britain is lost. But if it is won, Germany is by no means beaten. She has to be attacked and overcome. It may fairly safely be assumed that, with British and American production continuing at growing strength, the Royal Air Force will, before very long, outnumber the Luftwaffe. If numerical superiority had come earlier, much earlier, say, a year ago, it might have determined the issue of the war by itself. France might still have been fighting and there would have been, perhaps, a Battle of Germany instead of a Battle of Britain. However, as things have turned out, there has been a Battle of Britain, and its lessons, we may suppose, have not been lost on the Germans. When they launched it, they probably hoped to break the British spirit. They have learnt that the British spirit cannot be broken in this way. They have no doubt also learnt some of the details of British defensive methods. We may assume that Germany no longer thinks that the war can be won or lost in the air alone (landings no doubt formed part of her

plan, but, in the early stages, domination of the air was clearly considered the key to victory) and since confidence in the defence is the basis of successful resistance, it seems fairly safe to say now that, however great the margin of British superiority may eventually become, Germany will not sue for peace so long as she is attacked only from the air.

The importance of the land operations in Greece is, that they enable contact to be made with the German force on the Continent of Europe. They are being fought at a considerable distance from Germany and, even if the Germans got tired of launching their vastly superior forces against the splendidly resisting Allies, it would be a very difficult matter to chase the Germans back to Germany. Nevertheless, if the Greeks and the British Imperial forces can hold out and throw back wave after wave of attackers, it will have a more decisive effect on the outcome of the war than anything which has taken place since the failure of the aerial attack on Britain. The encouragement to doubters will be enormous; the decline of German prestige in the occupied countries will be correspondingly great; Russia and Japan will be likely to draw a revised picture of their interests. Moreover, with the Germans held here, other diversions in strength at suitable points in the long German-occupied coast-line would probably be undertaken.

If German numbers and equipment eventually tell, and the forces in Greece have to yield or evacuate, there will be other opportunities later on. Probably, by the time this article is published, it will be known whether opportunities are still to seek. But, whatever happens, the resistance in Greece will be a blow to German confidence. It has already brought out some of the German weak points. It has shown that there are troops in the German front lines whose hearts are not in the struggle. It has shown that, man for man, the Germans compare unfavourably with their opponents. The British plan, concerted by Mr. Eden and Generals Dill and Wavell with their Greek friends, presumably allowed for a Yugoslavia collapse. That the struggle has been continued in spite of it indicates that resistance is, in the opinion of the experts, very much worth

while. Even if it succeeds only in intensifying war-weariness in Germany and aiding those who, in Germany and the occupied countries, are ready to take advantage of any such mood, it will have served one useful purpose.

One of the most enigmatic developments of the past few weeks is the Russo-Japanese Neutrality Pact. If we are to believe Mr. Matsuoka, it was signed on the spur of the moment; but, if so, it seems strange that so experienced a diplomat was able to make up his mind so quickly about the Pact's advantages for Japan. Mr. Matsuoka is annoyed that this, like other recent accomplishments of Japanese diplomacy, has had rather a "bad" Press. If, however, it is true that Russia has decided not to let the Pact interfere with her supplies to China, it is difficult to see what Japan has gained by it. There was never any reasonable cause to suppose that Russia would interfere with Japanese southward expansion.

Russia sits, and will apparently continue to sit, on the fence—if such a figure of speech is considered appropriate to the bulk of the sitter and the flimsiness of the fence dividing peace and war. Recently, she has been making gestures of friendliness to Yugoslavia, of disapproval to Hungary, for example. The value of such gestures is not apparent. They remind one of the attitude of the League of Nations and of Britain and France to the aggressor States in the years preceding 1939. In present circumstances, they may be dangerous. The Ukraine remains a German objective. Moreover, unless and until Russia commits herself more deeply, Britain can only note and record such evidence of estrangement between Russia and Germany. Her actions cannot be modified on account of it until something more definite emerges.

The United States is obviously in the war "up to the limit". Her attitude towards Greenland, towards Axis and Axis-controlled shipping and to the Red Sea indicates a determination to brush aside all obstacles to the fulfilment of the policy of giving full aid to the democracies.

It is pleasant to notice the spirit of growing optimism among men whom we have a reason to expect to be well informed. General Smuts expects Germany to be

beaten within a year or eighteen months. There is no means of knowing on what he bases this estimate. But the General's shrewdness is well known—he was the handy man of the War Cabinet in the last war and was one of Lloyd George's most trusted military advisers.

On the other hand, Mr. Fadden, acting Prime Minister of Australia, declares that the war will be long and hard. On the surface, Mr. Fadden's appears the more reliable estimate. There is, however, one factor which it may still be well to bear in mind and which has been briefly alluded to above. The German people were promised a short war. Time and again, the approaching defeat of England has been announced. Yet recently tens of thousands of German lives have been sacrificed and the war is apparently no nearer its end. Britain remains undefeated. If the attack in the Atlantic is decisively beaten off, so that the promise of Hitler's February speech is shown to be futile, the invitation to conquer fresh worlds, in the Balkans, in Africa or farther East, may fall on deaf ears.

It would be unwise to place too much confidence in this line of reasoning, especially if the confidence is based on a distinction between Nazis and Germans. "Germans in the plural," as Sir Robert Vansittart called them in a recent broadcast, are persistently aggressive. Nevertheless, if a spirit of revolt or even of questioning begins to show itself among the herd, its spread may be rapid. It will not be forgotten that both the Russian Revolution of 1917 and the German Revolution of 1918 had, if not their origin, at least some of their earliest and most convincing triumphs among the navies of these countries. Thus a German defeat in the Battle of the Atlantic might have a special as well as a general significance. Kiel, Hamburg, Wilhelmshaven and the rest know the full weight of the British aerial as well as naval attack. Their knowledge may have consequences. It should, however, be emphasised that a mere collapse of German morale will be insufficient. There must be no disputing afterwards about the reality of the German defeat. Another German threat, a generation hence, must be made impossible.

21st April, 1941.

THE 'TWO NATIONS' THEORY

BY PROFESSOR HARI CHARAN MUKERJI

(Midnapur College, Midnapur)

THE advocates of Pakistan base their claim for separate existence on the assumption that the Hindus and the Moslems are two separate nations and should not be forced to live under one federal government. They conveniently ignore the fact that the federal government, unlike a unitary form of government, is particularly designed to meet the needs of separate racial entities living under one government for mutual protection and advancement. In post-war Europe, we find that each of the countries Czecho-Slovakia and Yugoslavia consisted of two or three nationalities grouped under one government, and no murmurings of discontent were heard in them so long as outside influence was not at work to bring about estrangement among them, by fomenting quarrels to suit the purposes of these outsiders. In the U. S. S. R. we find a conglomeration of nations at different stages of civilization and progress, possessing different cultures and professing different faiths, living together and pooling their united resources for mutual advancement and prosperity. The United States of America has given asylum to almost all European nationalities, but these latter have all been welded together into one great nation, or are in the process of being so united. Even in the British Empire, we find that South Africa contains two distinct nationalities, viz., the Britishers and the Boers, pursuing different and contradictory policies. We find how strong is the feeling there among an influential section of the people, to break away from the British Commonwealth of Nations. This feeling was exhibited in a striking manner on the

outbreak of the present war, when this section wanted to remain neutral and not to make common cause with Britain. But defeated on the floor of the House and compelled to give up its cherished desire, it has bowed gracefully to the voice of the majority and has raised no cry for separate existence. In Canada also, there has been for a long time the keenest rivalry between people of British and French extraction, who form the population of this great dominion.

But Mother India has been peculiarly unfortunate in this respect. A section of the Moslem population, under the leadership of Mr. Jinnah, has been clamouring for separate existence for some time past. But this claim, on their part, that the Moslems form a separate nation will not bear a moment's scrutiny. A nation, as we understand it, connotes a separate ethnic group, speaking one particular language, not infrequently possessing one common culture, inhabiting one particular country and feeling enthusiastic love for it, and inspired by common national ideals. The British, the French, the Italians, the Germans, the Japanese are nations in this sense. But the Indian Moslems do not belong to one particular ethnic group. There is no social similarity between a Pathan of the North-West Frontier Province and a Bengali Muslim or a Moplah living on the Malabar coast. On the contrary, we discover the greatest similarity between a Muslim and a Hindu inhabiting the same province. For example, the Hindus and Muslims living in Bengal possess the same ethnic and linguistic characteristics, follow almost the same mode of life, suffer from the same

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economic difficulties and are inspired by the same political ambitions. Similarly, the Pathans, the Hindus and the Sikhs of the Punjab exactly show the same characteristics. And it is no wonder that this should be so; for the vast majority of the Muslim population of a province were recruited from the ranks of converts from Hinduism. There is no difference between them and the original Hindu population, except in the matter of religion. The Mohammedan population in all the provinces of India speak exactly the language of the rest of the population. The claim is now made that Urdu or Hindusthani is the language of the Muslims, that this is not true at all of the Bengali Muslims, who form about one-third of the total Muslim population of India; for 99 per cent. of these Bengali Muslims can speak no other language except Bengali. From the point of view of culture and political aspirations, there is also very little in common between the Pathan and the Bengali Muslim. Their social habits and economic conditions also are as different as the poles are asunder. The one is of warlike habits and makes his living by enlisting in the army, or if he happens to live across the border by carrying on depredations against British India, or against neighbouring tribes, whilst the other is essentially of peaceable habits and follows agriculture as his means of livelihood. Least of all we have to note with regret that though India is the fatherland of these Indian Muslims, a vast majority of them have not yet learnt to look upon her with that passionate love and regard, which is one of the indispensable conditions of nationhood. So the claim that Indian Muslims form a separate nation has no leg to stand on.

Now, let us examine carefully in what respects the Muslims differ from the Hindus. As has been stated just now, there is no difference whatsoever between members of these two communities living in any particular province, except in the matter of religion and the personal law that governs them. They belong to the same race, speak the same language, follow almost the same mode of life, and suffer from the same economic difficulties. The fact that the Muslims have not generally developed a passionate love for the country is due entirely to the lack of political consciousness and education and culture among them. The points of similarity between them, on the whole, are many and striking and clearly mark them off from the Europeans. We can take, for example, their attitude towards life in general. A European differs in many respects from an Indian. These can be summed up as the former's ceaseless activity, his genius for organisation, his intrepid and enterprising spirit, his capacity both for work and enjoyment, his higher standard of life and the generally higher level of his education and culture. But all this has been due to, and fostered by, his peculiar attitude towards life which has been the main spring of his action. He has his gaze riveted upon this life and does not attempt to look beyond this to a world beyond the grave, where the inequalities and deficiencies of this life will be all redressed and full compensation made for all we suffer here. This latter is the characteristic eastern attitude towards life, common both to the Hindus and the Moslems. But the European, not having a living faith in his religion and in the next world, wants to make the

most of this life's opportunities to turn them to the best possible account. To him veritably 'one crowded hour of glorious life is worth an age without a name'. He will never rest satisfied with what he has gained; he will be pushing on and on with his efforts to make fresh additions to the stock of human knowledge and to extend still further the boundary of it. He cannot but make a great stir wherever he may be. But these attempts only excite a smile in the easterner who will merely question the wisdom of it all. Now this attitude characterises both the Hindus and the Muslims, with the exception of a microscopic minority who have come directly under Western influence. This antithesis has been the most important, because it has been at the root of the difference between the east and the west, and the achievements of western science are directly due to this characteristic western attitude towards life. Similarity in this respect between the Hindus and the Moslems is a thing of more vital importance than mere slight accidental differences as regards unessential matters. Next, as regards social institutions we once again discover striking similarities between these two communities, which at the same time mark them off from the European. They both live under the joint family system, are allowed to marry multiple wives, have a rather not very enlightened idea about the destiny of the female sex, except those among them who have come directly under western influence, have a marked distaste for club life and possess strong family attachments. They also equally suffer from the same political disabilities and economic disadvantages. But none of these vital factors which weld together a people into a compact nation

will be taken into consideration by the advocates of Pakistan. According to them, religious difference forms, as it were, an unbridgeable gulf between the two communities. As a sufficient refutation of this argument, it may be mentioned that though both the Germans and the Britishers profess the same faith, it has not restrained them from carrying on a most relentless war against each other, nor vital religious difference (in addition to racial, linguistic and cultural) has stood in the way of Japan's adhesion to the Tripartite Pact. As a matter of fact, in these modern times religious affinity has been no bond of union between two nations, who have always been guided in forming alliances by economic and political considerations. This religious obsession is only a relic of the medieval age and has now become hopelessly antiquated and out of date, and the sooner it is discarded, the better it will be for the Mohammedans, and for the peace and prosperity of India as a whole.

WHENCE LEADS THIS ALL?

(A SONNET)

BY MR. OWEN SNELL

—:O:—

Whence leads this train of unrelenting fears,
Of nations banded in one awful guilt
To nullify, on passion's angered hilt,
The cherished hopes of mankind built in tears?
This hate enthroned on pinnacles of race,
This envy fed on greed that knows no end;
This lust for power that, in its threat to rend
The fabric of the world and every grace,
Defeats its own intent: whence leads this all?
To manacles now-wrought in sophistry
And degradation masked with artistry;
Or human suffrage, native rights, for all?

O Spirit, wake! sway the uncertain choice!
Defeated man awaits to hear thy voice.

President Roosevelt begins the Third Term

BY MR. P. GOPALA KRISHNAYYA,

(Editor, "India and U. S. A.", New York City, U. S. A.)

IN a solemn hour of crisis comparable only to the crises attending the first inauguration of Abraham Lincoln when the great emancipator had to decide the fateful question of slavery at the risk

system, falls now the burden of leading his countrymen in the cause.

President Roosevelt, after nearly eight years at the helm of the ship of State, knows what it means to be Chief Executive in modern times. The atmosphere of crisis hung heavy about his first and second administrations and has become but the heavier as he starts a third. Yet the cares of office have not broken him as they broke Presidents before him. He has always seemed to enjoy the Presidency.

Day in and day out, Franklin D. Roosevelt spends longer hours on the job than any President in living memory. It may be, because ever since 1933, he has viewed his office as an emergency control room, but those who know him well believe he would have been about the same under any circumstances. Being of a highly nervous temperament, he must keep occupied.

Presidential days in the White House follow a rather well-defined routine. Mr. Roosevelt habitually goes to sleep late, usually after midnight, because he likes to read in bed. He does not awaken, therefore, until about 9 A.M. and does not get up for another hour. This is a mixed hour, which he enjoys thoroughly. While eating his scrambled eggs, toast and coffee, he looks over confidential correspondence, the day's visiting list, perhaps a couple of memoranda and the newspapers. He reads five or six papers a day, and frequently thumbs through dispatches coming over a news ticker in an outer office.

About 10 A.M., Mr. Roosevelt reaches the Executive Offices for a day, that is usually divided into two parts. From 10 A.M. to 1 P.M. he keeps formal engagements, limited generally to a quarter hour each, and then is ready for luncheon. He spends an hour over this meal, but invariably uses the time for talk with some one person. From 2 until 5 or 5-30, the President receives people, mostly in the government, with whom he wishes particularly to talk privately,



PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT

of Civil War, and the second of Woodrow Wilson, when the scholarly chief executive had to act upon the entry of the United States in the great war, Franklin Delano Roosevelt took the oath of office recently for the third time as President of the United States. He is the first man in the history of the Republic to hold the high office three times. As he re-dedicates himself to the service of the nation, he will face problems more vast and complex than any to confront the long line of his predecessors in the White House.

The United States is not at war and yet is not at peace. Its industrial plant is being mobilised to aid abroad the countries resisting aggression by dictatorship. On the President, by the very nature of the American governmental

So far as the office is concerned, Mr. Roosevelt keeps to a five-day week, but no Saturdays and few Sundays pass without a certain amount of work. Whether the President is in Washington or away from the capital, these days—thinking days they might be called—are spent in handling the voluminous correspondence that requires, so he believes, personally dictated replies, and in reading reports submitted by many experts within and without the government. After reading those reports—they constantly fill to overflowing a wire basket moved each evening from the President's desk to his bed table and back again the next morning—the Chief Executive pencils little notes on paper tabs or dictates comment to one of his assistants.

The memos reach high-ranking Administration aides with considerable speed and regularity. Their employment is comparable to the Presidential use of the telephone. Perhaps, a fourth of Mr. Roosevelt's working time is taken by telephone conversations. Cabinet members are encouraged to consult with him by telephone. Heads of executive agencies, leaders on Capitol Hill, key men in defence, all these are among the fifty to 100 persons listed on the White House switch-board as eligible to be put through to the President directly whenever they call.

Out of the rigorous daily routine comes the administrative supervision of the government. Conferences held, reports read, letters received, all help to shape the policies enunciated in "fireside chats", speeches, messages to Congress, legislative proposals and diplomatic notes.

Just as the economic emergency preoccupied the President at the start of his first administration, so defence in its many ramifications preoccupies him as he comes up to his third. That monopoly of interest has affected the nature of the reports he reads at night and the nature of the conferences he holds by day.

Franklin D. Roosevelt was 51 when on taking office on March 4, 1933, he confronted the economic crisis and banking collapse. He is now 59 years'

old. He is older but no less vigorous. The Washington correspondents, who face him twice a week in his oval office with its old ship prints and ship models, see behind the gadget-cluttered desk a man in the pink of good health. His hair is grayer and thinner than in 1933. The face is heavier and more deeply lined. Yet he seems much as always. There is the old mannerism of tossing his head before replying to a question. He still glances directly from man to man in the intervals between questions. There is the habit, familiar to all attendants at press conferences, of fitting one cigarette after another into a reed-like holder.

The Presidency and its problems have nevertheless left their mark on Mr. Roosevelt. Though he gives the impression of cheerfulness, it is cheerfulness without all the spontaneity associated with the first flush of the New Deal and the echoes of "Happy Days are Here Again". Optimistic he appears to be, despite occasional press conference discussions in serious vein of the critical struggle between democracy and dictatorship, but after nearly eight years, correspondents have learned that the President does not always reveal his true feelings, that he seeks to give the best impression possible and knows well how to parry with a humorous remark a question he does not want to answer.

As Franklin D. Roosevelt prepares to carry on the job that is the most responsible in the Americas, perhaps the most responsible in the world, Washington observers find him serious but not grim, concerned but not worried. Over the problem of national defence, he seems to express more determination to reach a satisfactory conclusion than he has expressed over any of the critical problems he has known as President. He is older than at the first inauguration, older and more experienced, but in confidence and vigor of assurance he is the same man who told the American people on March 4, 1933: "The only thing we have to fear is fear itself." One epithet to describe the President would be "courage" and the most characteristic thing about him is, that he stimulates everybody who comes in contact with him, with it.

NOTES OF A TALK WITH GANDHIJI

BY SIR ROBERT HOLLAND

EVERY earnest and thoughtful man reverences the doctrine of *Ahimsa*. Practised with selfless devotion, it must bring about the moral purification of the individual and manifest itself as a powerful aid to the fulfilment of God's will for humanity.

Dare we hope that it will prove to be the instrument for bringing about peace between the now-warring nations of the earth, or for establishing new and happier relations between Britain and India?

The answer is that no such results can be *predicted*, firstly, because the promulgation of religious truth must have a spiritual and not a temporal aim.

Any devotee of *Ahimsa* who offers non-violent opposition to war effort, in the hope of reaping either world peace or *swaraj* for India, is bound to be disappointed because he is not seeking the things of the spirit but earthly things.

On the other hand, genuine *Ahimsa* can take no heed of such considerations as the extent to which it could be practised without causing embarrassment to the British Government in the prosecution of the war, or the extent to which that limitation, in turn, must be subordinated to the determination of Congress not to carry non-embarrassment to the point of self-extinction.

This is why Gandhiji has insisted that it is the quality of civil disobedience that matters, rather than the quantity, and that *satyagrahis* must be selected from among those who, with perfect purity of motive and conscientious conviction, are out-and-out non-violent resisters, either against war in all its forms or against participation in the present war.

Satyagraha, in its application to present happenings, is not yet purified from materialities. It was for that reason that Gandhiji kept the keys of civil disobedience in his hands. Are they slipping from his grasp prematurely? At the outset, there was an element of stubborn dissent at the centre, on account of the limitations and restrictions imposed by Gandhiji on the inauguration of the movement. The Congress President and Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru

incline to estimate Gandhiji's plan from the point of view of political leadership. The Pandit said, in October last, that "Gandhiji has developed a certain technique of action which has yielded great results to our movement for freedom and it is obvious that Gandhiji is best fitted to lead a movement with that technique Some of us, including me, view these questions from a political angle only, though all of us hope to keep in mind the moral aspect of non-violence in our struggle".

If a man earnestly and devoutly believes that violence ought to be discarded as a means of settling human differences, so that Love, free and sovereign, may alone direct and govern man's relationships; and if, even when a war is raging, his thoughts and actions are regulated by that belief, then that man's attitude, which is inspired by his conscience, ought to be regarded with respect and he is entitled to be exempted by the State from the obligations which are shouldered by his fellow-citizens in regard to the use of violence against the enemy. But his non-violent creed, truly apprehended, could not require him to proselytise when the country is at war, because violence rears its head again on that path. A conscientious objector is not entitled to press his opinions on public attention in such a manner as to prejudice the country's war effort, although the world longs for war to cease, and reverences the man who from the depths of his soul preaches the gospel of peace and in his daily life practises non-violence with sincerity and conviction.

The use of non-violence as a 'technique of action' in a political struggle is, however, on a different footing altogether. Past history has shown that the method can be very efficacious in a righteous cause which rallies public opinion to its support, and against a fair-minded and chivalrous adversary. Against a ruthless and savage foe, it is of course of no avail. Mass sacrifice of humble lives before a Genghis Khan or a Hitler could only serve to rivet the fetters of violence upon the world for centuries to come,

But whether or not it has good hope of success, *satyagraha* for the purpose of achieving a political end is surely an unconventional form of militarism. It cannot claim the sanction of religious inspiration, because the rank and file move in obedience to their leaders' commands rather than as devotees of *Ahimsa*.

There is reason to believe that certain Socialist leaders hope to assume control of Congress and to substitute mass *satyagraha* for the present selective plan. So far the movement, although infringing the law of the land, has been conducted with unprecedented decorum. But there have been disquieting incidents at Jalgaon, Patna, and Lahore which show upon what a delicate equilibrium the maintenance of non-violence is poised and foreshadow terrible happenings if control of the movement passes into the hands of those who "view the question from a political angle only". How often has the merciless logic of facts shown that terrorism, violence, murders and Hindu-Muslim outbreaks are the inevitable outcome of civil disobedience.

But even if *satyagraha* could be practised in India in its purest form and even if it animated all the peoples of India, it could not be the instrument for bringing about peace between the now-warring nations of the earth, because the time is past. The way of peace was made plain to the aggressor nations through the Covenant of the League of Nations, but they rejected it and drew the sword. They scorn all moral and ethical values and are, in Mr. Cordell Hull's words, "bent on uprooting the very foundation of orderly relations among nations and on subverting, undermining, and destroying existing social and political relations within nations. . . . Let no man say that in the world of today any nation, not willing to defend itself, is safe. National life itself today imposes as an absolute obligation the will to national defence, should national institutions or integrity ever be threatened".

Even if India could to-morrow furnish to the world a serene example of the virtue and value of non-violence, its beacon-light would be engulfed by the roaring tide of war. But in fact the strength of sentiment in India is against Hitlerism and all its

variants. The great mass of the people, and their leaders also, are whole-heartedly anti-Nazi, because there is no place in the Indian heart for the creed of worship of the sovereign State, of brute force, and of racial mania.

Rabindranath Tagore, in a statement which was signed also by other leaders, said: "India must stand by Britain and resist the disastrous policy of domination by force. No Indian would desire that England should lose the battle for freedom she is fighting today." Gandhiji allowed it to be known that he was in favour of giving unconditional support to Britain during the war, as were many of the Congress leaders. Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru himself said that India's freedom will not be worth many days' purchase if Fascism and Nazism dominate the world, and that India must stand for the union of freedom-loving peoples. The help which India has given and is giving, is eloquent proof of the anti-Nazi feeling in the country. That feeling is firm-based upon the traditional culture and thought and faiths of India, upon the profound philosophy of Hinduism, upon the fervent brotherhood of Mahomedanism, upon the basic truths of Buddhism, and the ideals of Christianity. Although the Hindu Scriptures commend non-violence as the highest rule of conduct, yet sometimes war is a fell necessity and there is no alternative to it. Learned men find sanction in the Bhagavad-Gita for war in a righteous cause.

Indian help is given freely and in every form, because India knows that basic moral values are at stake. But material interest is also a compelling force. India has a national overseas front of her own, and of tremendous importance to her, in East Africa primarily, in the Persian Gulf, on the Arabian Coast, in Burma and Malaya and farther across the seas, besides increasing trans-Himalayan interests. India's cultural, educational and social organisations beyond her frontiers are in peril from Nazism, not to speak of her huge capital investments. The identity of India's interest with the interests of the nations who are fighting Nazism is self-evident, because if

Nazism won, India must fall a prey to the strongest of the victors, while if Nazism is defeated, India will have to play a greater part upon the world stage than was ever dreamed of. From India's shores there will some day issue forth many men and much material for the rebuilding of the shattered civilization of the world, and Indian culture and Indian thought will influence profoundly the destinies of humanity. Meanwhile, the tide of events is hastening India's independence and is assuring both her industrial advance and her power of defending herself against foreign invasion.

The defeat of Nazism will have a powerful effect on healthy socialization of India, and on the obliteration of untouchability.

Further, the stimulus of victories and the pride that Indian troops are participating in a righteous cause are working on men's mind in India.

For all these reasons, *Ahimsa* can in the present crisis have no powerful appeal for the people of India, and they would not stand forth as champions of non-violence in a warring world.

Neither is there any hope that *Ahimsa* would be the means of establishing new and happier relations between Britain and India.

The problem of India's nationhood has emerged from the mists of doubt, suspicion, and recrimination which have clouded the issues for so long. The obstacles ahead, upon the last stage of the journey, are clear-cut and formidable, but they are sure to be conquered. On the one side lies the Scylla of "Pakistan", and on the other the Charybdis of "Hindu yoke". Both must be avoided. The leaders will inevitably have to meet to hammer out a concrete scheme for the Constitution which will secure the acceptance of all the powerful elements in India's national life, including the British element, and the British Government will have to give prompt and whole-hearted effect to the scheme as soon as the war is over. Thus, and thus only, can India find her true self and be redeemed in the eyes of the world. If compromise were but to appear above the horizon (and public

opinion will soon compel the end of the stalemate), it would be easy enough to bring about interim adjustments in the Central Government so as to enable representative Indians at once to take part in the Executive. *Satyagraha* could not help to bring about the desired compromise, because it is not the administration in being that has to be persuaded or overcome.

Manœuvring for position, to which all parties, including the British Government must plead guilty, has gone on long enough and is bound to come to an end.

Labour leaders in England, and party leaders in the United States also, have set aside objectives for which they have worked during generations, and have joined with those to whom they are fundamentally opposed on political and economic theory, in meeting an immediate urgent peril. Why not so in India? Indian leaders are at one in mind as to the need for defeating Nazism and as to the need to forward the movement for national independence. Why do they not at long last drop the barriers and join hands?

But it is not sufficient that the leaders only of the great parties should get together.

A new spirit of unity and unanimity must be born among the people themselves. The varied elements that make up the Indian population must forget those things which have kept them asunder in the past, and regard only those things, far greater in number and importance, which have drawn them together under the mantle of Mother India. So will arise the basic common understanding—the unity in diversity—on which parliamentary institutions rest.

The will to unite is of far greater importance than the pattern of political organization. "Self-government does not mean majority rule. It means unanimity rule; for it exists only when there underlies all differences that residuum of fundamental, even if unacknowledged, agreement which excludes violence."* Universal suffrage will not be a panacea for the political difficulties of India,

* Geoffrey Vickers in "Purpose and Force".

unless a spiritual basis for unity is first achieved. The difficulties in India are now largely psychological, and they must be overcome, so that national self-government may not be a new source of divisions and strife, instead of a blessing. India is too big a country for centralised dictation. One organization, or one society, however well organized, will not be able always to shepherd the people. The organization that would make itself supreme in democracy must always remember that one day the pendulum will swing, and its domination will be ended, perhaps violently, by new forces.

It is upon the spiritual element in the human make-up that the foundations of mutual understanding and of ordered national government can alone be laid.

Will not Gandhiji raise the banner of unanimity, and send forth his spiritual message to the people in India's dark hour? There are millions of people, not merely in India but in Greater Britain and in the Americas, who pay reverence to the pure and lofty idealism to which he has been led in his search for truth. They are waiting in anxiety and in growing perplexity for a sign from him.

THE NAZI THRUST INTO THE BALKANS

By Mr. M. V. SUBRAHMANYAM, M.A., LL.T.

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

THE Nazi thrust into the Balkans is not any sudden onslaught dictated by the exigencies of the present military situation; the desire to dominate the Balkans, the 'drang nach osten,' the drive towards the East—has been the keystone of the Nazi policy ever since Hitler came to power in 1933. Since that year, Hitler has been gradually carrying out his plan to dominate South-eastern Europe, and the present campaign is only the last phase of his drive into the Balkans.

Soon after coming to power, Hitler realised that Austria and Czecho-Slovakia stood in the way of the 'drang nach osten'. Post-war Austria, though small in size, was a buffer state in a key position, and the Powers knew that if it collapsed the whole Danube equilibrium would go to pot. The European Powers were, therefore, interested in keeping Austria as an independent state. There is a story to illustrate this point. In the early days of the Nazi regime, Hitler, Goering, and Goebbels discussed as to what they would do, if the Nazi regime crashed. Goering said: "I will wear civilian clothes and no one will recognise me." Goebbels said: "I will keep my mouth shut and people will not know who I am." But Hitler said: "I need not do any such thing. I am an Austrian and, therefore,

the Powers will have to protect me." It will thus be seen that the Powers were interested in maintaining the *status quo*. It was on account of this reason that when a customs-union scheme between Germany and Austria was suggested by pre-Nazi Germany, it was vetoed by the League of Nations in 1931.

When Hitler came to power in 1933, and when he wanted to absorb Austria, he was opposed by Dr. Dollfuss, the Pocket-Dictator, and his ally, Mussolini. Mussolini even moved his troops to the Brenner Pass, to prevent the Nazi absorption of Austria. Hitler waited for some time. In the meantime the weak sanctions applied by Britain, France and other members of the League against Italy on account of her aggression against Abyssinia, made Mussolini turn to Hitler, and Hitler used the opportunity to form the Rome-Berlin Axis. 'Politics makes strange bed fellows.' With Mussolini as his ally, Hitler started his nefarious campaign against Austria in March, 1938, and against Czecho-Slovakia in September, 1938. He succeeded in absorbing Austria and Sudetenland mainly because the Western Powers were not prepared for war at that moment. Then in March, 1939, he established a protectorate over Bohemia and Moravia and dismembered and destroyed the Czecho-Slovakia's State.

At the same time, Hungary became an Axis partner; for she regained her lost territory in Slovakia and Ruthenia with German help after Munich. In this manner, Germany became a neighbour of the Balkan countries.

The German drive into the Balkans has two phases. In the earlier phase there was Economic penetration. In the more recent phase there is going on the diplomatic and military drive. The economic penetration of the Balkans has been going on for years. As a result of some clever arrangements made by Dr. Schacht, the German Minister of Economics, and his successor, Dr. Funk, the Balkan countries were obliged to sell their agricultural produce to Germany and obtain German goods in return. Germany was able to pay 40 per cent. more than the world market prices and was willing to purchase the whole stock, such as the Turkish fig crop, the Greek and Bulgarian tobacco crop and so on. Thus by some clever methods, Germany was able to establish an economic stranglehold on the Balkan countries.

While the economic drive was going on, Hitler, as we mentioned above, prepared the way for the diplomatic and military thrust into the Balkans by annexing Austria, establishing control over Bohemia and Moravia and allying with Hungary. When the international situation became worse after the Munich Pact, Britain, realising the importance of the Balkans in the strategic scheme of the British Empire, gave guarantees to Roumania and Greece and they accepted the British guarantee. When war actually broke out in September 1939, Britain succeeded in concluding an Anglo-Turkish Pact. This was a diplomatic triumph for Britain; for the Pact was concluded in spite of Von Papen's subtle manoeuvres. According to this Treaty, Turkey agreed to ally herself with Britain if there was any threat to her independence from Germany. But there is an escape clause which relieves Turkey of any obligation to go to war with Russia. Foiled in her attempt to draw in Turkey to the Nazi parlour, Hitler turned to the West and the Norwegian, Netherlandish and French

campaigns occupied his attention till last October.

In the meantime, Italy had entered the war on the side of Germany, and France had collapsed. Hitler asked Mussolini to push to the Balkans; for he was engaged in the task of consolidating the conquered territories. Besides, Italy is a Mediterranean Power, and she has Albania, an Italian Protectorate, which could serve as a base for her Balkan onslaught. Mussolini declared war on Greece and poured his troops into Albania. But soon the emptiness of his boasts became clear. The Italian fleet used its speed to run away from the enemy and the Italian soldiers proved to be the fastest runners from the battlefield. The rout of the Italian fleet in the Mediterranean and the army in Albania alarmed Hitler, and he now turned his attention to the Balkans.

The Balkans afford an ideal setting for Nazi methods; for, in the words of Gunther, "the Balkan peninsula is an unstable pyramid of nationalist hatreds, and of minority hatreds within nations". The success, therefore, of Germany in the Balkans has been due to two factors, namely, want of unity among the Balkan States, and German ability to exploit it.

Hitler first turned to Roumania, for her King Carol had accepted the British guarantee. Besides, Hitler wanted Roumanian oil, grain and timber. Roumania had a population of 18 millions of whom 4½ millions—nearly a quarter—were non-Roumanians. Besides, she was one of the principal beneficiaries of the Peace Treaties and had obtained Transylvania from Hungary and Southern Dobrudja from Bulgaria. She had also seized Bessarabia from Russia. All these countries—Hungary, Bulgaria and Russia—were waiting for an opportunity to get back their lost territories. Roumania had thus a serious minority problem and was surrounded by unfriendly neighbours.

Hitler induced Hungary, an Axis partner, and Bulgaria, a Pro-Nazi State, to demand their lost territories. He also engineered a revolution in Roumania. In the general confusion that followed, King Carol was forced to surrender Transylvania to Hungary

and Southern Dobrudja to Bulgaria, and Russia quickly annexed Bessarabia and Bukovina. Some time after, King Carol was forced to abdicate, and a pro-German Antonescu formed a government on behalf of Carol's son, Michael. Antonescu then allowed German divisions to occupy Roumania, and Roumania today is virtually a German protectorate.

Hitler next turned his attention towards Bulgaria. Bulgaria ruled by King Boris, a son-in-law of the King of Italy, is a pro-Axis kingdom. Hitler established German influence in that kingdom by enabling her to get Southern Dobrudja from Roumania. Under German inspiration, Bulgaria concluded a non-aggression pact with Turkey. This was a diplomatic victory for Germany; for Turkey agreed not to attack Bulgaria. After the pact, King Boris permitted German divisions to occupy Bulgaria.

The next country which Hitler attempted to bring within the 'Nazi Order' was Jugo-Slavia or South Slav Kingdom. This kingdom consisting of Croats, Serbs, and Slovenes has grown big owing to the Peace Treaties at the end of the last war. Hungary and Bulgaria want to get from her Banat and Serbian Macedonia respectively. Within Jugo-Slavia there has been for a long time quarrel between the Croats and the Serbs. The Croats, who had been Teutonised during the long period when they formed part of the old Austro-Hungarian Empire, do not like the Serbs who are semi-Turkish in culture and militant in spirit. Besides, the kingdom is sandwiched between the Axis Powers and partners. So when Hitler asked Regent Paul, the ruler of Jugo-Slavia to join the 'Nazi Order', he evaded for a time, but ultimately had to sign the Tripartite Pact. This led to a bloodless revolution in Belgrade, and Regent Paul had to flee from the kingdom. Prince Peter assumed the reins of power and asked General Simovitch to form a Ministry. The *coup d'état* at Belgrade upset Hitler's plans. He had hoped to frighten the Greeks to submission by occupying Roumania, Bulgaria and Jugo-Slavia with German mechanised troops. Hitler realised that General Simovitch will not permit

his kingdom to be used as a base for attack on Greece. He, therefore, invaded Jugo-Slavia and has adopted all his familiar methods. He overran Croatia with his troops and has set up a Croatian independent State under a local 'Quisling'. In the meantime, German troops from Bulgaria pushed from the East and the Serbian army was unable to stem the advance of numerous German mechanised divisions from north and west. At the same time, Hungary occupied the territory on the river Drave, which she had ceded to Jugo-Slavia at the end of the last war. In this unscrupulous manner, Jugo-Slavia has been overrun by German troops.

Hitler's main concern in the Balkans is to crush Greece which, from the days of Byron and Navarino, has been pro-British. Besides, the situation of Greece and, especially the islands of Corfu, Cephallenia, and Crete and the town Salonika in the hands of Anglo-Greek forces strengthen British position in the Eastern Mediterranean. Hitler, therefore, wants to crush Greece and occupy it. The Anglo-Greek forces are resisting German invasion. As we go to Press, however, Greece has capitulated and the whole of the Balkans is in danger of becoming a German protectorate.

A German-controlled Balkan peninsula is a threat to the Suez and to British position in the Eastern Mediterranean. It is also a menace to the security and independence of Egypt, Turkey, and other Moslem countries in the Middle East. It is a pity that though Turkey and Egypt realise the German danger, they have not so far decided to throw in their lot with Britain and fight the enemy before he comes to knock at the door. One of the causes of Hitler's success has been that small nations, which are now fighting on the side of Britain, took the right step not simultaneously and straightway, but one after another and after a good deal of hesitation. If only they had joined Britain earlier, Hitler would have had to carry war on several fronts and he would have been crushed. But, as it is, his Balkan campaign appears to be a success and it is the victorious British Navy that stands in the way of his next step—the threat to Suez.

ASSAMESE MARRIAGE-SONGS

BY MR. MAHESWAR NEOG, B.A.

BIRTH, death and marriage, these three together are counted as the most important, most mysterious, and almost inevitable events of human life. Marriage is a sacred function to the Hindus: it is the earthly celebration of a heavenly union, that has been running down incessantly through a series of lives. The essence of marriage is re-joining together of a man and a woman and making them "one flesh". It is the reality of the union that sanctifies the religious form of marriage. It is this reality that adds perennial beauty to social morality.

Such a pleasant, sacred and vital ceremony must needs cast its halo around. Rich or poor, parents or guardians of the bride and the bridegroom do what they can to serve the gravity and purity and pleasantness of the occasion by entertainments and decorations. Relations scarcely fail to gather up from far and near. Songs and ballads, some running traditionally from generation to generation and others improvised at the spur of the moment, pleasantly envelope the whole ceremony. They provide its finest poetic beauty.

A few persons including some ladies from the groom's house come with presentations to the bride—a complete dress, a set of ornaments, toilets and the such like. Songstresses or *namatis* begin their business by addressing the bride,

You wrote a letter on a betel-leaf;
Ramechandra sends you these ornaments in reply.
Put aside your parents' gifts,
Ram's ornaments are so wonderfully good,
Take them, take them with folded hands.

One by one the things are applied to the bride's body and *namatis* criticise them in good humour and cast light flings upon the envoy. The girl now stands as if resplendent with a new beauty.

Purple beans on the eaves shine with beautiful leaves;
Our darling looks so dazzling
as if of diamonds and pearls is made.
Her fingers are like ten burning candles.
And bracelets enhance their light.
She blooms like a rose behind her dark hair,
Her body all a moon in the midst of all.

A pathetic hint at an imminent parting cannot go too wide of the mark.

Why have you prepared the dish,
that others will enjoy,
Why have you brought up this darling fine,
that now is meant for others?

The following evenings both the bride and the groom are allowed a luxurious bath. For that purpose, the mother or, in her absence, some intimate lady-relation, with a richly decorated pot on her waist, is escorted to the bathing-ghat by *namatis* and drummers. The songs at this stage could not help being reminiscent of child Krishna's playing pranks with the cowherdresses on the black Jumna.

Keteki and *bakul* adorn all the way;
Radha's joy knows no bounds.
The Jumna glimmers at a distance
under the *kadamba* tree;
The black *kanu* is upon it
and may not allow us a drop.

But when the 'golden' pot is filled with water,

Stars cluster in heaven,
Nymphs have their round;
The heavenly drum sounds above
and the earthly one below.

The *namatis* make the Nyads responsible for any delay in getting back with the sacred water. The hero or heroine of the occasion is now ceremoniously taken to a beautifully adorned bathing-place. Oil and herbal toilets are used. But

What are all those toilets for,
A blooming *keteki* as you are?

Every piece of cloth for this beautiful figure is embroidered with dreams of a fairyland.

Bath over, "What should I put on, mother?"
—the darling asks.

"A piece of dress that dries in the shade
and that may be hidden with the palm
of hand."

"What flower is fit for me?"
"Why, the divine flower that blooms across
the sea."

In the evening of the marriage-day, the hero gets his ceremonious bath early and is garmented most luxuriously. He is "plated with gold" and is likened to Krishna preparing to elope with Rukmini of Kundina of ancient Assam or Ram going to Sita's *swayambara*. The bride, too, has her luxuries that conditions of her father and to be father-in-law might allow.

Bouquets of *kanchana* are prepared
that will fit the darling's braid of hair;
For *seuti* and *malati* and all those flowers
fall short of her beauty;
All ornaments are put on her body,
Nothing is but what she wears.

Many tender-hearted girls create a scene
while being brought near the fire of
sacrifice and the very tone of the songs
becomes very touching with the pathos
of separation between bosom friends and
closest relations.

Who was it that played in the darling's room
and scattered *krauncha's* plumes over the
floor?
She that has been brightening the mother's
dark room
will to-day be taken away by Ram.

The usual rites near the fire are solemnised
and the two give themselves, body and
soul, to each other. The bridesmaids
stick all the while to their tunes, that
at this stage oscillate between suffocating
sadness and boisterous invectives against
the groom's party. It is now-a-days a
dying-out custom for groom's party to be
accompanied by *Namatis*. When it was in
vogue and *namatis* on both sides came
together, there used to be a zealous effort
on each side to out-sing the other. The
power of improvisation is seen at its
keenest and ravishing criticism of every-
thing in the opposite party holds sway
for hours together.

The ritual union solemnised, the couple
is taken indoors, the woman leading the
man, who is not spared even at this
moment:

What honey is it that sticks to Darling's garb?—
Honey-thirsty Son-in-law follows her fast.
Our darling leads the way and drops pieces of gold
which the father-in-law's son picks,
a bag of worsted hanging upon his neck.

"The father-in-law's son" has some more
trying minutes when he is harassed by
bridesmaids' sly remarks while performing
'exchange of rings'.

Moments now come with the morning
when the sorrow of separation has its
bitterest ceremony and the glory of the
union is bathed in tears. There seems to
be a feeling of cursedness in a woman's life:

Do not bring up a girl
and make no room for her in the womb.

Do not weep so bitter, sweet girl;
Our hearts are burning with grief,

Had you been a boy,
we never would have known such throes.

The very thought of her so long
moving like an angel of the house
becomes corrosively paining.

You were in your mother's bed yesterday
at this hour of the day;
Now are you leaving us
and have put the wilderness in flame.

In *Shakuntala*, Kalidasa made the whole
hermitage of Kanwa beweept *Shakuntala's*
farewell. The unsophisticated *namatis* swim
in a flood of tears. The little flowering
plant at the gate, the birds and beasts
that were the departing maiden's acquaint-
ances, her loom behind the wall—all
are struck dumb with grief.

These hymeneal songs belong to the
vast and wealthy region of Assamese folk-
literature. They are ingenuous creations
of *namatis*, which designation excludes
almost nobody amongst women and girls,
present on the occasion of a marriage.
As a matter of fact the poetic beauty and
musical sweetness of these songs cannot
be realised until and unless female voices
sing them to the ear not to speak
of anything worth appreciation in prosaic
renderings like the above. A homely and
unaffected language, laying bare varied raw
feelings, at once knocks at the very heart.
The unlettered mother of these ethereal
creations has rhyme at her back and call;
line follows line in rapid succession as one
idea after another flashes through her
sensitised mind.

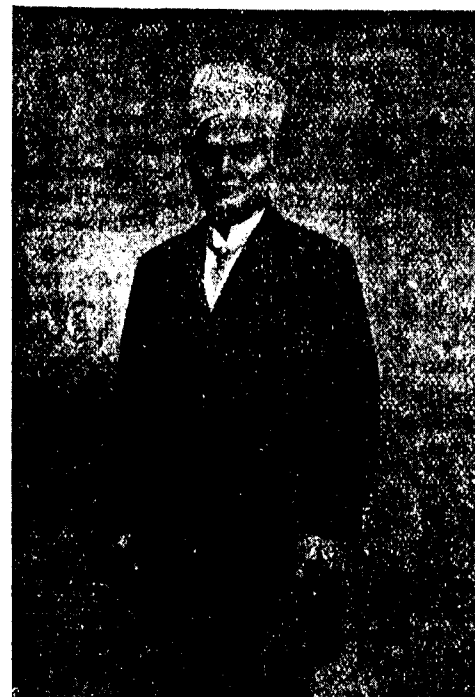
Shankardeva and other Vaishnava poets
of sixteenth century Assam have exerted
a deep influence upon these songs. The
whole of Shankardeva's *Rukminiharan*
Kavya may be recited from memory by
many illiterate village women. The homely
tone of its description of Krishna's
marriage with Rukmini makes that poem
appealing to their heart. Similar lively
descriptions by the other poets are also
dearly loved by all women. The romantic
unions between Krishna and Rukmini,
Aniruddha and Usha, Arjuna and Subhadra
Ram and Sita, Shiva and Uma are
perennial fountain-sources of fine ballads.
Sometimes two or three of these stories
are mixed in one; but skilful *namatis*
keep them apart. Modern influences are
not absent, but they are not of permanent
value and die out before long.

MY PET AVERSIONS

BY MR. P. SESHADRI, M.A., M.B.E.

(Principal, Government College, Ajmer)

IF I cannot profess to have risen to
the Christian ideal of turning my
left cheek to anybody who smites me on
the right, or completely realised the



MR. P. SESHADRI, M.A., M.B.E.

Buddhist teaching of conquering hatred
with love, I can at least claim to be
free from violent animosities. There are
not many things which I *hate*, but it is
obviously difficult for any human being
not to dislike things and persons which
meet with his disapproval; though at
least in my case, it would be more
appropriate to refer to them merely as
"pet aversions", to use an effective
expression of Frederic Harrison.

Want of punctuality on the part of a
person is among the things I hate most,

as I look upon any lapse in the matter
as a moral failing. It shows scant con-
sideration for others, and there is no
reason why such persons should not be
held up to more opprobrium than they
seem to be in India. It is only a callous
person who can contemplate with
equanimity, other people being penalised
for their punctuality, made to wait, all
because he does not choose to be in
time. Obviously, the time of other
people is at least as valuable as his and
in some cases, perhaps even more so,
and it is deplorable that he should be
responsible for causing such inconvenience.
It gave me immense satisfaction to hear
the other day that the services of a
professor were dispensed with for being
systematically late and telling his
Principal that punctuality was after all
only the virtue of a commercial people
like the English! One of the highest
compliments I have received is the
remark made at a farewell public meeting,
that I was never known to have been
late for any engagement.

The bad correspondent is another who
always rouses my resentment and I feel
like breaking of all relationship with him.
It is bad enough in official matters, but
it is much worse in private correspond-
ence, where the person at the other end
is, perhaps, anxiously expecting a reply to
make some necessary arrangements or
settle an important matter, your reply
being essential for the purpose. The bad
correspondent is usually a person who is
never guilty of any neglect, let it be
noted, as far as his own selfish interests
are concerned. Does he wish to ask for

a favour, or is he anxious to gain the goodwill of a person placed above him in life? He becomes one of the most energetic of correspondents and he will take mighty good care to see that he is not guilty of any remissness. It is, of course, not intended to refer to numerous correspondents who pester well-known people with communications of various kinds which are, perhaps, met best with silence.

Among the numerous varieties of bores whom I find it difficult to tolerate is the speaker at a public meeting, who has no sense of proportion or time and who will tire you with his dull and ponderous eloquence. There can be no greater misfortune than to have to sit through a performance of this kind, when even fidgetting and other signs of impatience on the part of the audience will not carry any hint to the lecturer. It is an excellent English saying that nobody had anything valuable to say, which could not be said in fifteen minutes. (It would, however, be a fatal mistake to interpret it literally, for lectures of academic interest must necessarily take longer.)

One who rouses my animosity even more, is the chairman of a public meeting who holds forth longer than the lecturer himself. The person chosen to preside over the meeting owes the honour, probably, to his prominence in social or public life and is never suspected of any special knowledge in the subject. It is absurd to imagine that the audience expects a second dissertation from him, or he can usefully supplement what the specialist-lecturer has said. Chairmen can do no better than follow the example of Lord Rosebery who, when presiding over a meeting of the Edinburgh Philosophical Association, got up when the lecturer had finished and quietly walked up to his car! It was thought that the noble Lord had been absent-minded, but I rather suspect, he meant to give an impressive

demonstration of the duties of the ideal chairman.

But I reserve my most deadly wrath for the cynic who makes himself a nuisance to all right-thinking men. He has no faith in human virtue of any kind and probably sees in everybody around him a reflection of his own petty nature. Nothing is approved by his cruel tongue. If somebody is a philanthropist, it is because he is only hankering for public applause; if there is a successful man, he is certain he owes his success only to luck and not to abilities of any kind such remarks are his usual stock-in-trade. If a man is praised for his scholarship, he is sure to affirm, with what authority it is difficult to guess, that it is only superficial. The loveliest of human beings does not please his critical eye and there is nothing too sacred to escape his vile and vituperative tongue. He is really a curse to society and there is nothing for which one should pray more fervently than that one should never degenerate into such an unfortunate specimen of humanity.

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Narasimha Mehta: A Gujarati Saint

By MR. G. A. CHANDAVARKAR, M.A.

—:o:—

THE religious background of the early literature of almost all the Indian languages can be accounted for by the fact that it embodies within itself the noble ideas of seers, sages and saints or the great ideals of philosophers and prophets of those times. It is, however, very unfortunate that the material to write out any authentic biography of any one of these master-minds is exceedingly scanty and even what little of it is available is so mixed up with crude myths or incredible miracles that a critical reader finds it difficult, if not impossible, to shift the chaff from the grain. In this short paper we propose dealing briefly with the work of a Gujarathi Saint, who by his profound thoughts and brave deeds exercised a great influence not only on the Gujarathi society then but also is continuing to do so, even now and that too, on a wider area. The name of that saint is Narasimha Mehta and that, coupled with that of his contemporary *Sadhvee Meerabai*, is today a household word, wherever Vaishnavism or Gujarathi Literature is honoured. Even Mahatma Gandhi, whenever he takes any decisive step in any difficult or critical situation, mainly draws his inspiration from one of the sublimest songs of this saint. To those that are now engaged in doing social service of some kind or other in India, his philosophy of life will be decidedly inspiring and his success in action equally encouraging. While some of his postulates will be found not irreconcilable with those of modern thought, his ideals of life will also be found not impracticable at the present day. These, therefore, deserve a sympathetic study.

HIS EARLY LIFE

At a time when in Gujarath, the Muslim rule was firmly established and some sort of order was evolved out of chaos, various religious sects were propagating their tenets without let or hindrance. The great wave of the Bhakti Movement set in motion by the Vaishnava Saints in Northern India began to sweep over the land of the Gurjerats also.

At the time we are speaking of, at Junagad in Kathiawad, there lived a humble Nagar Brahmin family which was a staunch Shaivayat by faith. In this family Narasimha Mehta was born in 1410 A.D. Early in life he came under the influence of the cult of Krishna Bhakti. But his activities in this direction were very much resented even by his own kith and kin. The ultimate result of this was that in his own home he became a stranger and an undesirable person too. Whatever social amenities of life he could hope for were all denied to him. His own aunt, the queen of the house, did not hesitate to shower filthy abuses on him. He could not, therefore, find solace anywhere except outside his home. For him it could never be 'sweet' at all. Forthwith he left his miserable den and went to Gopinath, a sea-port town, where also the asylum he could find was only a Shiva Temple. In spite of the fact that the environments there were not quite congenial to him, he pursued his religious practices of *Dhyana* and *Tapas*. One happy day a new light dawned on him. In a vision he heard a strange voice calling on him "Go home, Narasee, and cultivate Krishna Bhakti". In response to that great call he wended his way homewards. There as luck would have it, he had to enter the life of a Grahasthee—a householder—which to him was a good training ground for his future mission in life. Eventually he became the father of two children, a son by name Shamaldas and a daughter by name Kunvara Bai. Poor as he was, the birth of these two children added to his domestic happiness first but later his miseries increased. But "chill penury could not freeze the genial current of his soul". With implicit faith in God, he looked up to Him in all his difficulties. It is said that on one occasion when a certain religious ceremony was to be performed in the house there was no ghee sufficient for the purpose. He then left his house to fetch it but on the way he chanced to meet a party of

Krishna Bhaktas, in whose company he sang songs the whole day and forgot entirely the purpose for which he had left his home. It is then said that some unknown person without his knowledge brought the ghee to his house and the ceremony was gone through. Late in the night he returned home, only to find that the ceremony was gone through and the ghee was supplied by some one. He thought 'who else could he be but Lord Krishna?'. He was once again confirmed in his belief that God comes to the aid of His devotees in times of difficulties. But, as though to facilitate matters in the way of his spiritual progress, domestic calamities befell him in rapid succession. But are the crosses not the ladders that lead to heaven? The cruel hand of death took away both his children one after another. He then said to himself: "The worst has happened. I shall now freely pray Gopal." He then turned over a new leaf in his life.

HIS DEDICATION

Forthwith he started on his perigrinations. Wherever he went he conducted *Harce-Kathas* and invited 'the lowest of the low' to make them drink the *Premamrutam* Nectar of Love Eternal. *Dheds* and *Chamars* began to realise that the Kingdom of Heaven is not the monopoly of the "Twice-born" alone but it can be shared by all. For him, however, these activities meant social ostracism. He needed it not. He persisted in carrying on the work of their elevation. His whole life was thenceforth dedicated to the cause of those who are now known as 'Harijanas'. But "All human things are subject to decay, and when Fate summons, saints like Monarchs must obey". So, in 1480, A.C., he shook off his mortal coil.

SALIENT FEATURES OF HIS BHAKTI

It is commonly believed that Indian saints are more or less ego-centric and their philosophy of life is individualistic. But Mehta's philosophy gives the lie direct to these accusations. His Bhakti is altruistic. He has definitely preached that service of God and Service of Man are identical and that self-forgetfulness and self-sacrifice are the means to that service. He was a

staunch believer in the great principle of vicariousness. Love for others was his motto.

HIS LITERARY WORK

Although he cannot lay any claim to be a voluminous writer, what little he has written in his books like 'Haramala' is enough to show that his ideals of life are very sublime. One of his famous songs "*Vaishnava Janato Tene Kaheeye* . . ." bears eloquent testimony to this fact. It says: "A true Vaishnava is he who regards the misery of others as his own. When any good turn is rendered none should be conscious of it. None should speak ill of others. No one should be deprived of the possessions. In all our undertakings we should be frank, fearless and seek truth. Vindictiveness should be abandoned altogether." In this one song he gives the quintessence of his teachings.

CONCLUSION

Many of his other songs too are equally soul stirring. They re-echo the sentiments of saints like Chaitanya, Kabir and Nanak. In the galaxy of Indian saints this star is of no small magnitude. To many a weary sailor on the ocean of life, his has been the guiding star and at least to one of his great admirers of modern times, it has been a veritable Dhruva-Nakshatra. In the matter of non-violence, vicariousness and the uplift of Harijans, Mahatma Gandhi seems to have drawn his inspiration from this saint of his province. Being a *Grihastee*, he was "a type of the wise who soar but never roam, true to the kindred points of Heaven and Home". In him emotion and action were not incompatible. These apparently inconsistent propensities sprang from his discontent, that may be called 'divine' also, with the then existing social and religious conditions of Gujeratha. The reason for a large measure of success that attended his efforts was that he showed a rare congruity of his thoughts, deeds and words. While he maintained a balance between action and emotion, he had unbounded faith in the guidance of a Higher Power than Man's. In the possession of these sterling qualities of his head and heart lay the greatness and goodness of this great saint and the father of Gujerathi Literature.

KASHMIR AS A HOLIDAY RESORT

BY MR. S. L. KAUL

FLORID expressions, coloured word pictures and figures of speech appropriate to poetry have been employed by writers on Kashmir to describe its charm. The result is that many of those who have not been to Kashmir and whose knowledge of it is, therefore, derived mainly from the printed words, have before their mind's eye but a beautifully vague picture of what the place actually is. Her hills and valleys, her lakes and springs, her brooks and canals, her trees and flowers against the background of the eternal snows fill even sober and prosaic men with feelings akin to ecstasy. People from the plains who have gone to Kashmir, say in June, have often felt that they have reached an oasis in a desert. But Kashmir is not a phantasy, it is not a dream-land. Even there it is our old mother earth on which we plant our feet. There as elsewhere one can live on bread and butter under some kind of a shelter, and not on fancies and inspirations under the firmament of the heavens. And to reach there, one has to take a modern conveyance on a particular route, and no "magic carpet" of the kind described in fables and tales of old. What the average man of average means or even the comparatively well-off individual desirous of taking a holiday in a hill-station, who has been fascinated by what he has heard in ornate language of the lure of Kashmir, would probably appreciate is a straightforward statement in sober prose of how and when to go there and how to live and what to look for there.

There was a time indeed and that not long ago when a journey to Kashmir was very expensive and tedious. During the last 20 years all that has changed. Two excellent motor roads connect Srinagar with Rawalpindi in the Western Punjab and with Jammu to the north of the Punjab, and both these places are linked with the railways system of India. With the development of lorry traffic in recent years, the 200 miles journey between Rawalpindi and Srinagar can be easily covered in 12 to 16 hours, or if the time required for meals, rest and sleep on the way be included in about 24 hours. Motor cars

have been plying on the road for nearly half a century, but till recent years, a journey by car was beyond the means of most people, while *tongas* covered the journey in four or five days, and even these were expensive. Nowadays, the usual lorry fare from Srinagar to Rawalpindi is Rs. 5 to Rs. 7 per seat which is about one-third to one-fourth of what was paid for a *tonga* seat and one-tenth to one-fifteenth of what was paid for a seat in a motor car only 20 years ago when lorries were first introduced in this part of the world. Motor cars can also be booked for Rs. 15 to Rs. 25 per seat. In time, the journey by lorry costs one-fourth or one-fifth of what was required for a *tonga* formerly with all the differences in other necessary and incidental expenses in the way.

An equally convenient rail-head for Srinagar is Jammu, the winter capital of the State, which is only 25 miles away from Sialkot in the Northern Punjab. This road is also 200 miles long, but unlike the other road which includes 64 miles of British territory, it passes entirely through State territory and connects the two capitals of the State. Its advantage over the Rawalpindi-Srinagar road is the greater loveliness of the scenery that it traverses. The main pass on the road is, however, so high above the sea-level that in winter it is sometimes blocked by snow. But that does not affect its utility in summer and it is in summer that most visitors go to Kashmir. Last year, motor and lorry trips on this road numbered 2,222 and 15,658 respectively. An ideal arrangement is to travel on one of the two roads to Srinagar and to come back by the other. The journey between Jammu and Srinagar is as cheap as that between Rawalpindi and Srinagar, perhaps a little cheaper. It is interesting to note that the Government of Kashmir have had under their consideration a project for a low-level tunnel at the main pass on this road. If the project materialises, the distance will be reduced appreciably, a single day journey without halt at night will become the rule, and the road which is sometimes blocked in winter by snowfall will remain open throughout the year.

Some motor and lorry agencies at Lahore issue return tickets at concession rates, and actually, therefore, visitors have to pay less than the rates cited above for a single journey. Rail *cum* road journeys are also arranged by agencies like Thomas Cook and Sons. On both the roads there are Duk Bungalows and other convenient resting places and cheap kitchens, where meals generally are or can be made available. Generally visitors leave Jammu or Rawalpindi in the morning and after doing part of the journey halt for the night in the way, and complete the remaining part of the journey on the following day.

Once in Srinagar, the visitor has a variety of arrangements for his board and lodging to choose from. There are hotels and boarding houses, European and Indian, in Srinagar and at Gulmarg and Pahalgam. Many visitors prefer to live in house-boats, which are always available in and near Srinagar. Furnished house-boats of different sizes, ranging from those small enough for a single or a party of 2 or 3 persons to those big enough for a large party with or without kitchen boats and *shikaras* (small boats) are always to be had in Kashmir to suit all tastes. There are many camping grounds and sites for visitors throughout the valley, and tents can always be had on hire; for the people of Srinagar are not slow to take advantage of the rush of visitors into their country. There are several agencies, some under European management, which help the visitors to obtain their requirements ranging from every day articles of food to conveyances. When one has particularly nowhere to go but to enjoy nature at her best, there is nothing like living in a house-boat and moving in water from place to place. And Kashmir probably has about 100 miles of navigable waters. And on the up-lands life under canvas with the crisp invigorating air to breathe has its own prizes to offer.

Most visitors to Kashmir are attracted there by its low temperature. If we take the six months of summer from the middle of April to the middle of October, Srinagar's mean temperature varies from

45° to 80°. The hottest months are June-July and July-August, but even during these months, the highest temperature in shade is 95° and 90° respectively. In May-June and August-September the highest temperature in shade is 85°. Earlier and later in the year, the temperature is lower still. In outlying areas and on higher altitudes in the valley, the temperature is lower still. Kashmir has many an attraction for the visitor during every month from April to November. Even in winter it attracts lovers of winter sports, and Gulmarg the head-quarters of the Ski Club of India, attracts skiing enthusiasts on certain days fixed each year by the Club from all over India. Generally visitors prefer to stay from April to June and from September to November in Srinagar. The intervening months are generally spent in beauty spots in the outlying areas. The autumn of Kashmir is specially charming. The Jammu and Kashmir State Exhibition, which is held in the month of September, attracts an increasingly large number of visitors every year. The special attraction of this exhibition consists in the beautifully laid out lawns on the grounds, which mere expense cannot create, and the works of the old arts and craftsmanship of Kashmir for which Kashmir is so famous.

One thing which must recommend Kashmir to men of small means as a holiday resort is the cheap cost of living there. It is true that it is not the place profuse with milk and fruit to be had for nothing that it once was described to be, but one has to pay comparatively less for board and lodging there than in the plains, and it is after all these two things which concern the holiday-seeker most. Those living in house boats can generally make their own arrangement for meals. Many of the boatmen provide boards as well as lodging to their tenants. Self-contained house-boats with kitchens can easily be arranged. Those who travel without servants or cannot make their own cooking arrangements have a number of places in Kashmir to choose from, where arrangements for visitors are always available. Kashmir, indeed, is not to be compared to a hill station—it has a number of hill stations—it is a chain, a

system of beauty spots. In fact, one cannot exhaust Kashmir where every prospect has something or other to recommend it even during a six months' stay.

The first of the beauty spots for the visitor who proceeds to Srinagar direct is Srinagar itself, which is 5,200 miles above the sea-level. The river Jhelum passes through the city and for those new to Kashmir, few things are more delightful than moving up and down the river in a *shikara* (the indigenous small boat) which is to the Kashmiris what the gondolo is to the Venetian. The boat is a chief means of communication in the city and while it is more comfortable than a wheeled conveyance, it is also cheaper. There are Clubs and Hotels and Boarding Houses and Cinema Halls for Europeans and Indians at Srinagar. There is abundant supply of pure water in the city provided by a network of pipes fed from a reservoir 12 miles away. The city is connected by good motor roads to most places of tourist interest in Kashmir. Making Srinagar his centre, the visitor can visit a number of gardens, health resorts and lakes for which Kashmir is so famous, at no great cost either of time or money.

It may be truly said that the Mughuls discovered Kashmir as a holiday resort. The gardens that they laid out are being maintained by the Kashmir Government. Some of them have been renovated. Two of these gardens, the Nishat Bag and the Shalimar Bag, which can be reached from Srinagar by boat within about two hours and in about half an hour by car are arranged in terraces and with the waters of Lake Dal in the foreground and imposing mountains in the background and cool breezes blowing over them, the gardens with their flower-beds and lawns and cascades and fountains attract numerous visitors every year. Bathing may be enjoyed in ideal surrounding in the lake in front of Nasim Bag which is situated 6 miles from Srinagar on the banks of Lake Dal and the Nagin Bag which is close by. Sailing boats and bathing boats are always available on hire. One of the Mughul gardens the Achhabal, is situated at a distance of about 40 miles from Srinagar. There is a small camping

ground shaded with Chinar trees outside the garden. Among the health resorts, mention may be made of Gulmarg and Pahalgam. The former is famous as a health resort much favoured by Europeans. It is about 8,700 feet above the sea-level. A circular-road runs through the hill side and commands a view of the famous Nanga Parbat range and the whole of Kashmir Valley. Higher up are places like Khilanmarg 10,300 feet above sea-level which can be climbed by forest tracks and beauty spots like Affarwat 4,000 feet higher, which has a beautiful blue lake. Ganderbal is a small village on the banks of the Sindh river at a distance of 13 miles from Srinagar and 5,220 feet above the sea-level. Visitors generally stay in boats moored along the river. By road it is half an hour's drive from Srinagar. It is the starting point of excursions to beauty spots like Sonamarg, Baltal, the Zojila mountain, Lake Gangabal and the Harmukh mountains. Pahalgam is situated at a distance of 60 miles from Srinagar at an altitude of about 7,000 feet above the sea-level in the heart of the most beautiful side valley of Kashmir, the Lidder Valley. It has a river fed by two hill streams flowing through it. The road to Pahalgam is suitable for motor and lorry traffic except for a few months in winter. The Government of the State have recently done much to develop this station and in recent years, it has attracted a large number of Indian visitors. Another attraction for visitors is the great Kohahoi glacier, 22 miles away from Pahalgam. The sacred cave of Shree Amar Nath Ji, which attracts pilgrims from all over India, is about 27 miles away from Pahalgam. Gulmarg, Ganderbal and Pahalgam have Post and Telegraph offices, Government Dispensaries and Police Stations. Verinag is about 50 miles from Srinagar and 6,100 feet above the sea-level. It has a large spring in an octagonal basin and an arcade originally built by Jehangir. The water flowing from the spring is one of the principal sources of the river Jhelum. Among the lakes are Dal, nearly 4 miles by 2½ miles with a background of mountain ranges rising 3,000 to 4,000 feet about the level of its surface. The water

is abundantly supplied with wild duck and waterfowls. It is very near Srinagar and is a favourite place for the mooring of house-boats. Wular is 12½ miles long and 5 miles wide and can be reached from Srinagar by river as well as by motor road. It is the largest fresh water lake in India. Manasbal about 16 miles from Srinagar is also accessible both by road and river and is the loveliest of the Kashmir lakes surrounded by majestic hills; its water is blue and clear. The lake is about 2 miles in diameter and boating on its surface under moonlight is a delightful experience.

The ancient monuments of Kashmir dating from the earliest centuries of the Christian era to the fifteenth reflect different periods of the history of Kashmir. The Kashmir Government have a Department of Archeology and Research which preserves its ancient monuments and publishes and introduces to modern scholars systems of thought and philosophy peculiar to Kashmir. It must not be forgotten that Kashmiris are the inheritors of an ancient culture and system of philosophy, "Kashmir Shaivism" which presents a complete synthesis of the most abstract idealism with the most material realism and have much to give to this storm-tossed and doubt-perplexed age. Modern Kashmir has not produced on its own soil any really great men to compare with the giants of the past, either in originality of genius or the power of intellectual assimilation. Strangely enough, the so-called dark ages of history were no dark ages for the people of Kashmir, and it is in these ages that they produced their best philosophers who are among the greatest of India's philosophers and India's greatest book of history, the *Rajatarangini*.

But the Kashmir Valley with its 6,148 square miles and even the province of Kashmir with its 8,555 square miles is not the whole of the Kashmir State. There are a number of health resorts in Jammu, the southern province of the State, chief among which have the advantage of being nearer to the plains than Kashmir. The Indus Valley, with its 63,000 square miles, occupies nearly three-fourths of the area of the State. It has been described as the "Sportman's paradise". A number of

mountaineering expeditions have been to these regions in recent years for exploration. There are vast fields throughout the State for trekking, hiking and camping.

The Government of the State are maintaining a Visitors' Bureau at Srinagar to help and guide visitors in the State. Several seasonal tourist Bureaus, including one at Rawalpindi, have been established to supply information to visitors and afford them all possible advice and guidance for their sojourn in Kashmir. Recently, attention has been directed towards the development of the tourist industry in the State and a Tourist Planning Committee consisting of official and non-official members, with the Chief Secretary as its Chairman, has been appointed for the purpose. The Committee has already done much work. It has improved the Dak Bungalows and Rest Houses on the Jammu-Srinagar road and provided parks and hikers' huts at various places and constructed several fair-weather motor roads. It has before it an ambitious programme of developing places of potential utility for tourist traffic.

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U. F.

MR. AMERY'S LATEST

BY THE EDITOR

—:O:—

MR. AMERY'S speech in the House of Commons in moving for an extension of the Governors' rule over the Provinces for another year has proved even more disappointing than his previous utterances. If anything, it has made the situation more difficult by its intransigence, and the prospect of resolving the deadlock is now more remote than ever. No wonder that his pronouncement elicited sharp comments in the House of Commons itself at the hands of tried Indian administrators like Sir George Schuster, and in India it has been severely condemned by almost all representative leaders and politicians. As the *Statesman* rightly points out:—

Amazing misunderstanding, complete travesty of the position, policy of drift, attitude of self-complacency; these comments have been agreed to by a number of men of ability, experience of affairs, good standing in their fellows' eyes. They have emerged from deep disappointment. Mr. Amery, say these men, has missed the opportunity of winning public confidence. That, we fear, is the truth. In one respect the Secretary of State has fallen behind the Viceroy who was prepared to go on with the expansion of his Council despite differences that prevented national union.

Unable to make a fresh approach to the problem, he has left it to drift for itself. For, his complacency at the present condition of affairs is really amazing. He harped on the August offer, denounced the Congress, put a premium on minority dictation, though he did not go so far as to acquiesce in Pakistan and threw a cold douche on the well-intentioned efforts of the Sapru Committee. It is ridiculous that a responsible statesman like Mr. Amery should repeat parrot-like the grossly

improper observation of Mr. Jinnah that the Rt. Hon. Sapru was in the hands of Congress "wirepullers". Worse still was the perverse use which Mr. Amery made of the quiet submission of the people to the administration of the Advisers in the Congress Provinces when every one knows it is due to Mahatma Gandhi's constant exhortation to the people not to embarrass the Government at the present juncture, and to the efforts of many others as well who are actively engaged in war propaganda.

Mr. Amery's advice to Dr. Sapru and his colleagues to devote their energies to the formation of a Centre Party is surprisingly strange, especially when he and the Viceroy proclaim from the house-tops from time to time that the greatest obstacle to the grant of self-Government to India is the existence of parties which would not come to an amicable settlement amongst themselves. The formation of another party will still further widen the breach which, in the opinion of many, has already been rendered "unbridgeable".

Let Mr. Amery and his advisers not forget the real cause of all the present trouble. The truth has so often been told by representative leaders of parties even though opposed to each other on other grounds. And that truth is that the people have lost faith in the *bonafides* of the British administrators, "who are unwilling to part with power". The only way out is to restore the lost faith and that can be achieved only by a declaration that India will have Dominion Status

immediately after the war. As proof of this, the authorities should lose no time in taking steps to form a truly National Government at the Centre, release the Ministers and other politicals who are now in prison in the various Provinces and put them back in power. And if this be done, war efforts will greatly be stimulated, the deplorable tension of feeling between the rulers and the ruled, so rightly stressed by the Metropolitan, will soon disappear and an era of peace will be assured.

As we go to Press, it is something to find that the *Times*, which not often reflects authoritative and official opinion in England does not share Mr. Amery's self-complacent attitude.

Commenting on its correspondent's analysis of the situation, it owns "that the continuance of the Indian constitutional deadlock is causing concern in England and a sense of frustration in India". It rightly declares "that the present unsatisfactory situation should not be allowed to crystallise." We welcome even this belated wisdom. For, it is yet possible to do something to bridge the gulf that is widening with every repeated assertion of the August offer and the insistence on the fulfilment of impossible conditions.

It is time, says the paper truly, that a new approach should be made. If those responsible for this drift cannot make this new approach, it is time they give place to those who can.

Hindu Women's Rights to Property

RECENT JUDGMENT OF THE FEDERAL COURT

By MR. S. RAMASWAMI IYER

(Advocate, Madras)

IN view of the great attention which the subject of Hindu women's rights to property has attracted in recent times, a brief article explaining the recent decision of the Federal Court at Delhi on the subject may not be out of place even in a layman's journal. The decision of the Federal Court related to the validity or otherwise of the Hindu Women's Rights to Property Act, 1937. This Act became law on 14th April 1937 and was amended in certain particulars by an Act of 1938 to make verbal improvements in it. It enacted that if a Hindu died intestate leaving separate property, his widow, or if there were more than one widow, the widows together would be entitled

to the same share as his son. If a Hindu governed by any other school of Hindu law than the Dayabagh law, say, a Hindu in Madras, died leaving not separate properties but an interest in joint family property, the Act declared that his widow would be entitled to the same interest as he himself had. Therefore if he died leaving a brother and a son who were members of a joint family, his widow would have a right to get one-fourth share of the property of the family. The right of a widow under the Act would not be an absolute right but only a limited estate under the Hindu law. This is the effect of the Act. The Bill which became the Act of 1937 above referred to was sponsored by

Dr. Deshmukh, M.L.A. He brought up another Bill for conferring rights on daughters of deceased Hindu fathers. At this stage the Government of India took up the matter to avoid piecemeal legislation and appointed a Committee to make recommendations on the whole subject of Hindu Women's Rights to Property. The Chairman of this Committee is Sir B. N. Rao, I.C.S., a Judge of the Calcutta High Court, whose name is well known in Madras. This Committee appears to have felt doubts about the validity of the above Act of 1937, and at its instance the Government of India made a reference to the Federal Court to obtain its opinion on certain points of law. The most important of these questions was whether the above Act as amended in 1938 was valid in so far as it affects the devolution of agricultural land. The question arises because under the Government of India Act, 1935, the legislative spheres of federal and provincial legislatures are exclusive and "devolution of agricultural land" is exclusively a provincial subject. The Federal Court has now held that the Central Legislature had no power to pass the Act in so far as it regulates devolution by survivorship or succession in respect of agricultural land. Therefore the Act has turned out to be useless in respect of a large and the most usual class of property in which Hindu widow's rights should be secured. Another point referred to the Federal Court was whether even if agricultural land was excluded, the Central Legislature had power to legislate on devolution by survivorship in respect of any property. Under the Government of India Act, 1935, the Central Legislature has power to legislate on "succession save as regards agricultural land". The

doubt was whether the word "succession" includes devolution by survivorship. The Federal Court has held that it does in this context and the Act is therefore valid in this respect. The Act of 1937 became law on 14-4-1937, i.e., after 1st April 1937 when the Government of India Act, 1935, came into force. If the Act was passed before the latter Act came into force, it would be fully valid as the sharp division of provincial and federal spheres of legislation was not known to the earlier Constitution Act then in force. The Federal Court has held that the mere fact that the Act of 1937 was passed by the Lower House before 1st April 1937 will not take away the operation by the new Constitution Act over it. Thus the result of this recent decision is that Hindu widows cannot have the benefit of the Act in respect of cash, movable and immovable property except agricultural land in the provinces.

INDIA'S SACRED SHRINES & CITIES

This book gives a vivid account of Important Cities and Sacred Shrines in India, together with the history and legend connected with them. An attempt is made to cover notable Shrines and Cities all over British India and the Indian States as well. It will be found indispensable not only to the pious pilgrim but to the foreign tourist interested in art and architecture. But it is no mere guide book for the pilgrim tourist only. It is literature of a novel kind, making available to the English-reading public the rich treasures of the *sthal purana*, with copious descriptions of places and temple architecture.

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G. A. Natesan & Co., Publishers, Madras.

INDIAN AFFAIRS

By "AN INDIAN JOURNALIST"

Mr. Jinnah misleads the Muslim League

THE Madras Session of the Muslim League gave Mr. Jinnah yet another opportunity to make the most of himself and his League. With a keen sense of the dramatic but with utter lack of humour, he claimed for the League a position analogous to the Grand Moghul. Of its achievements he said unblushingly that nothing better was done "since the fall of the Moghul Empire". That is thoroughly characteristic of the man. Mr. Jinnah spent over two hours denouncing all and sundry. Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru is a "political orphan". "One obsession about Sir T. B. Sapru" said Mr. Jinnah, "was that he regarded himself as a man of supreme intellect who alone could rescue the country in the event of a supreme danger." This is unbeatable as a piece of downright self-portraiture. The Maha Sabha was an "incurable and hopeless organisation". And, of course, no word is strong enough to condemn the Congress which was "waiting for the war to break out, "to wrench power from the British Government to crush the Muslims and the Minorities". And

satyagraha is a weapon of coercion—and black mailing the British who are, in a tight corner, to surrender and concede the Congress demand The Muslims know that if the Congress demand is conceded it will mean complete destruction of the Muslims.

This is thoroughly mischievous. Was there ever such a travesty of facts and reason? Surely, Mr. Jinnah could have shown more respect to his Islamic audience than this scant regard for their common sense.

And what was the purport of his two-hour harangue? To divide and dissect the country into a number of independent principalities.

The goal of the All-India Muslim League was to establish completely independent States in the north, west and eastern zones of India with full control over finance, defence and foreign affairs, communications, currency, exchange, etc.

Not content with Pakistan, Mr. Jinnah throws a bait to other communalists, and a separate Dravidiathan is offered to the foolishly to come into his parlour. It is astonishing that at a time when the danger to small nations is so evident, sensible people should be found to listen to this suicidal counsel. Yet it was the same Mr. Jinnah who proved himself a stalwart nationalist and a downright opponent of communalism in any shape or form. Admirers of Mr. Jinnah prefer to remember his uncompromising words in the Central Assembly:

I stand here with a clear conscience and I say that I am a nationalist first, a nationalist second and a nationalist last. Whether you are a Mussalman or a Hindu, for God's sake do not import the discussion of communal matters into this House which we desire should become a real national parliament and set an example to the outside world.

Forgetting his own past, Mr. Jinnah has now chosen to set a different example by his new gospel of disintegration.

His Pakistan, if left unchecked, is likely to develop into a great menace. No one knows what it means. And it is not the public only that is ignorant of the details of the scheme. Mr. Jinnah himself is not sure of his own mind and no two members of the League have the same notion of what is meant by the slogan—Pakistan or Death.

MAY 1941]

INDIAN AFFAIRS

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The Late Maharaja of Cochin

The passing of H. H. Sir Sri Rama Varma of Cochin at the great age of 80 removes a benevolent and kindly ruler from the sphere of his labours. His Highness succeeded to the *gadi* in March 1932 and had endeared himself to his people by his learning and simplicity and deep religious faith. The most notable feature of his regime was the inauguration of a scheme of reforms devised by his able Dewan Sir Shanmukham Chetty, by which certain departments are entrusted to the care of a popular Minister nominated from among the elected members of the Cochin Legislative Council.

Prince Kerala Varma, the Elaya Raja, who now succeeds to the throne in his 77th year, is reputed to be a good scholar and physician of no mean standing. In full accord with the traditions of the Royal House of Cochin, His Highness lives a simple and austere life and has shown marked interest in many schemes of welfare work.

The Metropolitan's Warning

Dr. Foss Westcott, Metropolitan of India, in a statement to the Press points out that satyagraha is not being offered because Nazism and the principles for which it stands is approved of, but because the employment of force to restrain evil is regarded as wrong, and Indian opinion was not consulted before this step was taken.

While recognising that, under the existing form of Government, the declaration of war was legitimate, I, with many others, regret it was not found possible in some way to consult India.

In truly Christian spirit, Dr. Westcott calls on his fellow-countrymen in India to help cement the Indo-British connection.

We seem to have reached a stage when the long connexion between Britain and India is in danger of being dissolved in a flood of mutual recrimination and misunderstanding.

Surely, we as citizens of a free country, who are fighting for the maintenance of freedom, recognise the right of Indians to determine their own future position.

Dr. Tagore's Birthday Message

Dr. Rabindranath Tagore was the recipient of numerous messages of congratulation from far and near on the occasion of his 80th birthday. The poet and sage, Tagore holds a unique position among the celebrities of our time and his birthday message, couched in words of ringing eloquence, is a timely call to India and the world to retrace the path of glory we have lost. Analysing his own experiences, Dr. Tagore speaking at Santiniketan recalled how in his earlier days he was an admirer of the British people. The bitter experience of later years has made him revise many of his old opinions.

The poet felt that the blackest evils that had come in the wake of British administration was much more than the rulers' neglect and apathy to provide the minimum amenities of civilised existence. Their failure was nowhere more apparent than in the way in which they had "contrived to divide Indians among themselves".

The pity of it all lay in the fact that now, perhaps, they wanted to lay the blame at the door of Indian society.

This culmination of Indian history would never have been possible if communalism and provincialism and lack of mutual faith were not sedulously encouraged to grow to their present vicious form by some secret conclave holding the highest responsibilities in the system of administration.

Making a comparative study of Indians along with other Asiatic nations, Dr. Tagore held that we are in no way inferior to the Japanese, either in intellect or capacity. But our rulers have established what they call the Government of 'law and order', or in other words a policeman's administration. It is now no longer possible for us to retain any respect for the mockery civilisation which believes in ruling by force and has no faith in freedom at all.

By their miserly denial of all that is best in their civilisation by withholding true human relationship from Indians, the English have effectively closed for us all paths to progress.

Mr. Churchill's Tonic Broadcast

"In order to win this war, Hitler must either conquer this Island by invasion or cut the ocean life-line which joins us with the United States," said Mr. Winston Churchill broadcasting to the Empire. He continued:

Never in our long history have we been held in such admiration and regard across the Atlantic sea. In the long run, the action of the United States will be dictated, not by methodical calculations of profit and loss but by moral sentiments.

Referring to the Balkans, the Prime Minister said:

In mortal peril, Greece turned to us for succour, and we could not say them nay. There are rules against that kind of thing and to break them would be fatal to our honour, to the honour of the British Empire without which we could neither hope nor deserve to win.

It happened that divisions available best suited for the task in Greece were from New Zealand and Australia and only about half the troops who took part come from the mother country. German propaganda is trying to make bad blood between Britain and Australia over this, but I shall leave it to Australia to deal with.

We must now expect war in the Mediterranean to become more fierce, varied and wide-spread. He said:

Nothing that is happening now is comparable in gravity to what we passed through last year. Nothing that can happen in the East is comparable with what is happening in the West.

Germans in Egypt

The Egyptian frontier was crossed at several points in the Sollum area by the enemy with whom British light forces remained in contact, harassing advance.

The crossing of the Egyptian frontier by the Axis forces was made by two motorised columns, believed to be largely composed of Italians. They advanced eastward, south of the escarpment which runs to the sea at Sollum.

Spanish Intervention

It is learnt, as we go to Press, that Senor Suner, the Spanish Foreign Minister, is making preparations to declare Spain openly on the side of the Axis.

It is revealed that an attack on Gibraltar will be made in the first place by the Spaniards only, but that Germany will declare herself bound by the Tripartite Pact to go to their aid.

German troops are already reported to be concentrated both in the Bayonne area and at several points in the Pyrenees.

The United States Ambassador in Madrid has warned Suner that the United States would regard any move towards Spanish belligerence with the deepest disapproval and would take whatever measures seemed necessary, including possible despatch of United States warships to African waters.

The Negus in Addis Ababa

Green, gold and red emblazoned with the Lion of Judah, the flag of Haile Selassie flutters again at the masthead of Parliament House in Addis Ababa. The officer commanding the Imperial troops addressed representatives of the leading races of Abyssinia before the ceremonial hoisting of the flag. The ceremony was held at the old Parliament House of the Emperor Menelik standing on the summit of one of the city's seven hills.

A proclamation signed by the Emperor in the heart of the Gojjam mountains on March 17, was read empowering the British Commanders in consultation with Abyssinian leaders to issue notices relating to the prosecution of the war.

Soviet-Jap Neutrality Pact

A Soviet-Japanese Neutrality Pact was signed at Moscow on April 13.

Under Article 1 of the Russo-Japanese Neutrality Pact, the two parties agree to maintain peaceful and friendly relations between them and to respect each other's territorial integrity and inviolability.

Article 2 provides that in case either party becomes the object of military action by one or more third parties, the other party shall observe neutrality throughout the entire period of such a conflict.

Article 3 provides that the Pact shall come into force from the day of completion of ratification by both parties and shall remain in force for 5 years, after which it will be automatically prolonged for 5 years, unless one of the parties gives notice to abrogate one year before its expiration.

Article 4 provides for the ratification as soon as possible and exchange of ratification documents at Tokio.

A joint declaration issued at the same time as the signature says that Japan respects the territorial integrity and inviolability of the peoples of the Republic of Mongolia, while the Soviet Union respects the territorial integrity and inviolability of the Empire of Manchukuo.

U. S. and the War

President Roosevelt stated that United States' Warships may enter combat zones if necessary in the interests of the defence of the Western Hemisphere.

The probability of a German-American clash as a result of the extension of the United States ocean patrol system is foreseen by the influential Tokyo newspaper:

If the United States intends to use the patrol or convoy system, there are many dangers. In view of the large theatre of German blockade operations against Britain with submarines, aeroplanes and warships, the probability of a clash with American warships is great.

The Pope's Easter Appeal

The Pope appealed to the belligerents to refrain from using ever more deadly instruments of war in an Easter broadcast to the world on Sunday the 13th April. The Pope said:

Would that all belligerents, who have human hearts, feel pity for the sufferings of the civil population, for the unmarried women and children, for the sick and aged, often exposed to greater dangers of war than soldiers at the front. We supplicate all belligerents to refrain from using ever more deadly instruments of war. Every new weapon of war inevitably results in a counter weapon on the part of the adversary of even greater effectiveness. Already to-day one must lament the fact that repeatedly limits have been exceeded of what might be permissible in a just war. Would not an increasing embitterment in the use of the means of attack soon transform war into an inconceivable horror? Let us pray for peace for all, not a peace of oppression and destruction of nations, but for a peace which, guaranteeing the honour of all nations, may satisfy their vital necessities and the legitimate rights of all. To our prayers to God, we have always added our labours.

Gen. Smuts on the War

"Germany is winning victories, but she is losing the war," declared General J. C. Smuts, Premier of South Africa, in a broadcast from Capetown, in which he emphasised that the enemy's successful diversions in the Balkans were only mere incidents compared with the fundamental issue of the Battle of Britain.

If Britain and her sea power survive the attack Hitler has lost the war and not even the prospect of a stalemate will be left to him. That is the crux of the war—the truth which dominates everything else. In spite of his spectacular diversions in various parts of Europe, Hitler has so far failed to face this real issue. When he does face up to that issue, he will be up against his real fate and if he funks it, he is equally lost.

DIARY OF THE MONTH

- April 1. Nazi ultimatum to Yugoslavia.
—Asmara, capital of Eritrea is captured by British and Indian forces.
- April 2. Cordell Hall rejects German and Italian demands for the release of seized Axis ships.
—Mrs. Vijayalakshmi Pandit is released.
- April 3. U. S. demands recall of Italian Naval attache.
—Count Teleki, Hungarian Premier, commits suicide.
- April 4. *Coup d'etat* in Iraq.
—British troops evacuate Benghazi.
- April 5. Text of Sapru memorandum to the Viceroy is published.
—German invasion of Yugoslavia and Greece.
- April 6. Addis Ababa falls.
—Soviet-Yugoslavia Pact is signed.
- April 7. Viceroy meets Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru for discussion of Bombay Conference resolution.
—Sir Kingsley Wood presents fresh taxation proposals.
- April 8. President Roosevelt assures King Peter of Yugoslavia all possible aid.
- April 9. Mr. Churchill praises the exploits of Indian troops in Africa.
—British troops occupy Massawa.
- April 10. U. S. establishes air bases in Greenland.
—Germans proclaim new Croate State.
- April 11. President Roosevelt re-opens the Red Sea to American shipping.
—British troops establish contact with Nazis in Greece.
- April 12. Hungary invades Yugoslavia.
—Muslim League meets at Madras, Mr. M. A. Jinnah presiding.
- April 13. The Maharaja of Cochin is dead.
—Soviet-Japanese Neutrality Pact is signed.
- April 14. Mr. Jinnah, presiding over the Muslim League in Madras, denounces Congress and reiterates Pakistan.
—Dr. Tagore's birthday is celebrated.
- April 15. Russia informs Marshal Chiang that her policy of aid to China is not affected by her pact with Japan.
- April 16. Earthquake in Mexico.
—London severely bombed by the Luftwaffe.
- April 17. Greeks evacuate Albania.
—Severe fighting in Greece.
- April 18. British warning against bombing of Athens and Cairo.
—R. A. F. batters Berlin.
- April 19. France withdraws from the League.
—Greek Premier commits suicide.
- April 20. Dr. Rajendra Prasad replies to Mr. Jinnah's demand for Pakistan.
—Riot in Ahmedabad.
- April 21. Gandhiji reaffirms his faith in non-violence and refuses to call off civil disobedience.
- April 22. Mr. Amery moves resolution in the Commons to extend the Governors' rule by another year.
- April 23. Greek army surrenders.
—Allies resist Nazi advance.
- April 24. Axis-Greece Armistice signed. Col. Knox declares that U. S. will convoy ships to Britain.
- April 25. Communal disturbances in Bombay. Police open fire.
—President Roosevelt criticises appeasers.
- April 26. Axis forces cross Egyptian frontier.
- April 27. Germans enter Athens.
—Italians defeated at Dessie.
- April 28. Sollum is in enemy hands. Col. Lindberg resigns Air Corps Commission.
- April 29. Report of riots in three North Indian cities.
—Sapru Committee replies to Mr. Amery.
- April 30. The U. S. warns Vichy to remain neutral.
—German-Spanish negotiations; threat to Gibraltar.



The WORLD of BOOKS



THE DECLINE OF RELIGION. By C. P. Martin.
George Allen & Unwin. Price 10sh. 6d.

Dr. Martin's analysis of the causes for the decline of religion, and his able plea for the defence and revival of the Christian faith, is a very timely publication. Official Christianity no longer cuts the ice in the modern world. Religions specially of the denominational variety seem to have no future at all.

Dr. Martin, the Professor of Anatomy that he is, has not failed to take note of the invaluable help science has rendered mankind, nor the unbridgeable limitation from which it suffers. He laments for the attitude that has made science the monopoly of human reason. He holds the view that the triumphs of science should not blind us into the belief that its reportings are the only truths that Reality has. There are regions other than the physical, which science can never hope to treat in a satisfactory manner. Such realms belong to the region of Faith.

Religion is an entirely autonomous realm with a mystic tendency. Unique events and specific disclosures by the Divine are characteristics of genuine religion. Such incidents can never be explained in terms of scientific categories. The two chapters in the book under the heads: "Science" and "the Basis of Reasoning" are very well written and they deserve the attention of every unrepentant rationalist, who sets a great store by science. Dr. Martin gives the lie direct to the statement that "what science cannot teach mankind cannot know".

One would have liked Dr. Martin to draw bolder and more general conclusions than those derived by him. His premises warrant more than he has chosen to infer. He concludes the book with the note of a sincere Fundamentalist of the Christian faith. "Christ is the Light of the world; and that beside *Him* there is no other." The first part of the statement is a great truth; and the second is the cause of all other troubles. The refreshing candour and originality of the book ensures the book a warm welcome in liberal evangelical circles.

THE ENGLISH NURSERY SCHOOL. By A. F. M. Abdul Huq, M.A. Published by the General Printers and Publishers Ltd., Dharamtolla Street, Calcutta. Price Rs. 2.
This book provides much useful and reliable information regarding the Nursery School Education in England, collected first-hand by the author during his tour in England in 1938. The author gives a brief retrospect of the Nursery School system from the starting of Owen's Infant School in 1816 in Scotland, dwells on the necessity for nursery schools, gives in detail the aims and functions of such schools and the day's programme of life and activities from 8 A.M. to 5 P.M. in such a school and ends up by supplying details of building and equipment required to start a nursery school. The Appendices contain a syllabus for nursery schools in India, a time-table and budgets for such schools as suggested by the All-India Women's Conference. An invaluable book on Child Education for India.

THE VIJNANA DIPIKA. By Padmapadacharya. Edited by Umesh Mishra, M.A., D.Litt. Senate House, Allahabad.

This first volume of the Sanskrit publications of the Allahabad University is a rare work and has not been as well known as it should be, although the author's name appears in 'the Digvijaya' of Sankara, and he himself was the first Acharya of the Puri Govardhana Mutt and was recognised as an authority both on Vedanta and Tantra.

The work belongs to the Advaita School of Sankara. The publication has also an unusual feature, namely, a summary of the book for those who cannot comprehend the original. In addition to the usual technique for the annihilation of Karma, this treatise discourses at length on two methods, namely, the method of inaction and the method of action without a desire for results. Having established the difference between Sanchita Karma and Prarabdha Karma, and the several modes of overcoming such Karma, the book terminates with a vindication of Vaishnavaitic practices like the worship of the Saligrama, the fasting on Ekadasi days, and the utilisation of Tulasi and Aswatha as aids to worship.

There is the usual discussion as to the methods for the purification of the mind, including the repeating of the Pranava and the reciting of the Purushasuktha and Easwarasuktha. In the true tradition of Hindu Bakthas, Padmapada also extols the consecration of Siva's Jyothirlinga as a means of obtaining liberation on the part of those who cannot practice Yoga. Whilst dilating on the Gnana Yoga, the treatise realises the limitation of human faculties and describes the ladders by which humanity has to rise to the Absolute.

PREPARATION FOR CITIZENSHIP. By Sophia Wadia. International Book House, Bombay. Price Re. 1.

This little book consists of three lectures delivered at the Mysore University in 1937 and published in the pages of the *Aryan Path* during 1940. They are provided with a Foreword by Rabindranath Tagore. The first lecture entitled, "Democracy A Spiritual Principle," attributes the failure of European democracy to its lack of a spiritual basis, which may be found in the Upanishads and the Bhagavad-gita of the Hindus. The second lecture, which treats of the duty of the citizen, is so to discipline himself in the earning of his livelihood as to present his mental and moral worth for the benefit of the State. The third lecture shows how in all ways the recognition of a spiritual basis alters the complexion of the business of a State. The greatest value of these lectures is, perhaps, in the effort to base the conceptions of State, citizen and democracy on the highest philosophical books of the Hindus.

STUDIES IN INTERNATIONAL LAW. By R. K. Gupta. Kitab Mahal, Allahabad.

The author has to be congratulated on bringing out, perhaps, the smallest book on the subject. The book does not pretend to contain an exhaustive analysis, but is an attempt to acquaint the reader with the main principles and is sure to meet the demands of the student appearing for an examination. The author has dealt with the principal topics in an analytical manner and has also extracted the opinions of eminent jurists. Although there is no discussion of many of the intricate problems, the author has given sufficient materials to provoke in any general reader a desire to understand the subject further.

THE TRAVANCORE TRIBES AND CASTES, THE ABORIGINES OF TRAVANCORE, VOL. III. By L. A. Krishna Iyer, Officer in charge of Ethnographic Survey, Trivandrum, 1941.

The primitive tribes of Travancore display an increasing diminution of animism as their creed and a growing infusion of foreign blood and new ideas. On the basis of a careful analysis of anthropometric data, short stature, low forehead, flat nose and dark complexion are held to be the characteristic features of these primitive tribes. Our author cleverly examines the origins of these tribes according to the light shed by anthropometry and detects the existence of a *Negrito* strain in some of them, and of a *proto-Australoid* element in some others. The megalithic monuments

discovered in the High Ranges of the State is held to indicate a loss of culture from the past. The enforcement of exogamy among these tribes, groups being strictly exogamous within each tribe, exists along with the classificatory system of relationship. Monogamy is widely prevalent, fraternal polyandry has survived to some extent, and the *levirate* and the *sororate* exist in a complementary manner among several tribes. The prevailing taboos are examined, as well as the religious and funeral customs and the effect of the impact of superior culture on the solidity of tribal life. As R. R. Marret has observed in his Foreword to the work, the author has ably succeeded in imparting to his scientific study elements of sympathy and breadth of outlook.

BOOKS RECEIVED

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SIKH CEREMONIES. By Sirdar Sir Jogendra Singh. With an Introduction by Raja Sir Daljeet Singh. International Book House, Bombay.

PENOLOGY IN INDIA. The Indian Publications Ltd., Fort, Bombay.

VIEWS AND REVIEWS. By Sri Aurobindo. Sri Aurobindo Library, 12, Kondi Chetti Street, George Town, Madras.

THE FUTURE OF INDIA. By Sisir Kumar Mitra. Sri Aurobindo Library, Madras.

LECTURES ON JURISPRUDENCE. By K. R. R. Sastry and Ram Kishore Gupta. Kitabistan, Allahabad.

ANNIE BESANT: AS WOMAN AND LEADER. Reminiscences of Sri Prakasa. The Theosophical Publishing House, Adyar, Madras.

THE NEW WORLD ORDER SERIES No. 1. By C. Parameshwar Pillai, Pt. Omprakash Sastri. Vedic Ashram, Lahore.

SRI MOOKA PANCHASATI. Text in Devanagari and Translation in Tamil. Published by D. Balasubramania Iyer. B. G. Paul & Co., Madras.

PARAMOUNTCY AND STATE SUBJECTS. By K. R. R. Sastry, M.A., B.L. (Kirti Mandir Lecture) Baroda.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE HEALTH OF THE ARMY IN INDIA, 1939. Statistics Vol. II. Part II. Manager of Publications, New Delhi.

AN INQUIRY INTO MEANING AND TRUTH. By Bertrand Russell. George Allen & Unwin.

THE PROBLEMS OF LOGIC. By Andrew Paul Ushenko. George Allen & Unwin.

VEERASHAIVA WELTANGHUNUNG. By Shri Kumarswamiji, B.A. Published by V. R. Koppal, M.A. Navakalyanamath, Dharwar.

AGRICULTURAL MARKETING IN INDIA. Manager of Publications, New Delhi.

ASHRAMS: Past and Present. By P. Chenchiah, V. Chakkarai, and A. N. Sudarisanam. Indian Christian Book Club, Kilpauk, Madras.

MODERN ECONOMIC PROBLEMS. Edited by Prof. Baljit Singh. Bulletin No. 1, Economics Club, D. A. V. College, Cawnpore.

THE SYMBOL THAT SPEAKS. By Kison Chandra Mazumdar. Arthur Stockwell Ltd., 29, Ludgate Hill, E.C. 4.

TALES OF PEACOCK. By Hilda Seligman. Bodley Head, London.

RADIO RECEPTION IN THEORY AND PRACTICE. By V. K. Saksena. Industry Publishers, Calcutta.

BENGAL SWEETS. By Mrs. J. Halder, Industry Publishers Ltd. Calcutta.

LALUBHAI SAMALDAS. By S. Natarajan. Yeshanand Publications Ltd., Hornby Road, Bombay.

Hyderabad

PUBLIC UTILITY-WELFARE

A sum of Rs. 31 lakhs was spent by the Court of Wards on the public utility and welfare works according to the annual administration report of the Court of Wards Department for the year 1939. The main items of the work undertaken were the construction of civil dispensaries, provision of wells, restoration of tanks and the construction of primary schools. The Court of Wards at present maintains 125 schools where 6,293 pupils are receiving instructions.

At the beginning of the year there were 45 estates under the management of the Court of Wards, but in the latter part of the year two estates were released.

DEATH OF NIZAM'S MOTHER

It is with regret that we record the death of the mother of His Exalted Highness the Nizam of Hyderabad, on the morning of the 14th instant. His Exalted Highness, in a moving funeral oration, said that she proved herself not only his own mother but the mother of all the people in the State.

HYDERABAD DOCTOR HONOURED

The Syndicate of the Calcutta University has decided to admit Dr. S. Raghavendra Rao, of the Hyderabad State Medical Service, to the degree of Doctor of Science of Public Health. This is the first time the University has awarded this degree to any candidate.

HYDERABAD CHAMBER

At the recent annual general meeting of the Hyderabad Chamber of Commerce, Khan Bahadur Ahmed Alladin was elected Chairman for the third successive year. Raja Panalal Gitty was elected Vice-Chairman.

Mysore

AGRICULTURAL FEATURES

The Agricultural Department has helped the Mysore riyat to earn more and spend more. The efforts of this Department in evolving improved strains by scientific methods of plant-breeding and later trying the laboratory results in raiyats' holdings, in order to introduce them into general cultivation, have been attended with marked success, thus improving the economic condition of the Mysore riyat.

With the rapid growth of several industries in the State, the Department has encouraged the riyat to grow useful economic plants in order to make his fields yield more. Sugarcane cultivation has become a by-word for prosperity in Mandya. The establishment of the sugar industry has brought in an increased income to millions of agriculturists spread over a wide area in the State. The Irwin Canal, the principal water source, is designed to irrigate 120,000 acres, so that wet crops such as rice and semi-wet crops such as sugar-cane can be grown. Experiments in the cultivation of sugar-cane have resulted in the evolution of better varieties of cane, and several canes far superior to the existing varieties are under bulk multiplication.

MYSOREAN HONOURED

On Sunday the 6th April, a distinguished Son of Mysore, Dewan Bahadur K. Ramaswamy of Bombay, was honoured on the conferment of the title of "Rajakarya Prasakta" by H. H. the Maharaja of Mysore. Sir Mirza Ismail, the Dewan of Mysore, who unveiled his portrait at the Maternity Home gifted by the Dewan Bahadur, paid a graceful tribute to the benefactor.

Baroda

BARODA AND THE WAR

Sir V. T. Krishnamachariar, Dewan of Baroda, presiding over the second session of the Baroda State Legislative Assembly for the current year, observed:

"We are all following the course of the war with keen and anxious interest. Coming to our own war efforts, His Highness the Maharaja's second donation of £50,000 has been devoted to an object directly connected with the defence of India and applied to the purchase of a trawler for mine-sweeping and submarine detection purposes for the Royal Indian Navy to be named 'Baroda'. The second infantry continues to be on war duty and the training of the mechanical transport sections is in progress.

ECONOMIC LEGISLATION

The following is a brief summary of the operation of economic legislation in the State during the year 1939-40:—

1. There are three protective laws in force in the State concerning agriculturists.

- The Rent Regulation Act.
- The Debt Conciliation Act, and
- Backward Classes Khata Land Protection Act.

2. The Rent Regulation Act has been in operation in Baroda and Navsari districts. It is applied to specified backward communities.

3. The debt Conciliation Act has been applied to 14 talukas of the State.

4. The Debt Conciliation Boards dealt with 361 cases in 1939-40. The Act is to be extended to all areas covered by the operations of land mortgage banks.

5. The Backward Classes Khata Land Protection Act is applied to 8 talukas. The Raniparaj people have been particularly benefited by the operation of the Act.

Travancore

TRAVANCORE DEWAN IN COCHIN

The need for various divisions of the Hindu-fold rallying together under a common banner and organising and consolidating their energies on healthy lines for the mutual benefit and for the progress and prosperity of the country at large was stressed by Sir C. P. Ramaswami Iyer, Dewan of Travancore, in his reply to a deputation of Ezhavas, which waited upon him at Ram Mohan Palace, Cochin.

Sir Ramaswami Aiyar brought home to the deputationists how the two States of Travancore and Cochin, with common traditions, cultural heritage and aspirations, stood to gain by collaborating with each other.

TRIVANDRUM X-RAY INSTITUTE

The King George Fifth Silver Jubilee Memorial X-Ray Institute and Radium Institute of the General Hospital, Trivandrum, was opened by the Dewan of Travancore, Sir C. P. Ramaswami Iyer, on March 10.

The Institutes are financed from Travancore's share of the King George Fifth Silver Jubilee Memorial Fund.

TRAVANCORE RULER'S GIFT TO R.A.F.

Lord Beaverbrook, Minister for Aircraft Production, acknowledges with gratitude the gift of £11,250 from the Maharaja of Travancore for the purchase of two Spitfires which will be named 'Travancore I and II.'

TRAVANCORE UNIVERSITY

The Calcutta and Allahabad Universities have recognised the degrees and diplomas of the University of Travancore on a basis of reciprocity.

Cochin

THE COCHIN PORT

Sir R. K. Shanmukham Chetti, the Dewan of Cochin, unveiled, on March 5, in the Administration Block, Willingdon Island, a memorial tablet marking the completion of the Cochin Harbour works, in the presence of the representatives of the Madras and Travancore Governments, the Cochin Chamber of Commerce and the various shipping and commercial interests concerned.

Sir Robert Bristow, C.I.E., the Administrative Officer and Harbour Engineering-in-Chief, gave a brief *resume* of the progress of the Cochin Harbour Works from the inception. So far the outlay on the great project came to Rs. 192 lakhs and with the aerodrome work which was now in progress, the expenditure would be over Rs. 2 crores. In twenty years the trade of the Port had risen from 400,000 tons to 800,000 tons.

Kashmir

HARIJANS IN TEMPLES

About 2,000 Harijans of Ranbirsinghpore (Jammu), who had declared that they would leave the Hindu fold, have been prevailed upon by leaders of the Arya Samaj and Hindu-Sikh Naujawan Sabha, Jammu, to give up the idea.

The leaders, it is further understood, assured them that their grievances in respect of social, religious and civic rights would be removed.

His Highness the Maharaja of Kashmir has already thrown open all temples and public wells to Harijans in the State and provided a number of other facilities for them.

NEW LAW IN JAMMU

On April 8, the State Assembly of Kashmir and Jammu passed into law a Bill to abolish polyandrous marriages among Buddhists.

Udaipur

BIRTHDAY ANNOUNCEMENTS

On the auspicious occasion of the birthday of His Highness the Maharana Sahib, three announcements are made. In the first notification announcement is made of the desire of His Highness to establish a Legislative Assembly with a large elective element. The Government will shortly appoint a Committee to draw up a scheme to give effect to His Highness' wishes. Order has also been passed to abolish Batawali tax. The third notification refers to the removal of the ban hitherto imposed on the Mewar Praja Mandal subject to the Society being registered under the Mewar Societies Act as soon as it is passed into law.

Indore

RECRUITING IN INDORE STATE

In accordance with the expressed wishes of His Highness the Maharaja Holkar that the war activities of the State should be increased and that the army should be further strengthened, recruiting to His Highness' Army is now open to able-bodied men from among Dhangars, Marathas, Brahmins, Thakurs, Rajputs, Ahirs, Jats, Gujars, Sikhs and Mussalmans.

Nabha

H. H. MAHARAJA PRATAP SINGH

An investiture darbar was held at Nabha, on March 5, when His Highness Maharaja Pratap Singh, of Nabha, was invested with ruling powers.

To increase the State's contribution to the war effort, His Highness announced further expansion of the State forces and further investment of Rs. 8 lakhs in defence bonds and a cash donation of Rs. 2 lakhs for three fighter planes, to be named 'Nabha 1, 2, and 3'.

INDIANS OVERSEAS

North Africa

INDIAN TROOPS IN N. AFRICA

The Prime Minister, Mr. Winston Churchill, has sent the following personal message to H. E. the Viceroy:

The whole Empire has been stirred by the achievements of the Indian forces in Eritrea.

For me, the story of ardour and perseverance with which they scaled and finally conquered the precipitous heights of Keren recalls memories of the North-West Frontier of long years ago and it is as one who has had the honour to serve in the field with Indian soldiers from all parts of Hindustan, as well as in the name of His Majesty's Government, that I ask Your Excellency to convey to them and to the whole Indian Army the pride and admiration with which we have followed their heroic exploits.

Many deeds of gallantry by Indian troops during the operations, which led to the fall of Massawa, are described in despatches received from Eritrea, says a Press Note.

"The morale of the Italians began to give way under the relentless battering to which they had been subjected. The Indian troops were quick to seize their advantage and to attempt actions against odds which, in normal times, would have been extremely hazardous.

On several occasions, enemy machine-gun positions concealed behind wire-entanglements were taken at the bayonet point. One sepoy took such a post single-handed by crawling close enough to throw hand-grenades.

Another Havildar led a detachment over a bullet-swept area and a mine-field, to cut off 500 Italian naval ratings who were holding one sector of the line.

During the attack on the port, an Indian Company led by a Subedar succeeded in rounding up approximately 200 prisoners, who were preparing to make a stand with machine-guns.

Indian troops in carriers were the first to enter Massawa in spite of the mine-fields which crowded the entrance.

East Africa

INDIA'S TRADE WITH EAST AFRICA

The possibility of Indian manufacturers of chinaware and porcelainware, cutlery, silicate of soda, sulphuric acid and drugs, medicinal preparations, capturing a significant share of the trade in these commodities in East Africa, is hinted at by the Indian Government Trade Commissioner at Mombasa, in his Monthly Report for November 1940, dealing with openings for Indian commodities.

The Report states that consequent upon the outbreak of hostilities in Europe, most of the continental source of supply have been entirely shut out, and in view of the difficulties experienced in obtaining regular supplies from other markets, merchants in these territories have recently evinced an increasing interest in establishing connections with manufacturers in India, with a view to obtaining their requirements in respect of these commodities.

The principal sources of supply of crockery have been the United Kingdom, Germany and Japan. India can hope to capture a good share of the market previously enjoyed by Germany and Japan.

The chief sources of supply of cutlery in the past have been the United Kingdom, Germany, Japan and the United States of America. The market previously enjoyed by Germany and a fair share in the trade enjoyed by Japan could be captured by Indian manufacturers.

The United Kingdom, Germany, Belgium, and the United States of America have been the chief suppliers of drugs and medicines.

Malaya

INDIANS IN MALAYA

"The Indian community in Malaya follow with deep interest the events in India and the recent visit of prominent Indian leaders to that country have contributed greatly to their political awakening," observed Mr. C. S. Venkatachar, I.C.S., Agent to the Government of India in Malaya, who has come back to India after serving his term of appointment in Malaya.

Interviewed by the press, Mr. Venkatachar said that the cost of living in Malaya was gradually rising but wages had not kept pace with it. The Malayan Government themselves granted to workers getting less than one dollar a day, a cost of living allowance of three dollars or a daily rate of twelve cents. Recently, Indian labourers in Klang district demanded a wage of seventy cents for men and sixty cents for women on rubber estates and put forward the contention that the cost of living had risen considerably. As a result of a strike, the employers conceded the extra five cents and gave in all sixty cents for men and fifty cents for women.

"Two important questions the Malayan Indian community are deeply interested in," Mr. Venkatachar pointed out. "One is as regards educational facilities for Indians resident and domiciled in Malaya and the other is the status of Indians, particularly in the Malayan States. On these two matters, Indian opinion expects full support both from the Government of India and the people of India."

INDIAN POPULATION IN MALAYA

The presumed Indian labour population in Malaya at the end of 1939, including dependents, was 595,926. This includes 418,770 (288,514 workers and 135,256 dependents) employed in estates, mines, factories, Government and Public departments.

Ceylon

EMIGRATION OF UNSKILLED LABOUR

In the Central Legislative Assembly, Sir Frederick James, Madras, raised the question of the ban on the emigration of unskilled labour to Ceylon.

Mr. J. D. Tyson, Education Secretary, explained that the ban on emigration had caused hardship in a certain number of cases. It affected both Indian labourers held in India by the ban and Indian labourers in Ceylon when the ban was imposed. As regards the former, the Commissioner of Labour, Madras, had been authorised to grant exemptions from the ban in genuine and deserving cases of hardship, and the number of labourers and their families affected was not very large.

It was not possible to estimate how many labourers in Ceylon had been affected. The Madras Government had issued instructions in June 1940, relating to certain exemptions in the case of families, dependents, minor children, etc. The operation of the ban had not been more stringent of late.

Exemptions were within the discretion of the Commissioner of Labour, Madras, but were not ordinarily granted to labourers desirous of visiting India for purely holiday purposes. The Government of India were willing to consider any specific representations that might be made to them from any source.

South Africa

THE ASIATIC BILL

The Capetown Assembly passed the second reading of the Asiatics (Transvaal Land and Trading) Amendment Bill, a corollary of the resolution of April 9, according to the terms of which certain areas would be released from the restrictive portions of the Gold Law, and coloured persons would be able to occupy and own land in these areas.



TOPICS From PERIODICALS



THE BATTLE OF THE ATLANTIC

The Naval position to the westward of the English Channel has developed into a severe struggle, which has come to be described as "The Battle of the Atlantic". In an area lying to the eastward of a line between Vigo and the lonely islet of Rockall, says H. C. Ferraby in the *Nineteenth Century and After*:

We are seeing a repetition of the anti-submarine warfare of 1917-1918, but a repetition with important material differences. And from these arise difficulties for us that make the protection of our seaborne supplies even more complex than formerly. A year ago we had the position under control: in the intervening months the enemy has not only reinforced his material strength but has also, by his land campaign, achieved certain strategical advantages that were entirely lacking in the case of the Imperial German Navy of 1917.

That the position has worsened in this way cannot be ascribed to any shortcomings or failures on the part of the Naval Staff.

The additions to the enemy's flotillas were foreseen and the public warned bluntly to expect them. The capture by the enemy of naval bases on the Atlantic seaboard could not be foreseen and could certainly not be forestalled at the moment of the French capitulation. Consequently the enemy vessels engaged in commerce destruction are now based much nearer to the focal points of traffic than was the case with their forerunners in 1917, and the possibility of escape of surface raiders has been increased, since they can now start from the Bay of Biscay and avoid the former risk of detection on the long passage round the North of the Shetlands and Iceland.

Moreover, in the present war, and with the enemy enabled to use airfields in Western France, a marked increase in the menace of air attack against deep-sea convoys has occurred.

The German plan for blockade of Britain is not confined to the destruction of merchant shipping. It has, as a secondary

and complementary objective, the dislocation of Britain's ports and transport system.

It is not alone the local aerial bombardments that menace the usefulness of those ports: pressure of attack far away in the Atlantic is intended by the enemy to enforce on our convoys diversion from the south by making the Western Approaches to the English Channel too dangerous to be passed. For just as all the road traffic approaching a city must sooner or later converge on some focal junction of roads, so seaborne traffic must sooner or later come within a focal area of sea as it approaches the land. The Western Approaches—the sea route between Queenstown and Brest—form just such a focal point. Within them much of the drama of the 1914-1918 U-boat war was played out: scores of ships were sunk there, though mainly before the convoy system was in force. To-day the area is more infested by enemy forces than was possible at that time, and the dangers are greater.

There has of late been some criticism that the protective system requires overhauling and that more convoys should be employed to guide the vessels to the ports. But

our ultimate success in the Battle of the Atlantic will not be measured only by the number of small convoys that we move without loss, but by the total tonnage of supplies that reach the country. To cut the number of ships in each convoy now to twenty would halve our weekly intake, and there can be few in the country who would contend that such a result would be anything but a comfort and an aid to the enemy. For that, and worse, is the whole of his objective in the Battle of the Atlantic.

It must be emphasised once more that in this "battle", the Germans strategically are pursuing a secondary objective.

They are attacking the resources of their opponents and not the armed forces. The Battle of the Atlantic is the modern equivalent of Napoleon's Berlin Decrees, by which all British trade was to be strangled. And, be it remembered, the Berlin Decrees were a sequel to the failure to pursue the primary objective—the landing in England of the Army of Invasion and the destruction of Britain's armed might. Hitler's 'total blockade' is nothing novel. Despite his boasts that history has nothing to teach him, that he himself will write history in a new way, he is but repeating the methods of the former Tyrant of Europe. And history, to the very end of the struggle, will go on repeating itself.

JESUITS AND NAZIS

The *New Review* for March offers an elaborate discussion of the Jesuit discipline as distinguished from the Nazi order. The whole system and spirit of Jesuitism makes it totally at variance with Nazism.

Between the Jesuit Order and the Nazi Party, there is as much or as little resemblance as between a Rubens and a Picasso. Not only the inspiration but contour and colouring are in violent contrast.

In a general way, it may be said that religious orders are rather of the type of a constitutional monarchy, and self-appointed dictators are unknown among them; the head of the Order is elected and the general laws passed by an assembly of delegates called from all countries, the proceedings being controlled and ratified by the Holy See. The hierarchy of superiors corresponds to the executive administration of civil governments; obedience is due within the framework and the spirit of the laws duly passed and ratified. The vow of obedience, which is often made into a scarecrow, is rarely brought into play; a regular appeal to it would hardly agree with the very spirit of dedicated lives; willing horses do not need the whip. Needless to stress the absence of physical compulsion which would be enough to make a world of a difference with the jails and concentration camps of Fascists and Nazis.

Greater still is the contrast in training methods: it is even so great that no individual could at the same time be an authentic Jesuit and a genuine Nazi.

Leaving aside the religious content and purpose of doctrines, the two training schools stand at opposite poles. Nazi training makes for socialism, Jesuit training makes for personalism. The Nazi individual is supposed to merge his being and character into the great racial melting pot; whatever personality he may have must be drowned into the social magma; he has value exactly as far as he contributes to racial welfare and national-socialist efficiency, and he may be suppressed as soon as he becomes useless to the group.

But the founder of the Jesuit Order was a firm believer in the sacred character and the unique value of the human person.

Man should be trained not as a social digit but as a personal unit, not as an isolated world but as a person, that is to say, as a social individual. This urgent and universal need makes the Ignatian method very modern and commends it to the attention of all.

MADRAS AND THE NEW CONSTITUTION

The current number of the *Asiatic Review* publishes an interesting discussion on the working of the new constitution in Madras. The discussion is initiated by a paper on the above subject in the East India Association by Lord Erskine, ex-Governor of Madras, who has had personal experience of two Ministries—the Justice and Congress Ministries, who held sway over the Presidency during his tenure of office. When he came to Madras in November, 1934, the Justice Party was in office.

Now the Justice Party were in office for the bulk of the period between 1919 and 1937, and during those years they had put into force many measures calculated to further their avowed intentions of obtaining more openings for non-Brahmins. They had, amongst other things, established a system of communal rotation for entrants into the Provincial Services based on the numerical strength of the various castes and creeds, and this policy had been of great effect in redressing the main grievance that the Party had been formed to combat.

It may, therefore, be said that by 1937 the Justice Party had achieved most of the objectives for which it had come into being. As it was more a caste than an economic party, it was finding difficulty in putting forward a new policy on which all its members could agree; for though the various groups of which it was composed were all enthusiastic in supporting measures to break what they considered to be the Brahmin monopoly, once that had been done each section held different ideas as to what their future programme should be.

Thus in his opinion the Party had served its purpose and has now outlined its usefulness. Hence its failure in the subsequent General Election which sent the Congress to office with a resounding majority.

It is, therefore, not altogether surprising that the General Election of 1937 resulted in a great Congress victory. Thus the advent of the 1938 Government of India Act found the Madras

Presidency with the Congress Party in the enjoyment of a large majority in both Houses of the Legislature, and it was generally expected that they would at once accept office.

The Party was particularly happy in its leader, Mr. C. Rajagopalachari, who was asked to form the Government.

The Ministry was an able one and its leader was a remarkable man. Mr. Rajagopalachari is a Brahmin, a relation, by marriage, of Mr. Gandhi, an excellent speaker, and a person of very definite views. He was an energetic and hard-working Prime Minister, and his strength of character enabled him to carry out his ideas and to keep his colleagues well in hand. From the Governor's point of view also he was an admirable head of a Ministry, for though I may have had certain differences with him, those differences never led to any breach of our excellent personal relations; while his sincerity, ability, and readiness to compromise, where compromise was possible, enabled the Administration to be carried on with the minimum of friction.

The main achievements of the Congress Ministry, before they were forced to resign at the behest of the All-India Congress Committee, were the introduction of prohibition in certain mofussil districts, the reduction of the scales of pay for new entrants in the Provincial Services and the opening of the Temples of Madura and some other places to the Depressed classes.

Mr. H. S. L. Polak, who took part in the discussion, pointed out in the course of his observations:

Those who are familiar with the people of Madras will not have been surprised to learn that my friend, Mr. Rajagopalachari, had almost a resounding success in the Ministry over which he presided and in the work that he was in the short time able to accomplish. There is, as I learnt many years ago in South Africa, a very considerable amount of sound common sense in Madras in all the communities, and I think the lecturer would agree that Mr. Rajagopalachari does represent in a very eminent degree this element of practical common sense in the Madras character.

Winding up the debate, Lord Erskine felt there was little need or justification in future for a party based merely on

communal considerations. He did not see any reason for deploring with Sir Alfred Watson the defeat of the Justice Party.

Whether the future party will be on quite the same lines as the old Justice Party, I should hesitate to say. The Justice Party was definitely based on an anti-Brahmin principle. It may well have been that in 1919, when representative government started, it was essential that a party should be so based. I am not sure that that time has not gone. After all, the Justice Party were formed to break what they thought to be a Brahmin monopoly. There is little doubt it has been broken. . . .

The Brahmin has been educated for generations. He has always taken a great interest in learning. The non-Brahmins, up to a few generations ago, did not set much store by education, and it is true to say that the Muhammadans were in the same case. But, it was those many generations of education which enabled the Brahmin caste to establish its dominating position in the Madras Presidency. Now, to a large extent, I think it would be generally agreed that that domination has been broken; at any rate, it is far less than it was twenty years ago. Therefore, there does not seem to me to be a place now for a virulent anti-Brahmin party.



I hope Indians will realise the importance of patronising only Indian Insurance Institutions.

—Pt. Jawahar Lal Nehru.

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April '42.

THE POETRY OF WAR

It is said that today people are not interested in war pictures. Whereas in 1917, war was something far away and mysterious, in 1940 it is close at hand and rather sordid. To the average man, writes Eric Newton in the *Sunday Times*,

it consists mainly of things in their wrong place -- noises in the silent night, holes in the smooth road, bedrooms on railway platforms. During a visit recently to the National Gallery, I found that more people had paid to look at the exhibition of drawings by Augustus John than had gone, without paying, to see the new rooms of war pictures in the same building. The preference is perhaps natural, but it is mistaken, for some of the young artists recently appointed to record the war are doing memorable work.

It is memorable not merely as a record but also as a complete vindication of the new outlook in painting. The kind of art that, a few years ago, was thought strange and uncouth has at last come into its own.

Out of harness, men like Graham Sutherland and Stanley Spencer sometimes seemed a little irresponsible and frisky. Harnessed, as they are now, to a set of events that involve every man and woman in England, they show that they can pull twice the weight of their more academic colleagues and pull it easily.

Take, for example, the case of bombed buildings. To most of us their novelty has already worn off; they are becoming an unsightly bore and the academic artist, like the camera, merely succeeds in recording their boring unsightliness.

But Graham Sutherland's three paintings of devastated buildings have a wild, crucified poignancy that gives the war a new meaning. And Mr. Pitchforth's drawings of twisted steel girders in what was once a Birmingham store make even chaos seem impressive. They writho, snake-like, in an uncanny counterpoint of line and pattern. There is nothing sordid or boring about this kind of vision. Here is poetry wrung from the bowels of destruction. It is a very different kind of achievement from that of Augustus John,

whose poetry is already inherent in his romantic ladies and the long sweep of their dresses.

Or take the case of war-work in the factories.

Yesterday I happened to see a film whose main function (it was avowedly propagandist) was to make engineering look exciting and glamorous. It failed lamentably, and it failed through lack of vision. Though it was a movie, the lathes and drills gave no sense of movement. The machines were grey and languid and purposeless. At the National Gallery, there is a panel by Stanley Spencer (evidently a fragment of a large design) showing be-ogged men working with oxy-acetylene flames on steel plates. No party of demons in the stokeholds of hell could look more dedicated or purposeful. Here is the true glamour of industry in war-time, its sweat and glitter turned into paint by a man who can see beneath its surface.

The best of these war pictures, concludes the writer, mark the beginning of renaissance in English art.

THE TIDE OF WAR

Field-Marshal Lord Birdwood, writing in the *Sunday Graphic*, calls for an immediate offensive against Germany, which alone could turn the tide of war.

"If the Nazis could land 10,000 men in two hours in Holland and Belgium, there is no reason why we should not do the same in Germany.

Once landed, our forces would be up against the Siegfried Line, assuming that it is carried in full strength behind the Belgian and Dutch frontiers.

I do not believe greatly in the infallibility of any line, if it is attacked in the right way by the right force. We must see to it that ours is the right force. It must have everything--tanks, aircraft, heavy artillery and men.

Once the Siegfried Line is cracked, the campaign will be ours for the making. I firmly believe that Germany will buckle when the realisation dawns that the foe is within her gates and that Hitler's legend of invincibility has been shattered."

BOMBED BOOK TRADE

Writing in the *Spectator*, Mr. Stanley Unwin (of George Allen and Unwin Ltd., the well-known London publishers) points out the extent of the loss sustained by the book trade owing to the intensive bombing carried out by the Luftwaffe. The more popular books, he says, can be reprinted more economically than during the last war.

There is thus no danger of the Nazis depriving us of the more popular books, because, given sufficient demand, they can be reprinted more quickly than the Nazis can destroy them. It is alas! the scholarly books, for which the demand is limited, that it will not pay to reprint. At least a thousand titles in my own list, for example, will go out of print when our limited bound stocks are exhausted. Of the 1,400,000 books destroyed in which I was personally interested, only a small proportion will ever be replaced. But other publishers whose current or unpublished books have been destroyed will rapidly replace them, and have in some cases already done so.

Mr. Unwin then attempts a list of the many publishers who have suffered loss.

Amongst the first to have large stocks destroyed at the binders were: Cassels and Gollancz, George Allen and Unwin, John Lane the Bodley Head, and many others followed all too soon thereafter as the result of the complete destruction of two large warehouses in which publishers' sheet-stock was stored in solid blocks from floor to ceiling. The bindery, some miles away, to which the warehouse belonged, had had a bomb on the corner of its works about a fortnight before, but thanks to the promptitude with which the bound stock was moved under cover, the publishers' losses had proved negligible, and I had been congratulating the binders on their and our own good fortune. I spoke too soon! Other firms who lost considerable stock about that time included Bailliere, Tindall and Cox, Duckworth, Harrap, and Werner Laurie.

But worse was to come. Paternoster Row has long ceased to be the geographical

centre of publishing, which has moved westwards towards Covent Garden and the British Museum, but many famous houses still remained there.

To-day the "Row" is a pathetic sight. From the Warwick Lane end where Blackwoods, Longmans, Nelsons, and Hutchinsons are situated, as far as the eye can see, the buildings have been gutted by fire. Stationers' Hall has been still further damaged, and the Publishers' Association had hastily to evacuate their room in the basement. The leading wholesale booksellers: Simpkin Marshall, of Stationers' Hall Court, and their incomparable stock of--it is said--four million books, have been completely wiped out, and the trade has thereby lost an important cog in its distributive machinery.

Other publishers in the vicinity whose premises have been devastated are: Collins, Ward Lock, Eyre and Spottiswoode and Whitakers, but there are many more in addition to a long list of retail booksellers. Perhaps the most hardly hit were Longmans, because on the night that their premises were gutted, the warehouse where most of their stock was stored, although some miles away, was likewise hit.

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ORAL or POSTAL TUITION

WRITE OR CALL FOR FREE PROSPECTUS.

April '42.

THE GROWTH OF COMMUNALISM

Communalism began in India by a demand for a special share in services and in representation in the legislatures, says Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru in an article which has been reprinted in the Indian press. It has now developed into an openly anti-national, anti-democratic movement, hinting at the partition of India.

For a long while it had no constructive or any other programme. It lived on invective, violence and general offensiveness. It is amazing how it vulgarised our public life. It discovered that what it had valued most in the past separate electorates—brought little good. In fact they weakened a minority group.

Then by the very force of the logic of hatred and separation that it had pursued, it had to go to the extreme of demanding a partition of India. The medieval theory of religious groups constituting a political community, which collapsed before an advancing nationalism in Europe, was revived. An idea similar to that of the Crusades, of Christendom versus Islam suddenly appeared (it is said with British inspiration) in India. It was an astonishing throw back. Whoever else benefited or suffered from it, it was clear that British imperialism was the guinea.

It is curious that even in early and medieval India, this theory never functioned in the western way. Other religions were welcomed and accommodated.

The early Christians came in the first century and found a home. Jews were accommodated. Muslims were welcome to spread their religion and settle down (till invasion brought political conflicts). Parsis came and were absorbed. Later Muslim rulers thought in terms of building up a single nation of the Muslim newcomers and the Hindus and others. The great Akbar laid the foundations for this. The new cultural elements were absorbed and a common culture gradually developed, especially in Northern India.

And now we are told to go back to the pre-Akbar days, to reverse the process of history, to think in terms of medievalism. When nationalism is giving place to internationalism, an even narrower creed than nationalism is advanced,

and this finds favour and protection with our British rulers. When the world is groping blindly towards a real federation of nations, it is suggested that India should be split up into various parts.

Muslim countries Turkey, Egypt, Iraq, Syria, Persia have long discarded this medieval theory. They are intensely nationalist and are proud of their ancient culture.

Some of them deliberately go to their pre-Islamic days to find cultural inspiration. The Chinese Muslims are proud of their Chinese culture and fight for China's freedom. That is the course of history. Indeed it is a course that has already been run, and the mighty revolution that is taking place in the world to-day will lay down another course—the way to world federation based on national freedom and a juster economic system. Privilege and vested interest will have to go.

That is the goal of India a united, free, democratic country, closely associated in a world federation with other free nations. We want independence, but not the old type of narrow, exclusive independence. We believe that the day of separate warring national States is over.

The Pandit then discusses what exactly constitutes freedom and observes: "We want independence and not dominion or any other status."

Every thinking person knows that the whole conception of Dominion Status belongs to past history; it has no future. It cannot survive this war, whatever the result of this war. But whether it survives or not we want none of it. We do not want to be bound down to a group of nations which has dominated and exploited us; we will not be in an empire in some parts of which we are treated as helots and where racialism runs riot.

We want to cut adrift from the financial domination of the City of London. We want to be completely free with no reservations or exceptions, except such as we ourselves approve in common with others, in order to join a Federation of Nations, or a new World Order. If this new World Order or Federation does not come in the near future, we should like to be closely associated in a federation with our neighbours—China, Burma, Ceylon, Afghanistan, Persia. We are prepared to take risk and face dangers. We do not want the so-called protection of the British army or navy. We shall shift for ourselves.

If the past had not been there to bear witness, the present would have made us come to this final decision. For even in this present war and peril, there is no change in the manner of treatment accorded to our people by British imperialism. Let those who seek the favour and protection of this imperialism go its way. We go ours. The parting of the ways has come.

INDIAN ENGLISH

Prof. Amarnath Jha, in a paper which has been published in many Indian periodicals, pleads for the use, retention and encouragement of Indian English. He observes:

The Americans have a language of their own so different from English that there is now an 'Oxford Book of American Usage'. Is there any reason why we need be ashamed of Indian English?

In verse, it will be unfair if the work of Toru Dutt, Sarojini Naidu, Harindra Chattopadhyaya, Aurobindo Ghosh, Manmohan Ghosh is forgotten. There must be hundreds who have published volumes of English verse, in addition to many more whose effusions appear in more fugitive form. Of Manmohan Ghosh, Oscar Wilde said: He ought some day to make a name in our literature, and Laurence Binyon says: To us he is a voice among the great company of English singers; somewhat apart and solitary, with a difference in his note, but not an echo. Over blank verse, Aurobindo Ghosh has firm control and his verses are strewn with memorable phrases. As word-artist and singer, Mrs. Sarojini Naidu has a unique position. Arthur Symonds rightly refers to the bird-like quality of her song and of the magic of the East.

He thinks very highly of the style of Mahatma Gandhi when he writes on exalted themes; there is then a simplicity, directness and dignity reminiscent of the English Bible.

One of the most striking essays entitled "The Great Sentinel", his reply to Dr. Tagore's criticism of ethics of destruction repays perusal because of the great charm and force of its style.

Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru writes a firm, nervous, vigorous style, with a distinct literary flavour. As in his 'Autobiography' or in 'The Letters to a Daughter', he writes with distinction, with grace, with the art that finds the right word, the apt phrase, a freshness and a zest that sustains the reader's interest.

Nor can one afford to ignore the philosophic writings of Radhakrishnan whose gift of exposition is truly remarkable; the thoughtful and learned work of Bhagwan Das; the religious sermons of Vivekananda; and the closely-reasoned lectures of Iqbal and Brajendranath Seal.

There have been and are Indians who are finished speakers in English, and whether in the law courts or in legislative bodies or on platform are capable of stirring men's blood by wit, words, worth, action, utterance, and power of speech.

THE DEADLOCK

Replying to a letter criticising his views on the Indian question, Mr. Edward Thompson writes in *Time and Tide*:

There is no solution of the Indian problem or any other. All we can ever get is interim settlements. What we need now is an ending of a deadlock daily becoming something worse.

I believe that if we had said we would implement our now ancient pledge of Dominion Status, we should have got the Congress Ministries back. I believe, further, that they could have been persuaded to waive their election rights and to accept into the Cabinets the Muslim League which they routed at the polls. If that had happened, we should have gained the whole war period and then time to frame the new constitution. Also, the two main parties would have tested whether they could learn to be Indians first of all and to work together.

The British Empire is not a thing of yesterday; it has handled problems before and has a vast experience.

We had the defence problem before, and Canada, Australia, South Africa did not consider it derogatory to their rights of self-government to allow Britain to hand over (not all at once and to keep, meanwhile) naval and other bases. In our own island, we had for a very long while conflicts—of Catholic and Protestant for example.

There is not much hope for a ruling class if it cannot play its own game by its own rules. We said Dominion Status, and have kept on saying it. We gave India increasing powers of local self-government and the whole meaning of the last thirty years was that we meant self-government to be more or less along our own lines, through elected parliaments liable to defeat by the electorate.

The signs now are that we are planning to scrap all this and to fumble about for some new method based on some principle "better suited to the conditions of India".

We have also given any minority that can organise itself enough to make a row, the right of veto on any settlement. I submit that this course holds far more perils than the other one which had continuity.

Even now the Indian problem is nothing like as embittered as the Irish problem became before we got such settlement as we did get (and we had half a century of lost chances to have got a far better one).

SUICIDE: ITS CAUSE AND CURE

Lack of belief in rebirth is the cause of the innumerable cases of suicide reported in the West, says Mr. Jayadnyal Goyandka in *Kalyana Kalpataru*. He says:

Conceptions about the other world and rebirth are special properties of the Hindu religious thought. Jainism and Buddhism also, which in a sense may be regarded as branches of Hinduism, accept these conceptions as the cardinal points of their faith.

Islam and Christianity do not accept them; but thanks to the efforts of the Theosophical Society and the spread of spiritualism, which in recent years has become remarkably popular in the West, the attention of the people has been drawn towards them and numerous people in Europe and America, although Christian in faith, have begun to believe in these ideas.

Faith in the other world and rebirth is, indeed, necessary for the soul's growth for the spread of religious spirit, happiness and love as well as for protecting oneself from vice and misery.

Disbelief in the immortality of the soul and the other world is the only cause why cases of suicide are now-a-days on the increase in the world, specially in the West, where accounts are heard of or read how, due to despair caused by life's failure, or to save oneself from dishonour and infamy, or due to the frustration of a hope, people put an end to their lives by drowning, hanging, burning, poisoning or shooting themselves.

We shall never gather courage to perpetrate this crime if we realise that life is not limited to the present birth, that before this we existed and will continue to exist when the present life comes to an end, that our sufferings will not cease through the destruction of the body; on the other hand, they will be more terrible if we perish without allowing the body to go through its determined course of experiences and become guilty of the new most grievous sin of suicide.

The writer holds that through association with the present materialistic

civilisation of the West, the idea of this sin is spreading among our modern educated young men and similar incidents are reported even in this country.

Suicide has been counted as a major and most heinous form of sin by our scriptures which declare that its commission throws a soul into dark species of beings, e.g., swine, dog, etc.

That sin is on the increase in the world, that falsehood, hypocrisy, robbery, violence, adultery and other forms of crime are taking more and more an aggravated form, that as among individuals so among nations quarrel and misunderstanding are growing and the strong is tyrannising over the weak, that leaving morality and religion alone people are rushing along paths of immorality and irreligion the reason for all this is that people have begun to regard their present life as the whole of their life and do not believe that there is a life hereafter.

That is why all are engaged in the attempt to make the present life happy; enjoy the good things of the earth even by incurring debts. Who has seen what happens after death?

Almost the whole world is now after this disastrous philosophy. This is the reason why, instead of experiencing happiness, the world is getting more and more entangled in misery. This is the inevitable consequence of disbelief in the other world and rebirth.

INDIA IN PERIODICALS

THE INTER-COMMUNAL CONFLICT IN INDIA. By Dr. E. Asirvatham. [The Indian Journal of Social Work, March 1941.]

INDIA'S CONSTITUTIONAL FUTURE. By The Rt. Hon. L. S. Amery, M.P. [The Asiatic Review, January 1941.]

THE MIRACLE OF SIKHISM. By Sir Jogendra Singh. [The Aryan Path, April 1941.]

THE INDIAN BUREAUCRACY. By R. Satakopan. [The New Review, April 1941.]

THE WAR ECONOMY AND INDIAN INDUSTRIALISM. By Benoy Sarkar. [Current Thought, April-June 1941.]

THE BOMBAY CONFERENCE. By "I.D." [The Twentieth Century, April 1941.]

SWAMI VIVEKANANDA AND YOUNG INDIA. By Sir Sarvapalli Radhakrishnan. [Prabuddha Bharata, April 1941.]

MULTUM IN PARVO

NEWS * DEPARTMENTAL * NOTES

Questions of Importance

GANDHIJI ON CIVIL DISOBEDIENCE

Mahatma Gandhi has refused to withdraw the Civil Disobedience movement, replying to the *Times of India* editorial appeal in an exclusive interview to the paper. He says:

"I adhere to all that I said at the initiation of the struggle. When I launched out, I had no foolish illusion about a sudden miracle happening. It was conceived to be, and it remains, a silent declaration of unquenchable faith in the power of non-violence even in the midst of circumstances so terrible and so baffling as face the world to-day.

I believe more in the efficiency of the incalculable force of an inscrutable divinity than in the efficacy of the calculated and calculable forces that the combined powers of destruction can bring into play on this little planet. That incalculable force has somehow or other to act through human agency. How and when I cannot say. Whether that agency is the Congress or not, I cannot say. I proceed upon the faith that to-day the Congress is the only organisation, however imperfect, however wanting in faith as an organisation, still the only organisation that stands defiantly for peaceful measures."

It was never intended, continues the Mahatma Gandhi, that it would create an appreciable impression upon the war effort, but it is a moral, and from that standpoint a grand protest against the conduct of the war in the name of a free people. It is a token of the yearning of a political organisation to achieve the freedom of 350,000,000 people through purely non-violent effort and, therefore, to affect the future destiny of the world. Again an ambitious claim, but it is there.

Referring to the Pakistan cry, Gandhiji points out:

"If I can help it, the Congress will disdain freedom at the sacrifice of a single legitimate interest that is consistent with the interests of the dumb millions whether they are Hindus, Muslims or others.

I must deny that if the Congress had held on to office in the seven provinces, the Pakistan cry would have been less loud than it is to-day; but the giving up of office had an infinitely more moral basis than the avoidance of the tussle with Muslim interests or any other interests."

He concludes:

I am convinced that if Britain will only be true to India, then whether the Congress withdraws the struggle or not, everything can be settled satisfactorily."

DR. SAPRU ON MR. AMERY'S SPEECH

Commenting on Mr. Amery's amazing speech in the House of Commons, Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru observes:

"Bluntly put, Mr. Amery is mortgaging our future to certain intractable leaders. Expediencies of the hour are not always consistent with lasting policies seeking to achieve the permanent good of a vast country like India. Has Mr. Amery such a permanent policy? If so, what steps is he taking to implement that policy? What is his real contribution to the solution of the communal tangle? Is he not by his speeches making the task of those who want a real settlement more and more difficult? Is he strengthening the faith of Indians in British intentions? . . .

I believe that Mr. Amery's indiscreet and unfortunate speeches on this subject have done the worst service to us and he has no business to make that pious appeal to us when he himself has done nothing to promote unity among the contending elements in India."

MR. AMERY'S SPEECH IN THE
COMMONS

Mr. L. S. Amery, Secretary of State for India, moved a resolution in the House of Commons on April 22, to extend for another year the Proclamation under which the Governors of the Indian Provinces can assume the powers of Provincial Legislatures.

Mr. Amery, in the course of his speech, inveighed against what he termed the Party Totalitarianism of the Congress in relation to the Provincial Ministries, but remarked on the opportunity the Congress was losing by not working the present Government of India Act.

He said: "Congress, I fear, is blind to the risk that no alternative constitution is now likely to emerge which could secure for it as great a measure of influence and control of India as a whole as it would have exercised under the present Act."

Mr. Amery reminded the House that in Bengal, Assam, Sind and the Punjab, representing one-third of the whole population of British Indian Provincial Governments continued to work.

It is a matter of regret, said Mr. Amery, "that the 200 million inhabitants of the other seven provinces were forbidden by the order of the Congress High Command to continue the tradition of self-government".

Mr. Amery referred to the British Government's policy in regard to India's constitutional advance and said that the whole field of constitutional reform was open to revision, subject to agreement upon the kind of Constitution that Indians were prepared to work.

Continuing, Mr. Amery said: "If our type of democracy stands in the way of agreement, India's needs could be better met by a Constitution in which the Executive would derive its authority more directly from Federated Units, like the American Executive independent of the Legislature."

MR. SASTRI'S APPEAL TO CONGRESS

"We are asking the Congress people to come back to lead us, protect us in this time of great trouble. Their place to-day, as people who hold our confidence and our suffrage, is beside us and not in prison cells," declared the Rt. Hon. V. S. Srinivasa Sastriar in a powerful appeal to the Congress at a meeting in Mylapore on April 26. Mr. Srinivasa Sastriar added: "May we hope that if our appeal to the Congress leaders finds favourable reception and the Congress decides to come back to positive duties in the country, Mr. Amery and the Viceroy will not make any difficulty, but will welcome them with open arms."

Where are the people whom with such acclaim we elected to be our leaders in the various provincial cabinets? They are all in jail.

Who have taken their place? A government of advisers, not our people, and their paid employees. Is that a state of things that a body of sensible electors can countenance?

We have stakes in the country, we have posterity to look for with children to protect, and with women whose honour is to them more sacred than any thing else. What can we do, unorganised as we are?

Let us change the picture and conceive Congress leaders as they were established in the provinces. May be they had only three-fourths of the authority that should belong to provincial governments, but still they were armed with something with which they could march forward, talk to outsiders and put down trouble-makers.

Supposing we had leaders of that kind established in the various provinces, should we not be a little more emboldened than we are now?

I tell you, whatever your feelings may be, I am full of alarm. I am full of concern. I feel abandoned by those who ought to be here to protect me.

That is the line we are taking."

GANDHIJI ON THE INDIA DEBATE

Mahatma Gandhi has made the following statement on Mr. Amery's speech in the House of Commons:—

Distress has been known to have softened people's hearts and made them mindful of facts. But Britain's distress has evidently left Mr. Amery absolutely cold and untouched. This callousness makes me more than ever confirmed in my opinion that the Congress must abide by its policy of non-violence in spite of the heavy odds facing it.

Mr. Amery has rendered no service to Great Britain by his contemptuous disregard of the situation as it exists in India and the facts that stare one in the face. He talks glibly of British rule having given peace to India. Did he not know what was happening in Dacca and Ahmedabad? Who is responsible for keeping the peace in these two places? I hope he will not throw in my face the fact that Bengal, at any rate, has self-government. He knows what a mockery that self-government is. He knows what little power for such emergencies, toy Ministers have, whether they wear the Congress label, the League label or any other.

I ask the very pertinent question: Why has this long spell of British rule left the people so emasculated as to disable them from standing up against a few hundred goondas? It is a humiliating spectacle, more for the British than for us, to see thousands of people running away from their homes through sheer fright, because a few hundred goondas have found a favourable atmosphere for resorting to arson, murder and loot. The first act of any Government worth the name would be to teach its people the art of self-defence, but the foreign British Government had no concern about this fundamental welfare of India's citizens and so it deprived the people of the use of arms. . . .

Mr. Amery has insulted Indian intelligence by reiterating *ad nauseam* that Indian political parties have but to agree among themselves and Great Britain will register the will of a united India. I have repeatedly shown that it has been the

traditional policy of Great Britain to prevent parties from uniting. 'Divide and rule' has been Great Britain's proud and ill-conceived motto. It is the British statesmen who are responsible for the divisions in India's ranks and the divisions will continue so long as the British sword holds India under bondage.

I admit that there is unfortunately an unbridgeable gulf between the Congress and the Muslim League. Why do not British statesmen admit that it is after all a domestic quarrel? Let them withdraw from India and I promise that the Congress and the League and all other parties will find it to their interest to come together and devise a home-made solution for the government of India. It may not be scientific; it may not be after any western pattern; but it will be durable. It may be that before we come to that happy state of affairs, we may have to fight amongst ourselves. But if we agree not to invite the assistance of any outside Power, the trouble will last perhaps a fortnight and it will not mean even one day's destruction of human heads such as goes on in Europe to-day, for the simple reason that thanks to the British rule we are wholly unarmed.

Mr. Amery, in utter disregard of truth, misleads his ignorant audience that the Congress wants 'all or nothing'. Let me remind him that in order to placate British sentiment, the Congress descended to the Poona Resolution and when at Bombay it undid the Poona Resolution, I authoritatively stated that the British Government could not at the present moment grant or declare India's independence and that, therefore, for the time being, we should be satisfied with complete freedom of speech and pen. Was that 'All or nothing'? With Mr. Amery's state of mind, I suppose it is too much to expect him to have the elementary grace to acknowledge the studied moderation of the Congress in its desire not to embarrass the British Government whilst it is fighting for its very existence. Not having that grace, he turns the Congress moderation against it and claims that the Congress civil disobedience has fallen flat."

PROF. RADHAKRISHNAN & STUDENTS

Deep sense of respect and affection for Prof. Sir Sarvapalli Radhakrishnan was expressed by the students and teachers of the University of Calcutta, when they presented to him a farewell address on his retirement from the King George the Fifth Professorship of Philosophy of the University. The function was held under the joint auspices of the Post-Graduate Students' Committee and all other Post-Graduate seminars at the Asutosh Hall under the presidency of Dr. Syamprasad Mookherjee.

"For nearly a quarter of a century," the address of farewell stated, "generations of students of India have sat at your feet and you have inspired them with noble enthusiasm for new way of life.

"It is with a heavy heart," the address added, "that we bid you farewell to-day, for with you departs a friend, philosopher and guide of the students and teachers of the University."

In reply, Sir Sarvapalli said that it was a pleasure for him to hear from students and the teachers of their expressions of good wishes and affection for him. He added that if only they could respond to the deepest aspirations of Indian spirit, India would be saved and would also save the rest of the world.

SANSKRIT AND TAMIL STUDIES

Resolutions expressing disapproval of the decision of the Tanjore District Board, directing the immediate introduction of a compulsory common mess in the free boarding house attached to the Tanjore Raja's College of Sanskrit and Tamil Studies at Tiruvadi and maintained from

the funds of the Kalyana Mahal Endowment and the abolition of the Sahitya Siromani Course in the College were passed at a public meeting held on April 5, at the Ranade Hall, Mylapore; under the auspices of the Sanskrit Academy, with Rt. Hon. Mr. V. S. Srinivasa Sastri in the chair.

The Rt. Hon. V. S. Srinivasa Sastri said that the College was maintained out of the funds endowed by the Tanjore Royal Family and the object of the donors was to conduct the charities in the traditional methods and conditions.

Any sudden departure from traditional usages and practices of the community would call for public protest. Besides, if the departure violated the wishes of the original donors and long established practice of the College, it was beyond the legal competence of the body appointed to manage it.

Sir P. S. Sivaswamy Ayyar moving the resolution said that he did not believe in reform which was forced down the throats of people. He believed in persuasion and education. The resolution of the district board in regard to common mess appeared to him to be an abuse of powers vested in it.

DR. S. SINHA

Dr. Sachchidananda Sinha has been granted an extension of his Vice-Chancellorship of the Patna University.

Dr. Sinha was appointed Vice-Chancellor in August 1936 and has been the first Vice-Chancellor of the Patna University to have been in office for five consecutive years. The present extension will be for another two years from August next.

A JUDICIAL IMPROPRIETY

In disposing of a petition before him, Mr. Justice Agrawala pointed out in his judgment the impropriety of a Magistrate trying a case, to ask the accused concerned to contribute money as subscription to War Fund or any charitable cause.

His Lordship observed that it was extremely improper for a Magistrate who was trying a case, to ask the accused to subscribe to funds for public, charitable or any other purpose, as such action was liable to be misunderstood by persons who were standing their trial.

He directed that the hearing of this case be transferred from the file of the Magistrate before whom it was now at Jahanabad to the Court of such other Magistrate at Sadar as the District Magistrate might direct and that the trial do proceed from the point at which it arrived on the 20th of November 1940, when the petitioners' bails were cancelled.

SIND DOWRY ACT

No Hindu bridegroom in Sind shall receive presents worth more than 20 rupees on any one occasion before and after his marriage, according to the rules formulated by the Government under the provisions of the Sind Dowry Act passed by the Sind Assembly in 1939.

On the day of marriage, it is enjoined by the rules, the presents should not exceed Rs. 100, while on festivals and auspicious occasions between the day of betrothal and the day of marriage the aggregate presents shall not exceed Rs. 20.

It may be mentioned that the Dowry Act fixed the maximum dowry to be given by the parents and guardians of the bride at Rs. 1,500.

LICENCE FOR TODDY TAPPING

A judgment vitally affecting the prohibition policy of the Government of Bombay was delivered by the Bombay High Court on April 18. The matter before the High Court related to the policy in respect of granting licence for tapping toddy, and the officiating Chief Justice, Sir Patric Blackwell, held that the Collector was bound to grant an application for licence, provided it conformed to the requirements of the Abkari Act. There was a statutory obligation to grant the licence irrespective of the policy of the Government.

The application was filed before the Court by Mr. R. N. Todiwalla, praying the Court to direct the Collector of Bombay to issue to him a licence to tap trees standing on his own lands for domestic consumption. The applicant urged that the Collector of Bombay in pursuance of the prohibition policy followed by the Government had refused to grant a licence.

His Lordship in his judgment held that if the application conformed to the requirements of the Abkari Act otherwise, there was a statutory obligation on the part of the Collector to grant the licence and passed orders directing the Collector of Bombay forthwith to grant the licence to the applicant, subject to the satisfaction of other requirements of the Act.

SIR JOHN BEAUMONT

A *communiqué* states that His Excellency the Governor-General has been pleased to appoint the Hon. Sir John Beaumont, at present Chief Justice of the High Court of Judicature at Bombay, to act temporarily as a Judge of the Federal Court of India in the vacancy caused by the death of Sir Shah Muhammad Sulaiman.

INSURE CASH IN TRANSIT

The practice of the Calcutta Corporation to get their cash in transit insured is commendable, says the *Insurance Herald*, and should be adopted by all offices which have large cash to send to and take from the Bank every day. Robberies in the streets of Calcutta, as also in other cities of India, have been frequent and the money has been forcibly snatched away before it could reach its destination. Offices which have suffered in this way and were not wise enough to take up the necessary insurance beforehand, must have wished that they had done so earlier. Street robbery is a potential risk against which every office bringing in, and sending out, large cash every day should protect itself. This is a form of insurance which should be emphasised on all big offices and may be pursued by our insurance companies with profit.

ORIENTAL'S RECORD

The amount of new life assurance business written by the Oriental Government Security Life Assurance Company, Limited, in 1940, was 35,761 policies assuring Rs. 7,18,85,918.

THE SUN LIFE OF CANADA

The Sun Life of Canada is a stupendous organisation with its ramifications in every part of the civilised world. At the 70th annual meeting of this great concern, held at Montreal on February 11, the financial statement presented by Arthur B. Wood, President and Managing-Director, revealed that business in force increased by twenty-five millions during 1940, bringing the total now in force close to three million dollars. New business placed on the books over the year was approximately \$170 millions.

Premium income for 1940 exceeded \$111,000,000 while total receipts showed an increase over 1939 at \$167,000,000. In the 70 years under review, the Sun Life of Canada had paid to policyholders and beneficiaries the imposing sum of \$1,390,000,000. Mr. Wood, in quoting these records of achievement, which had been maintained despite wars and epidemics, booms and depressions, stated that they were an impressive demonstration of the soundness of life assurance and its ability to meet all obligations in a normal way at all times and under all conditions.

NUMBER OF COMPANIES IN INDIA

The following interesting figures are taken from the Insurance Year Book:—

	1937.	1938.
Total number of companies working in India ...	368	379
Total number of companies constituted in India ...	219	232
Total number of companies constituted outside India...	149	147

Of the total number of 219 companies constituted in India:

67	are established in the Bombay Presidency.
19	 Bengal Presidency.
40	 Madras Presidency.
25	 Punjab.
10	 United Provinces.
10	 Delhi.
5	 Central Provinces.
1	 Behar.
2	 Ajmer-Merwara.
2	 Burma.
2	 Assam.
2	 Sind.
1	 N.W. F. P.

Of the total number of 210 Indian companies,

116 are proprietary, and
34 are mutual.

INDO-BURMA TRADE AGREEMENT

The Memorandum setting out the points of agreement on Indo-Burma trade was signed at New Delhi on April 3, by the delegations of the two countries.

"The arrangements are likely to secure for Burmese goods in India more or less their present position, while we hope that the low tariff that will be imposed upon Indian goods in Burma is low enough to maintain the present predominant position which Indian goods hold in the Burma market."

Thus observed U. Ba. Than, Commerce Minister, Burma, in a statement to the House of Representatives on the new Indo-Burma Trade Agreement.

"Finally," he continued, "the new arrangements will enable Burma to have the much-needed additional revenue of over a crore from Customs duty and will, to that extent, help to bridge in the coming year a deficit budget."

Under the new agreement, said the Minister, each country would have a right to impose Customs duty on imports from the other, but with the important provision that each country guaranteed to the other a position of special advantage. Subject to specified exceptions, each country guaranteed to the other a preferential rate; where any commodity was subject to a standard rate, the Governments of India and Burma each undertook to accord a margin of preference of 15 per cent. to the other.

In the case of commodities subject to the standard rate and preferential rate, each country undertook to accord to the other a margin of preference of 15 per cent. compared with the standard rate, or 10 per cent. compared with the preferential rate, whichever was greater.

INDIAN EXPORTS TO AUSTRALIA

Indian exports to Australia improved to the extent of Rs. 2,52 lakhs in 1939-40 while Australian imports into India recorded a slight fall.

Principal items of India's exports to Commonwealth consist of jute manufactures. Nearly 71 million gunny bags and 41 million yards of gunny cloth were exported as against 66 million gunny bags and 31 million yards of gunny cloth in the preceding year. Exports of tea continued to rise and shipments amounted to 3.7 million lbs. as compared with 1.8 million lbs. Similarly shipments of linseed improved from 21,000 tons to 31,000 tons.

Wheat, the largest item of imports from Australia, declined from 151,000 tons in 1938-39 to 85,000 tons. India imports a large quantity of raw wool from Australia which amounted to 4.9 million lbs. as against 4.4 million lbs. in 1938-39. Imports of tallow and stearine rose, while those of zinc fell. Among other important items of import, provisions accounted for Rs. 25 lakhs as against Rs. 13 lakhs in the preceding year.

SHIPMENTS OF INDIAN TIMBER

Large overseas demands for timber continue to be met by India. It is learnt that during the first fortnight of February, timber valued at Rs. 40,00,000 was purchased by the Supply Department.

The chief orders and enquiries received during the first two weeks of February by the Department of Supply are textiles for New Zealand, Australia and His Majesty's Government, webbing for New Zealand, blanket and yarn for Burma, and 12,000,000 yards of mosquito setting for the Defence Services.

WOMEN'S NEXT STEP

It is just a 100 years since the women of America first launched an organised move for suffrage and women's rights in general, writes Susan Anthony in the *New York Times Magazine*. "When that movement was begun in 1840, women had few legal rights. They could not vote. They could not hold public office. They had no legal control over their children and if they worked, they had no choice in their working conditions or wages. Only seven occupations were open to them chiefly: domestic service, boarding house keeping and weaving."

To-day the picture is vastly different. Women vote equally with men. They hold public office; they have risen not only to the Senate but to the President's Cabinet. "Not only have they attained legal status as wage-earners, but they have helped frame the laws affecting that status. Almost 500 of the 531 occupations listed by the Bureau of the Census are open to them. They have achieved distinction in industry, the arts, the law, and public affairs."

But the situation of women to-day is still a controversial issue. Barriers still exist which exclude women from a position of complete equality with men. The women's organisations are convinced that much remains to be done. They are not content to rest on present achievements.

"They now call for full legal equality, for equal opportunities in every field, for full use of those opportunities, for a full authoritative voice in public affairs, and for recognition by the women themselves of their obligation to help preserve democracy."

To-day in America, there are similar trends. For example, 20 State Legislatures

had before them last year bills to prohibit married women from official job holding if their husbands were employed. "Certain pro-Fascist columnists persist in their insistence that women workers deprive family heads of jobs and that therefore women should stick to the stove and kitchen sink. I wonder if these gentlemen have ever further muddled their brains trying to run a house? If they had, their columns would carry a different story."

Millions of American women do full-time unpaid work for their own families involving real skills. I don't think, of course, that husbands should or could afford to pay them for this work—their salaries are too low; but I do think that community services should be extended so that in the future women won't be enslaved by cooking meals, cleaning, washing diapers and other onerous tasks.

Women's biggest job for the next century is to preserve the democracy we have and to keep this nation a democracy by our increased participation in the life of the nation."

HINDU WOMEN'S RIGHTS

Delivering judgment in the Governor-General's reference in the matter of the Hindu Women's Rights to Property Act of 1937 and the Amending Act of 1938, the Federal Court held that

- i. the two Acts do not operate to regulate succession to agricultural land in the Governors' Provinces; and
- ii. they do operate to regulate devolution by survivorship of property other than agricultural land.

The Court also held that the subject of devolution by survivorship of property other than agricultural land is included in Entry No. 7 (Transfer of property other than agricultural land) of the Concurrent Legislative List.

DR. S. KRISHNASWAMI AIYANGAR

Dr. S. Krishnaswami Aiyangar, well known historian and editor of the *Journal of Indian History*, was felicitated at a meeting held at the University Departmental Buildings, Chepauk, on April 23. Sir P. S. Sivaswami Aiyar was in the chair.

The Chairman presented to Dr. Krishnaswami Aiyangar a special number of the *Journal of Indian History* and a volume containing the collected papers on Indian History written by the Doctor.

Professor C. S. Srinivasachariar read messages received from Sir Mirza Ismail, Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar, Sir R. K. Shanmukham Chetty and other notables, wishing the function success and paying tributes to the services rendered by Dr. Krishnaswami Aiyangar to the cause of South Indian History. Mr. Srinivasachariar also traced the history of the *Journal* and explained the part played by Dr. Krishnaswami Aiyangar in making the *Journal* a success.

"THE TIMES" AT THREE PENCE

As a result of war-time conditions, The *Times* will be sold at 3d. per copy instead of 2d. The increase became operative from April 7.

The *Times* explains to its readers that war time conditions demanded first a reduction in the size of the newspaper which has already been effected and reduction in the number of copies printed. Difficulty has been experienced in curtailing the public demand for this famous newspaper, hence the price has been increased. A similar increase was imposed in March 1918, which was operative for one year thereafter.

LIFE OF AKBAR

It is understood that at the meeting of the Bharatiya Itihasa Parishad held recently at Calcutta, it has been decided to bring out in the course of the next year the volume on Akbar. The year 1942 will mark the fourth centenary of the birth of Akbar, and it is considered appropriate that the volume on Akbar should be brought out then. Jadunath Sirkar has been appointed editor-in-charge of that volume. It is the aim of the Parishad to bring out in course of time a complete history of India in about 20 volumes.

SIR SUNDER SINGH MAJITHIA

The death has occurred after protracted illness of the Hon. Sir Sunder Singh Majithia, Revenue Minister, Punjab. He expired on the 2nd April.

Coming of a distinguished family and married to the grand-daughter of Sir Attar Singh, Chief of Bahadur in Patiala State, the late Sir Sunder Singh came into prominence first as Secretary of Khalsa College, Amritsar, and later as Secretary of the Chief Khalsa Diwan, a representative body of the Sikhs from its inception in 1902 to the close of 1920. He was aged 69 at the time of his death.

MR. CHURCHILL—MAN OF THE YEAR

Mr. Winston Churchill, British Premier, has been selected as the "Man of the Year" for 1940 by the weekly magazine *Time*. The designation is given every year by the Editors to the man or woman who has effected the most dramatic change on the course of history during the past year.

Time's "Man of the Year" for 1938 was Hitler, and for 1939, Stalin.

MR. S. DUTT AND MR. VENKATACHAR

Mr. S. Dutt, I.C.S., is appointed Agent of the Government of India in Malaya with effect from April 8, and the services of Mr. C. S. Venkatachar, I.C.S., the former Agent, are placed at the disposal of the United Provinces Government from the same date.

Mr. C. S. Venkatachar, has since been selected for the presidentship of the U. P. Court of Wards.

MR. K. L. GAUBA

Mr. K. L. Gauba, M.L.A., son of the late Lala Harkishenlal, was adjudicated an insolvent by Mr. Justice Sale of the High Court, who passed an order to this effect on the petition filed by the Punjab Cotton Press.

Mr. Gauba's debts are found to be of over two lakhs of rupees, while his income for the last year, including his Assembly allowances, was a little over Rs. 21,000.

BLOOD PURIFIED BY RAY TREATMENT

Ultra-violet rays, as is well known, are deadly to all forms of germ life. For that reason they are used in hospital operating rooms and for various sterilizing purposes. Many diseases are attributed to the presence of bacteria in the blood stream. Could not the blood be purified by ray treatment?

An obstacle, which at one time seemed insuperable to some at least who asked this question, was the fact that the skin, which receives that healthy-looking tan from the rays, effectively prevents the healing, germ-killing influence from penetrating far enough into the body to reach the blood where the disease bacilli lurk.

If the rays cannot be brought to the blood, why not bring the blood to the rays? Thus reasoned a Seattle scientist, Mr. Emmet K. Knott, and after experimenting for 15 years, he has developed a technique for extracting blood from a sick person, giving it a sun bath and returning it to the patient.

About half a pint of blood is withdrawn at a time and mixed with sodium citrate to prevent coagulation, then subjected to the ultra-violet rays. Over 6,000 patients, many of them suffering from the blood poisoning, have benefited from this treatment according to the reports.

AMERICAN DOCTORS FOR EUROPE

President Roosevelt urged American doctors "to volunteer to serve in the military and civilian hospitals of our British friends" in a statement issued from his home in Hyde Park, New York.

The President said that the British Red Cross had appealed through the American Red Cross for a thousand young American doctors to help to meet the acute shortage of doctors in British hospitals. As President of the American Red Cross, he said: "I heartily approve of this request."

He explained that volunteers would be enrolled in the British Red Cross and would be protected by the Red Cross Treaty of Geneva. Young doctors, whom Britain so desperately needs, can do much to heal the wounds inflicted on civilians and the military alike in this cruel war, he added.

DOES SMOKING AFFECT HEART?

At the American Medical Association last summer, doctors entered into a heated discussion of the perennial question whether smoking is a cause of heart disease. Those assembled puffed clouds of argumentative smoke, though the statistical study presented by Dr. Frederick Arthur Willius of the Mayo Clinic, was rather weighty and too significant.

Dr. Willius with two of his assistants made a comparative study of the health of smokers and non-smokers, who visited the clinic in thousands. It was found that among smokers between the ages of 40 and 59, there was three times as much heart disease as in a similar number of non-smokers.

But among men of 60 and beyond belonging to both the groups, no noteworthy differences were observed.

DEPRESSION DIET

Despite hard times, U. S. diets have grown more nutritious in the past 10 years, because (1) more home canning; (2) more truck farming; (3) wide Government distribution of such vitamin-rich foods as oranges, grapefruit, milk, and celery.

In spite of all this, the average U. S. diet has plenty of room for improvement, especially in some southern rural districts where the people still live mainly on hog and corn. In a survey made from 1934 to 1937, says Dr. Cummings, that out of every 100 families throughout the country, only 23 enjoyed diets, which, from the nutritional standpoint, were good; 51 had diets which were fair, and 26 followed poor diets.

THE ODOUR OF SANCTITY

The crowded underground shelters of London have many drawbacks. One is that they stink. Another is that the air in them is laden with germs. Recently in the *Lancet*, Scientists Charles Claud Twort and A. H. Baker of the Portslade Laboratories in Sussex came out for an old-fashioned way of doing away with disagreeable smells, which is a new-fangled way of doing away with germs by burning incense. Ordinary pungent incense smoke, said they, kills many kinds of nose and throat germs.

QUEEN VICTORIA RUPEES

Though Queen Victoria rupees cease to be legal tender after March 31, 1941, for six months thereafter, i.e., till September 30, 1941, they will be received freely at all Government treasuries whether in payments due to Government or otherwise, and will be exchanged for current legal tender currency at par value. In addition, they will be accepted in payment of dues at all post offices.

Arrangements have also been made for their being received at railway stations on the State-owned railways in payment of fares or freight.

After September 30, 1941, however, they will not be accepted, except until further notice at the offices of the Reserve Bank of India at Bombay and Calcutta.

REFUND OF MUTILATED ONE-RUPEE NOTES

In order to remove the inconvenience complained of in the present procedure for refunds of cut or mutilated one-rupee notes, instructions had been issued to all Treasury Officers and branches of the Imperial Bank to receive at full value all genuine one-rupee notes with a slight mutilation which does not interfere with identification or suggest fraud, e.g., notes of which clearly more than half is intact.

Applications for the refund of cut, altered or obliterated notes, that is notes disfigured in such a manner as to render their identification doubtful, must, however, continue to be made to the Reserve Bank of India according to the ordinary procedure.

REPATRIATION OF STERLING DEBT

In the Council of State, on March 27, during question time, Mr. C. E. Jones, Finance Secretary, replying to Mr. Hossain Imam, said that the amount of India sterling stock surrendered in the United Kingdom by March 10, was approximately £54½ million equivalent to Rs. 72½ crores of rupees. In India, sterling securities to the value of about Rs. 11 crores had been surrendered in exchange for rupee counterparts and securities to the value of about Rs. 1½ crores against payment in rupees.

PAYMENTS BY INSTALMENT

Over sixty American railway companies have introduced a "travel-on credit" plan to enable passengers to make trips on the railways and pay for them later.

No deposit is required either, but a nominal service charge is added to the cost of the ticket.

"Credit is not necessarily confined to the cost of transportation alone," said a statement issued by the companies. It may be used for Pullman accommodations, all-expense tours, which include hotels and meals, specified side-trips, steamship travel and any other service that is sold through the railroad ticket office, except money orders (postal orders) and travellers' cheques."

RAILWAY EXTENSION IN KATHIAWAR

A new railway line linking Dhrangadhra territory with Morvi will be shortly taken in hand. Ten miles of the new line will be constructed by Dhrangadhra, while the remaining link will be formed by the conversion by Morvi of a narrow gauge into a metre gauge and the extension of that line for four miles, from Jetpur to Devlia. The Hadmatra-Dhrol-Jodia extension of 27 miles built by the Jamnagar and Dwarka Railway at a cost of over Rs. 11,00,000 has been opened for traffic with effect from October 1. This extension will develop the resources of the Dhrol State and will benefit the port of Jodia in the Nawanagar State.

NEW RAILWAY PATTERNS

The patterns now adopted by the Railway Board are a great improvement over any type in general use in the past. Each compartment has its own lavatory, which serves a maximum of 20 passengers, and more generally only 16. In the past, one latrine has served as many as 54 passengers, and the average has been 27.

Between adjacent compartments of the same class, doors are to be provided on the new coaches. A proportion of these doors will be fitted with locks so that it will be possible for one or more adjacent compartments to be reserved for women or for parties travelling together. This is a completely new departure in third-class coaches and has been provided in response to public demand.

ART AND RELIGION

Sir S. Radhakrishnan's address, at the Photographic Exhibition of Hindu Temples and Architecture at Calcutta, is an impartial and illuminating survey of the role played by the temples in the Hindu civilisation and of the religious significance and function of fine arts.

Sir Sarvapalli pointed out that the awakening by some concrete symbols of the religious consciousness was the main function of the temple. Sounds, pictures, hymns and songs are the symbols which make definite appeal to the different senses of the human mind and, thereby, stimulate the awakening of the religious consciousness. He asserted that in the music, literature, art and drama, the predominant emphasis was always on religion.

Religion derived the strength of its appeal from the temple, and the arts which completed the synthesis and contributed to the supremacy of the temple were also religious in sentiment and expression. Religion inspired art and art invigorated religion in ancient India. Both were inextricable from and interdependent on each other.

FUNCTION OF ARCHITECTURE

Sir C. V. Raman has, in his article in the *Roy's Weekly* of March 9, emphasised beauty as the primary function of architecture. He writes: "Nature is the great inspirer of man in architecture and man would be untrue to himself and Nature if he did not seek to make the dwelling worthy of himself and express in its design an appreciation of beauty and a sense of the fitness of things."

India had found her soul in architecture. She can produce authentic records of the highest development as well as distinctiveness of her architecture in its various aspects besides temples. But to-day she is not true to herself. The producer has preferred to be a plagiarist. The creditor is delighted to live on a borrowed architectural capital.

Referring to the architectural monuments, Sir Raman says: "It is in the remains of the past and in the ever-present spirit of Nature that we must seek to find the inspiration which will maintain and enlarge our architectural heritage."

HUMAN SHOCK-ABSORBERS

One often reads and hears of the marvellous achievements of this or that boxing champion, says a "Sporting" reporter in a contemporary. One repeatedly sees headlines right across the page, describing Dempsey's terrific punching, Louis' invincibility and Galento's "moldering" tactics. But how many ever think of the men who took real hard knocks to assist these champions in reaching the top of the boxing ladder?

The task of these sparring partners is as thankless as it is futureless, and though they are indispensable in pugilism, nobody ever bothers about who they were, whence they came and whither they go. They are merely, as a leading sports critic said, "the chopping blocks and moving targets on whom the flaccid elite tune up their punches".

SPORTSMEN'S BROTHERHOOD

A splendid lead was given the other day by Sir Maurice Hallett, Governor of the United Provinces, when presiding over the inaugural meeting of the All-India Sportsmen's Brotherhood at Naini Tal. He said that an association of sportsmen was ideally suited to help in the war effort.

While welcoming the proposal for the provision of a Spitfire or a Bomber by the sportsmen of the United Provinces, he suggested that the members could also help by enlisting in the Civic Guard. Sir Maurice further suggested that the Association should endeavour to extend its activities in those parts of the province in which they did not exist.

HIGH JUMP RECORD

Les Steers of Oregon University set a new world record for outdoor high jump of 6 feet 10 25-36 inches, the recognised mark being 6 feet 9 1/2 inches, set jointly by Cornelius Johnson and Dave Albritton in the 1936 Olympic trials.

THE BHOPAL WANDERERS

The Bhopal Wanderers entered the final of the Beighton Cup hockey tournament on April 30, by defeating the Bengal-Nagpur Railway "A" on the Calcutta ground by one goal to nil.

X-RAY EFFECT ON CRYSTALS

What he termed the "triangular controversy" between Bangalore, Chicago and London, in respect of new X-ray effect on crystal discovered in Bangalore laboratories last year was referred to by Sir C. V. Raman, in the course of his Presidential address to the Joint Easter Session of several scientific associations, which met at Bangalore on April 10.

Sir Raman said in ordinary reflection they have two laws, namely, the incidence in the reflected ray and the angle of reflection. In the modified reflection both of these laws are not obeyed. The first interpretation of such reflection was given as due to reflection from the tilted dynamic wave fronts produced by the combination of the static stratifications of the crystal and the acoustic waves usually called the debye waves. But the sharpness of the modified reflection is difficult to explain on this basis. If, on the other hand, optical waves produced changes in the static stratification and if these phase waves are assumed to produce the modified reflections the explanation is more satisfactory, said Sir Raman. The western school, he said, is of the former opinion while he preferred the latest theory. Sir Raman said that the problem of the modified reflections has not been thoroughly worked out, and he hopes that it will be finally solved before long.

These dynamic stratifications are produced in Sir Raman's opinion by the incident X-ray radiation. Recent experiments at Bangalore have established that these dynamic stratifications are inclined at an angle of 54 degrees to the opta-hedral plane in the case of a diamond. It seems that the crystal phases, which are inclined at 54 degrees to the opta-hedral plane are responsible for these dynamic stratifications.

When the crystal is rotated suitably it is found, said Sir Raman, that the modified reflection does not lie in the plane of incidence. This fact was actually looked for and the experiments conducted by Dr. Neelakantan have practically established the existence of this fact.

INDIAN FILMS

The Motion Picture trade is becoming important in the economic and social life of the country, observes the *Cine Editor*. Today South India occupies an important place in the film map of India. This industry pays substantial sum to the Government through several duties, taxes, etc. Yet the Government is not helping the industry.

During the year 1940, good pictures in Tamil and Telugu have been produced. Though producers always complain about the cost of materials the production of picture is not stopped.

With regard to North Indian films also, 1940 proves to be a very prosperous year. Prabhat New Theatres, Ranjit and other Companies continue to produce pictures with good box-office successes.

1940 saw the production of the first English-talking picture in India—Wadia's *Rajnartaki*. The picture was to have been released during that year itself, but has been postponed to February. The documentary biography of Mahatma Gandhi was also released in that year.

On the whole, 1940 showed that the Indian film industry had a definite headway.

FILM ADVISORY BOARD

At a meeting of the Executive Committee of the South Indian Film Chamber of Commerce, the following resolution was passed expressing its dissatisfaction with the procedure adopted in regard to the constitution of the Film Advisory Board since the film industry in South India has not been adequately represented thereon and since no consultation whatsoever has been held with the Chamber, which represents the industry on any matter connected with the Board so far.

The meeting requests the Government to keep the Chamber informed of the programme and procedure of work that is being carried on and also give it opportunities of expressing its views and suggestions.

This meeting urges that the Board should establish close contact with the film interests in South India by associating an adequate number of film representatives thereof with the working of the Board.

SIMPSON'S CENTENARY SOUVENIR

Messrs. Simpson & Co., once the celebrated coach-builders of Madras, have completed a hundred years of service in their special line, and the auspicious occasion is appropriately marked by the publication of a Souvenir, recounting the story of their enterprise from the days of the slow moving yet impressive howdahs and palanquins down to our own days of hurried travel and transport in motor cars and lorries. Successive generations of the nobility of South India have enjoyed the service of the Simpson vehicles, noted alike for their comfort and elegance. The cars in which the Simpsons specialise to-day are now the most popular means of transport in India, distinguished for their beauty of design quite as much as for their speed. The story of this great enterprise through the century is told impressively in the pictorial volume before us, printed on art paper and got up sumptuously as befitting an appropriate memento of a rare occasion.

We congratulate Mr. W. W. Ladden, the enterprising Managing-Director and his colleagues on the way they are upholding the traditions of the great house of Simpsons and wish the institution many more years of useful service to the public.

MOTOR INDUSTRY IN INDIA

American industrialists view with sympathy the attempts of Indians to establish a motor industry in India. "The more, the merrier" was the remark made by Mr. H. M. Halsted of General Motors at Bombay, when informed about Mr. Walchand Hirachand's project to start a motor car factory at Mysore.

Reviewing the position of the motor car trade in India, Mr. Halsted said that at present India has been absorbing at the rate of 25,000 cars a year. General Motors enjoy over 50 per cent. share of the sales. General Motors import automobile parts from their American factories and assemble them in their Bombay factory and distribute cars all over India. There are already 2,700 Indians working in the Bombay factory and from his personal experience, Mr. Halsted felt that given proper training, Indians could shape out into skilled motor builders.

AMERICAN AIRCRAFT FOR BRITAIN

September will be a decisive month, said Sir Walter Citrine, the British Trade Union leader, broadcasting from London.

Sir Walter Citrine, who has returned from an extensive tour of the United States, said that, by September, British and United States production of aircraft would exceed the German production.

The American aircraft industry, he added, was expanding at an incredible rate. Last July, 78,000 men were employed in the American aircraft factories and at the present moment, 250,000 were employed. By next June, the number would have expanded to 500,000.

NEW PLANE FOR BRITAIN

A new type of plane is being added to Britain's air strength and is expected to play a useful part in the war.

A light twin-engined bomber, the new plane is to be known as the Botha I and is the result of experiments carried out at one of the most important aeroplane factories in this country. Its performance and armament are a close secret at present. It is a general reconnaissance and torpedo bomber and powered by two Perseus engines.

TRAINING IN CIVIL AVIATION

The Civil Aviation Directorate have embarked on a scheme of training two thousand mechanics a year for two years for the maintenance of aircraft and, in pursuance of this, have created nine training centres in different parts of the country, out of which eight have already commenced work. As soon as men are selected for training by the Indian Air Force Recruiting Officer, they are absorbed by one of these training centres and given a stipendiary allowance of Rs. 25 per month during the period of civilian training.

INVISIBLE PLANES

A new type of Junkers plane made of transparent material and stated to be scarcely visible at a height of 2,400 feet, is being constructed at big aircraft factories at Wiener Neustadt in Austria, according to reports reaching the German frontiers.

The machines are reported to have engines of 1,100 h.p. and a speed of 890 miles per hour.

INDUSTRIAL RECONSTRUCTION COUNCIL

A plea for the formation of an Industrial Reconstruction Council, consisting of eminent Indian industrialists and public men was advanced by Mr. Amrit Lal Ojha, presiding over the fourteenth Annual Session of the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry, recently held at Delhi.

The Council, he said, must utilize the large amount of information collected by the Supply Department with a view to evolving an immediate plan for either suitably expanding the present enterprises or creating new ones.

HAND-MADE PAPER

The Government of Bengal have, it is learnt, decided to launch a three-year scheme for investigating the commercial possibilities of hand-made paper as a small scale industry. The scheme is estimated to cost the Government about Rs. 9,000.

It is stated that the manufacture of hand-made paper was once a wide-spread and prosperous industry in Bengal, and a large number of people used to earn a livelihood by it. But with the advent of mill-made paper, the hand-made product lost its foothold.

ARMY BLANKETS

The Department of Industries, Punjab, is handling a huge order for 45,000 army blankets, which are being made by the villagers of Panipat and Khambkaran from raw wool available in the Punjab. Efficiency in carding, milling, washing and raising are assured by the use of suitable machines. The total order amounts to nearly Rs. 8,00,000, and the villagers' share by way of wages will be nearly Rs. 90,000.

PAPER FROM STRAW

Cargoes of paper made from straw are now on their way from Britain overseas. The achievement is a triumph for British research. Paper-makers during the last war began experimenting with the idea of making paper from straw. Since then they have made such progress that to-day they are shipping a product which, although it lacks the qualities of vellum, is excellent for writing on.

TOBACCO GROWING IN U. P.

The U. P. Government have decided to continue and expand the experimental scheme of growing cigarette tobacco in the province. The scheme was started last year and the experiments so far, it is stated, have been successful.

While tobacco was grown only in the Government farm at Jhansi during last season, Government have decided to subsidize indigenous cultivators round about the Jhansi area also to take to growing of this brand of tobacco. They will be given help to buy seeds and will be helped to cure the leaves. Arrangements have also been made for the proper marketing of the produce.

MANURING OF PADDY

The increase of the country's food supply is at present a problem of some emergency. Rice is India's most important food crop and the Imperial Council of Agricultural Research recently started inquiries to find out how best to improve rice yields by manurial treatment. Examination of the vast amount of data collected revealed certain useful features, a summary of which in the form of a bulletin entitled Manuring of Paddy has been published.

It is found that out of the three important food elements of plants—nitrogen, phosphorus and potash—only the first two are required by paddy crops, and often the need for a combination of both these elements is indicated. The utility of green manures ("dhaincha" Sunn-hemp, etc.) has been fully established, and in Bihar a net profit of Rs. 10 to 15 per acre has been obtained by green manuring alone.

CAUVERY WATER FOR PUDUKOTTAH

The Government of Madras have informed the Pudukottah Durbar that they are prepared to supply water from the Cauvery to certain areas in the State on payment of a cess of Rs. 10 per acre.

In the Legislative Council, the Assistant Administrator stated that the Madras Government had agreed to supply the Cauvery water for certain enclaves if a cess of Rs. 15 per acre was paid, but the ryots could not afford to pay it and the Durbar had sought the good offices of the Resident, Madras States, to move the Madras Government to reduce the rate.

LABOUR CONDITIONS IN GERMANY

Facts regarding labour conditions in Germany revealed in London by a Ministry of Economic Warfare official, show that despite its dictatorial powers, Nazi Government has not been able to achieve 100 per cent. control of the workers' movement and to use all skilled labour.

Wages are fixed and it is illegal for employers to pay more, but, according to information received in London, a tremendous amount of overtime is being worked. Hours in factories vary between 10 and 12 daily, and the Government has been compelled to make concessions concerning overtime pay. Reports have been received of signs of fatigue among workers.

It is understood that Germany added three million to its labour forces since the war or 10 per cent. above the pre-war figures. They consist of a million foreigners, a million prisoners of war engaged on civil work and a million extra German workers, who had retired or who were not in the usual way available. The total number of women employed is now 900,000 more than at the beginning of the war.

SINHALESE WORKERS

There were 40,000 unemployed in Colombo, but the Minister of Local Administration, Mr. S. W. R. D. Bandaranayake, cannot find one Sinhalese to work in his garden. He tried two Sinhalese youths from his own village in his garden in Colombo, but both went away complaining of the difficulty to sweep and draw water.

These statements were made by Mr. Bandaranayake, speaking at a meeting at Kalutara.

There were 900,000 Indians employed in Ceylon while Sinhalese were starving for want of work. Yet this weakness existed. Was it surprising they were declining, he asked.

12 HOUR DAY FOR SHOP EMPLOYEES

The Bengal Shops and Establishments Act came into force in Calcutta and Howrah recently. According to the rules, shops and establishments will remain open for 12 hours from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. and employees will have holiday for a day and a half in the week.

AGE OF RETIREMENT

Sir Jeremy Raisman, Finance Member, stated in the Central Assembly that "while persons recruited on or after April 1, 1938, or who were not in permanent service on that date cannot be retained in Government service after the age of 55th year, except on recorded public grounds, persons in permanent service on that date can be considered for such retention after attaining 55 years and upto the age of 60 years provided they continue to be efficient."

PORTRAITS AND LOCAL BODIES

The Government of Madras have issued orders banning the incurring of expenditure by local bodies in connexion with the installation of portraits of any public men or leaders.

The only portraits which are allowed in the offices of local bodies or institutions run by them in future are those of Their Majesties the King and Queen.

Where portraits are presented from private funds, previous sanction of the Government is required for their acceptance by local bodies.

INDIAN STUDENTS FROM ENGLAND

A number of Indian students from England arrived in Bombay on April 18.

They testified to the nonchalance with which Britain is taking the Nazi air blitz.

A Bombay student, Mr. M. M. Wagle, revealed that he was one of the four students trapped under the debris when the Indian Students' Hostel in London was bombed in September last. The sirens that night were sounded frequently and most of the students had gone into shelter. Mr. Wagle and three others were sleeping on the ground-floor lounge when a bomb burst and the ceiling collapsed.

THE FAMOUS YOUNGSTERS

Statistics seem to prove that the younger sons of families are better equipped with brains than their elder brothers. Among the famous younger brothers are Julius Caesar, Abraham Lincoln, Napoleon, Shakespeare, Nelson, George Bernard Shaw, Charles Darwin, George Washington, and Marshal Foch.

THE INDIAN REVIEW

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THE TOTALITARIAN STATE

BY

HIS GRACE THE ARCHBISHOP OF MADRAS

GENESIS OF THE STATE

THE Middle Ages did not speak of States. They spoke of the Papacy, Kingdoms, Empires, Cities and Republics. Speaking of Power, they distinguished between temporal power and spiritual power. Peoples were called nations, classes, corporations or guilds. The idea of State as we mean it now had no currency then. It is only at the time of the Reformation and counter-Reformation that the idea of State acquired consistency as though it were an effective reality. Created by a need, as all words are, the word State was first used in Italy to indicate stability, precisely at the time when stability of power, surety of independence were conspicuous by their absence in all those petty principalities, dukedoms, marquisates and pseudo-republics which were spread all over the country.

The identification of the State with the Prince was the first manifestation of the idea of the State, and Machiavelli was its theorist. For Machiavelli "the ends of the Ruler", writes Don Luigi Sturzo, "demand the subordination of the ends of subjects. Means are indifferent, so much the better if they are honourable but

even unscrupulous means, if useful, are not to be excluded. Religion is good inasmuch as it keeps the people quiet: morality is useful inasmuch as it furthers the general well-being, but above religion and morality stand politics understood as the art of domination and of maintaining strength. Machiavelli had no liking for crime, but when it proved a path to success he admired its results."

Luther gave all powers, even ecclesiastical powers, into the hands of the princes, who were not controlled either by the Church or the people. "Machiavelli," states Don Luigi Sturzo, "had subordinated the ends of religion to the ends of the State as personified in the Prince. Luther went further—his theory of the servile will separated morals from faith and left the whole moral life and religious organisation in the hands of the sole temporal authority."

The theory of Machiavelli's empiricism and that of Luther's servile will did not seem adequate to many and the theory of 'Sovereignty' appeared. It is the power to make laws without being bound by them. In modern times this theory became

general and by the second half of the seventeenth century it was more or less accepted by all. Invested with a divine character, Sovereignty had become the Divine Right of Kings.

Bossuet expressed it in Galican form—Protestant and Anglican theologians upheld it as a twofold absolutism, civil and religious. Rome opposed both attitudes, protecting the rights of the people.

The Natural Law theory with Hobbes as its chief exponent came in time to save the Divine Right. According to this theory, men were such that being unable at the beginning to form a society and give themselves laws, they ceded their potential sovereignty to a chief. According to Rousseau it was not the people that ceded their sovereignty but this was usurped by the monarchs. Between the two conceptions, Bossuet's Sovereignty by Divine Right and Hobbes' Sovereignty by Natural Right, a third developed, Rousseau's Sovereignty of the People. This Sovereignty was absolute but it had to be delegated to representatives who could be recalled or re-elected at fixed periods. This was Democracy. I shall not speak of the three Germans whose conceptions guided the political life of the last century up to our own times, I mean Hegel, Fichte and Marx who expressed the efforts of the nineteenth century to give a meaning, a content, an absolute and all but divine finality to the state, the nation, the class; nor shall I touch the two systems; the liberal and the authoritarian systems which grew round the conception of the national state. I shall restrict myself to Totalitarianism a bitter experience as Don Luigi Sturzo puts it, "which has emerged in the

sixteen years between 1917 and 1938 and has given to Europe and the World a Bolshevik Russia, a Fascist Italy and a Nazi Germany, the three great totalitarian states differing in character, but all three of a national type and based on administrative and political centralisation, militarism, a monopoly of education and closed economic systems".

THE TOTALITARIAN STATE APPEARS

The name is of recent origin but the Assyrians and Babylonians knew the significance and the substance of it even before the name itself was coined. Those who have studied the history of the French Revolution must have seen how the Jacobins could be easily proclaimed the predecessors of the promoters of the modern totalitarian regimes: the dictatorship of a party in the name of the community; the use of propaganda on a large scale; the excitement of the emotions of the masses, violence and terrorism; the enforcement of a uniform ideology and the persecution, proscription and disappearance of any other rival form of political and social thought.

"The Jacobin democracy of 1793-94," says Dawson, "was not only the prototype of the totalitarian state, it was also the matrix in which the many types of modern totalitarian ideology had their origin." Fascism has so to say re-established the Totalitarian State. It has defined it in the famous expression: "Nothing outside or above the state; nothing against the state, everything within the state, everything for the state." Nothing human or spiritual exists, far less, has value outside the state.

The existing totalitarian states originated all in the same way. A political party

has captured the state machine. It has re-organised the life of the whole nation according to its principles, ideology or programme. Democratic parliamentary states are, so to say, neutral, impersonal, organisations directed or worked by a party or a combination of parties which have succeeded to predominate at the moment. This sort of government has unfortunately become weak and inept due to social parties or social interests tending to overthrow one another. The democratic state, incapable of deciding on fundamental issues has shown no will, no power. Nazism, Fascism, Communism owe their triumph to a policy of revolutionary action which restored to the state a single will and purpose bending all to its aim and end.

In Germany, in Italy and in Russia, party and government form one and the same thing,—all power in the state. In the history of the world the state has never been so omnipotent and its power so highly concentrated in the hands of the Ruler whose word is the gospel. In the past, emperors and dictators seemed to have possessed unlimited power over their subjects but it has not been their privilege to mobilize all the political, economic and psychological resources of the nation and use them as they willed and wished.

In the Democratic regime the state exists only to serve the people. The Party or the Leader of the Party represents the will of the peoples.

DANGER AHEAD!

Far from all this is the conception of the Totalitarian State. The Totalitarian Party is the master of the state, the master of the people and bends everything

and everybody to its end and purpose. Liberty goes, personality is strangled. It is the invasion of human soul by the hand of power.

The problem which confronts us is: how will the Democratic states make themselves strong enough to exist still in the face of these new invading and crushing powers, without abandoning the principles of personal liberty and tolerance which are fundamental in Democracy? The future of the world depends on the solution of this problem. If England, the United States and poor defeated France, fail to preserve and save the tradition of freedom and the personality of man, no other temporal power will succeed and the whole world will be changed.

Let me conclude with the words of Sir Robertson:

"Great cultural issues, no less than great spiritual issues, are at stake today and will be in the future. Intellectually and morally, the civilized world walks on the edge of an abyss.

Two final conclusions impress themselves on my mind the more I have studied and reflected on my subject. First the spiritual freedom, which the Christian demands, and without which the Christian religion and the Christian Church cannot exist, can neither be secured nor exercised without securing and exercising other freedoms—intellectual, moral, political, social and economic: and, secondly in demanding and fighting for that spiritual freedom, the Christian is fighting also for freedoms to be enjoyed by those who may remain indifferent or are antagonistic to the Christian religion.

Such a consideration will only steel the Christian will and harden the fibre of the Christian conscience, because the right that is in issue is the right not only to find the truth but to proclaim it when found—and leave the result to human reason and the will of God. If victory in that supreme conflict comes, it will be because the Christian Church through its members has proved the truth, its faith and absoluteness of its values by the unfaltering witness and lives of Christians throughout the world."

THE RIDDLE OF INDIAN HISTORY

By MR. P. R. SRINIVAS

(Editor, "Indian Finance", Calcutta)

INDIA today is a puzzle alike to the political philosopher and the scientific sociologist. In a sense, she has always been so. And every people on the face of the world is to a large extent a puzzle to foreigners. But there is a uniqueness about the puzzle we have set ourselves and the world to solve. Soviet Russia is now the sphinx of international politics. But the riddle of Russian policy will soon be solved—if not this year, at least the next. But what India wants or what India will do, no one can tell. As I said, there is a sense in which India has always been a puzzle. And it is only in relation to the puzzle of Indian history that the puzzle of Indian politics can be understood.

What is the puzzle of Indian history? If the test of history is intelligibility, though not Trotskyan inevitability, Indian history may be deemed intelligible. It is the dull, drab story of dynastic wars and conquests, of regicides and usurpations, which may bore the reader, but not intrigue him. But that is a superficial view. Historical intelligibility is a question of ability to enter into the spirit of a race, to follow its doings and fortunes, to account for its failures, to gauge its potentialities. Indian history does not help you in any of these tasks. It is incredibly poor in its content. To all appearances, the masses have been dumb, driven cattle, driven, that is, by a tyranny that changed, not in its nature, but in its personnel. It is true there were always the signs of a high civilisation, a sprinkling of intellectuals, artists and poets, religious movements of a revivalist kind, fusion of

alien cultures with the indigenous. But the organic character of Indian society was never convincingly in evidence. No under current of social development ever galvanised the masses of people into creative activity. Neither resistance to tyranny, nor united effort for realisation of social values characterised Indian history at any period.

Therein lies the riddle of Indian history. Was India civilised? It is a question which out of sheer resentment Indians will refuse to answer. But, we must recognise, that it is quite different from the question whether there were, or are, highly civilised individuals, native to the soil, in this country. We have always been content with a resounding "yes" to the second question. But the former, too, is important, in fact, even more important than the latter. It is not always in our active consciousness.

But the riddle is not solved by saying that there have always been highly civilised individuals in India who form indubitable proof that the country is civilised. For the mark of a civilised individual is consideration for others. And a country whose civilised classes care little for the masses—well, it cannot complain if its claims to civilisation are brought into question.

To my mind, the puzzle which India sets is this. The problem of the political philosopher is how such a highly gifted and civilised community as the Hindus of India could persistently neglect the well-being of the masses. The problem of the sociologist is how such a teeming mass of humanity could be so free from

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the familiar phenomena of social discontent, social upheaval, and the development of organic unity.

The question can, of course, be easily answered, if the political philosopher puts down the cultured classes in India for mere charlatans and the sociologist regards Indian society as having led a mere amoebic existence.

No careful or conscientious student can shirk the problem by giving himself such unsatisfactory answers.

There can be no doubt that the culture of the Ancient Hindus was not vitiated by indifference to the masses. Nor can it be said that Hindu society had no organic unity, though it has suffered from deep cleavages.

If we do not swing to one extreme or the other, we shall recognise that there is a problem or a riddle solved.

How is it that a great and gifted people has remained singularly indifferent to the problem of political security? The question is not of mere historic or academic interest. For even to-day when the country has had nearly two centuries of complete foreign domination, the political problem is not posed or faced as such. National energies are diverted, public attention side-tracked and the nation induced to have obsessions that are not obviously of primary political importance.

That is the deep riddle of Indian history upto the present moment, which, unlike the Russian enigma, for instance, can be solved only in the fulness of time.

For my part, I believe that Indian history does hold the clue to the solution of this riddle. The peculiarity of our history and our politics must be traced

to the uniqueness of India's achievements in the past and equally to the uniqueness of India's situation and circumstance. Here is a country which reached the summit of civilisation before the predatory races of the North-West got on the move. In the present age, it is comparatively easier to appreciate the mentality of a highly civilised people when they are confronted by powerful invaders. All the courage and heroism that a race is capable of are hurled against the invader. The tide is stemmed; and if it is rolled back, normal life can be resumed.

But if invasion persists on a large scale and for a long time, if a century's experience shows that it is not a case of beating back one attack or two, but of being buffeted by endless waves of invasion from the populous North, there has necessarily to be a more comprehensive outlook. And such an outlook on the part of a civilised race might well open its eyes to the importance of the environment in which a nation finds itself. The attitude of bowing low to the conqueror and let the thundering legions past is the natural result of such circumstances.

But a civilised race draws the line at cultural capitulation. The Ancient Hindus had made a fine art of this policy of combining cultural integrity with political subjection. The essence of this compromise lay in preserving the individuality of Hindu society by imparting to it a more or less cast iron rigidity and teaching the individual to look for freedom in the peculiar patterns of our social life, rather in the broader spheres of national politics. This compromise has worked admirably during a period of over thousand years, when the volcano in the North has heaped

successive layers of conquering immigrants on the fair landscape of Hindusthan.

But the nemesis of this compromise has to be suffered. Contrary to modern biology, survival has rendered us less fit. The rigidity of Hindu society has rendered it unfit for action. Indifference to politics has developed into a chronic disease. Contentment in isolated segments of social life has incapacitated us for a wide outlook and concerted action. And the old attitude to invasion is so much in the blood that we cannot nerve ourselves to a new effort.

But by far the most important part of our outlook is a vague internationalism in the back of the nation's mind. A people so repeatedly subject to invasions from abroad naturally thinks that all its constructive efforts must be postponed to a time when there could be a fair assurance of order beyond the border. The true culture of the race had, so to say, to be protected from the ravages of invasion. The Hindus preferred to keep the seeds of their culture in cold storage, in the security which indifference to foreign conquest afforded them. I may refer to the parallelism, that is already evident between Modern France and ancient Hindu society.

Two basic ideas, therefore, emerge from India's experiences of the past and her contemplation and evaluation of them. One is the vague longing for an international order which would put an end to the repeated invasions of the past. And the other is non-resistance even to the point of outwardly co-operating with the conquering invader. But fundamentally, the attitude is one of biding time and reinforcing, when the time comes, the forces working for a world order.

That time is probably the present. Or possibly we are exaggerating the importance of the times we are living in. But India looks like picking up the broken threads of her history, of retrieving from cold storage the seeds of her ancient culture and tending them to a sturdy growth.

The trouble, again, is the horrible nemesis of compromise. We are still reconciling opposite ideas. Our internationalism is the internationalism of visionary non-violence. Our resistance is the resistance of non-co-operation. The national ideology is yet to develop a degree of positivity: the national plan, a degree of activity. And till they do, the riddle will remain.

Abraham Lincoln's Attitude to War

BY MR. A. VENKAPPA SASTRI, M.A.

THE Civil War in America of which Lincoln was the leading spirit is about the perfectest modern instance of war fought in the cleanest way, 'handled nobly and with imagination', an illustration of how violence itself may be rendered just, humane, and educative where a genius of pity presides at the helm.

Abraham Lincoln was installed President on March 4, 1861. On the announcement of his election prejudice grew to a head against him in the slave-owning South, who knew his views on slavery and fixed upon secession as the only means of safety. Lincoln was adamant on two points,—the preservation of the Union

and the abolition of slavery. The integrity of the States was primary and paramount, than the question of slavery. To save the Union, War must be risked, however abhorrent. *In spite of the hostile stand of the South, he would not regard them as enemies but as misguided sheep trying to break away from the flock that must be kept together.* In his very first address on assuming office, he said talking of the relations between the North and South: "We are not enemies, but friends. Though passion may have strained, it must not break our bonds of affection. The mystic chords of memory stretching from every battle-field and patriot grave to every living heart or hearth-stone all over the broad land, will yet swell the chorus of the Union, when again touched, as surely they will be, by the better angels of our nature." *That was the affectionate, friendly spirit that ruled Lincoln all through.*

His first hope was that the issue between the North and the South could be settled without the arbitrament of the sword. But war could not well be avoided. *Lincoln waited for the first blow to be delivered by the South.* Till Fort Sumter fell, his policy was neither brisk nor energetic, but the fall of Sumter decided the course. 65,000 regulars and 75,000 volunteers were enlisted at the first summons. The sympathy of England, with its centuries of aristocratic tradition, lay with the South, only the workingmen of Manchester, despite the suffering and unemployment to which they were reduced, approving and admiring the stand of Lincoln. The first years of the war were a success to the Confederates. Braving the opposition of his own party *Lincoln confidently drew on the Negro population,*

authorised the admission of a hundred and thirty thousand of them into the army and paid them equal pay with the rest annulling all racial discrimination. When the tide of war turned with the battle of Antietam and Lincoln felt assured of a straight drive, he declared the freedom of all slaves within States which should be at war with the Union on New Year's Day, 1863. A proclamation of complete emancipation followed in three years.

It was an act of rare courage and rarer humanity launched on the sole responsibility of Lincoln. *No such magnanimous gesture of trust, freedom and prescience was ever made in human history by any statesman faced with the fire of war.* What a rebuke to the timid, cautious statesmen who defer as inopportune under conditions of war all idea of reform, liberation of subject nations, and in general the pursuit of any generous or constructive policy!

Re-elected for a second term on 4th March 1865, Lincoln delivered an inaugural address at once conveying his emphatic determination to carry on the war to a finish yet yearning for peace so characteristic of a cultured soul. "Fondly do we hope—fervently do we pray—that the mighty scourge of war may speedily pass away." And then the grim resolution: "Yet, if God wills that it continue till the wealth piled by the bondman's two hundred and fifty years of unrequited toil shall be sunk and until every drop of blood drawn with the lash shall be paid by another drawn by the sword, as was said three thousand years ago, so still it must be said, 'the judgments of the Lord are true and righteous'". The concluding sentence of the address is the

very quintessence of a high-minded chivalry born of a heart replete with humanity and a head replete with wisdom: "With malice towards none; with charity for all: with firmness in the right, as God gives us to see the right, let us strive on to finish the work we are in, to bind up the nation's wounds; to care for him who shall have borne the battle, and for his widow and his orphan, to do all which may achieve and cherish a just and lasting peace among ourselves, and with all nations."

At the end of the war, says a biographer, on one point he was determined: *There should be no arrogant rejoicing over a fallen foe.* Lincoln's own words are: "No one need expect that I will take any part in hanging or killing these men, even the worst of them. Enough lives have been sacrificed. We must extinguish our resentments if we expect harmony and union." What infinite love! What profound wisdom! And what a lesson for peace-makers! In the hands of Lincoln, war with conventional weapons and appliances was, indeed, raised to the noble plane of a high-hearted moral campaign.

Having average humanity in view and reckoning with the world's stage of evolution, for a long time to come the rule of resisting violence with violence may continue to be the one desperate resource of troubled mankind. But it is the limitation of frail man and should be confessed for such. Lincoln himself admitted the moral superiority of a bloodless revolution when he declared: "This appeal to force is the misdeed of an imperfect world." He deplores the resort to force and hopes a time will arrive when moral forces will prevail and

ancient disputes will be settled without an appeal to arms. If not by conscious volition and purposeful effort, the stricken people of the earth will learn through the anguish and purgatory of war the ultimate wisdom of Lincoln's words and accomplish his prophecy in the days to come.

MR. ROOSEVELT'S PROCLAMATION

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT, in a remarkable proclamation declaring an unlimited national emergency, said in his fire-side talk on May 27:

Whereas the succession of events makes plain that the objectives of the Axis belligerents in such a (present European) war are not confined to those avowed at its commencement but include the overthrow throughout the world of the existing democratic order and world-wide domination of peoples and economies through the destruction of all resistance on land, sea and in the air and whereas indifference on the part of the United States to the increasing menace would be perilous, and common prudence requires that for the security of this nation and of this hemisphere we should pass from peacetime authorisations of military strength to such basis as will enable us to cope instantly and decisively with any attempt at a hostile encirclement of this hemisphere or the establishment of any base for aggression against it, as well as to repel the threat of predatory incursion by foreign agents into our territory or society, now, therefore, I, Franklin D. Roosevelt, President of the United States of America, do proclaim that an unlimited national emergency confronts this country which requires that its military, naval, air and civilian defences be put on a basis of readiness to repel any and all acts or threats of aggression directed towards any part of the Western Hemisphere.

I call upon all loyal citizens engaged in production for defence to give precedence to the needs of the nation to the end that a system of Government that makes private enterprise possible may survive. I call upon all loyal workmen as well as employers to merge their lesser differences in the larger effort to ensure the survival of the only kind of Government which recognises the rights of labour or capital. I call upon the loyal State and local leaders and officials to co-operate with the civilian defence agencies in the United States to assure our integral security against foreign directed subversion and to put every community in order for the maximum productive effort with the minimum of waste and unnecessary friction.

THE SPIRIT OF TOLERANCE

BY PROF. A. R. WADIA, M.A.

(Mysore University)

TO a generation nurtured on the principle of religious toleration a book like Dr. Jordan's* should be only of historical interest. But it is the misfortune of this generation that it has to experience the wild claims of totalitarianism which puts scant value on religion and thus comes to disown the claims of conscience against the might of the Hitlerian state. Dr. Jordan's learning is German in character, and the volume under review is the fourth and the last in a series of four dealing with the religious history of England since the Reformation right down till the triumphant return of the exiled Stuart, King Charles II, the merry king of England. In these intervening centuries much precious blood had been shed by both Catholics and Protestants, and all this in the interest of souls, which justifies our characterisation of this book as one on soul. Organised religion with its blind faith in its own dogmas ends in claiming a monopoly of truth and the consequent right to force this truth on all and sundry even at the point of the sword. The soul of the individual becomes a marketable commodity which can find an automatic entrance to the privileges of heaven or a forcible departure to the terrors of hell. There is a tragic logic behind all religious intolerance; if we know where truth lies, is it not our duty to make every one conform to it; if any one is so perverse that he will not see it, is it not our duty to force him to see it? But, alas! blind faith apart, who can claim to have the monopoly of truth? *What is Truth?* The question of jesting Pilate has remained unanswered through these 19 centuries. People have had to learn the sharp lesson through suffering and bloodshed that God speaks differently to different people and manifests Himself in different ways to different people. The final claim to truth is shrouded in personal faith, which claims to be logical, but is unable to

prove its logical character at the bar of reason. When reasonable people begin to think of these conflicting personal faiths, and when they begin to think of God as a merciful Father, who is prepared to take the will of His children as the deed rather than to punish them like a savage for discarding the supposed truths which they cannot understand, religious tolerance must result. This is the gist of the story that Dr. Jordan's masterly volume unravels and shows how the exigencies of England's political life brought common sense—that most uncommon of virtues—to the religious bigots, who at last began to see that tolerance of one another's religious beliefs made for a united England and also a more religious England. In this development one cannot fail to notice a note of regret in Dr. Jordan that religious tolerance has won the battle only at "the cost of the rapid decay of the medieval ideal of an organic spiritual society", which had come to be identified with the ideal of Christian Society. He is emphatic in his view that by 1660 medieval Christian tolerance had died down and religious toleration had come to be an accepted feature of England's religious life. This cannot be taken at its face value, for if Catholics were tolerated they were tolerated as inferiors with definite limitations, and this was still more true of the Jews. But it may be admitted that the old acerbity, which was prepared to go to any lengths in matters religious, had lost its edge by 1660 and prepared the way for that absolute tolerance which has made England the home of liberty and an inspiration to the rest of the world.

We may note in passing that the intolerance which has marked the totalitarian states of to-day has shifted its centre of gravity from religion to mere politics. Religion of Christ or of God has ceased to be the pivot of life in these countries. Nationalism reigns supreme and it is in the name of nationalism we have seen attempts made to dethrone Christ and enthrone Wodin or Hitler or Lenin as the case may be.

*The Development of Religious Toleration in England: Attainment of the Theory and Accommodation in Thought and Institution (1640-1660) By W. K. Jordan, Ph.D. George Allen & Unwin, Ltd., London. 21s.

This shifting of interest can be easily accounted for by a changed attitude to the question: What is soul? In the Reformation era, as in the medieval ages, nothing was more real than the soul. But the growth of science as of the scientific method has profoundly affected people's attitude to soul. This change is studied by Dr. William Ellis in his "Idea of the Soul." It is definitely a philosophical book, but written by a scientist, and this perhaps constitutes the main charm of the book. Dr. Ellis is Lecturer in Experimental Zoology in Liverpool University. So naturally he can claim to have a mastery in scientific technique. But he is not a narrow specialist. He has read widely and deeply in philosophical classics from the Greeks downwards and has made a special study of Psychology. The Socratic view that the soul is something in terms of which alone we can understand life, has become a part and parcel of Christian tradition as well, but it is a far cry from the behaviourist view which has reduced soul to a matter of behaviour in terms of nerves and sensations. Dr. Ellis takes us through the psychological theories of the 19th century, epi-phenomenalism as well as through the epoch-making work of Driesch and Pavlov, but comes to the conclusion that "mechanistic description is doubly an abstraction from the concrete

*The Idea of the Soul in Western Philosophy and Science. By William Ellis, Ph.D. George Allen & Unwin, Ltd., London. 12s. 6d.

wholeness of experience". With him **mind** remains the dominant character in psychology and he does not hesitate to develop the philosophical implications of this view. "Spirit enters hierarchally into nature." "Matter is 'momentary' or 'instantaneous' mind - mind which dies away, as it were in the instant that it springs to life; it is suppressed or frustrated mind." So nature itself comes to be looked upon as psychical being.

Dr. Ellis thus carries on the philosophical tradition which has had many eminent supporters that soul is only the counter-part of body or matter which it animates, but apart from which it has no being. The soul as a detachable entity which can be thrust into hell or elevated to some heaven finds no justification at Dr. Ellis's hands. To him "the conclusion seems inevitable that 'mind' or 'spirit' is in some sense present to the whole of the physico-chemical realm, not merely to that part of it which happens to form our bodies". What is the religious implication of such a view of soul? That is a question which the author has not entered into, but his treatment certainly would not countenance the old view of soul as a marketable commodity, which delighted the old theologians and which still constitutes the chief force in the armoury of fanatics in all religions, whether they claim to be educated or not. Thus from a different side this history of the idea of the soul supports the need for religious tolerance.

Social Work: A Profession in the Making

By DR. J. M. KUMARAPPA, M.A., S.T.B., Ph.D.

(Professor of Social Economy in the Tata Graduate School of Social Work, Bombay)

THE complexity of modern civilization and the advance in culture have produced out of the old time philanthropy a new type of public service which has come to be known as Social Work. It is based upon the contributions of sociology, psychology, economics, biology, and political science. Therefore, the approach to modern social work is scientific and the techniques employed are based upon the fundamental principles of the social

sciences tested by the experience of years in solving problems of individual and social maladaptation. Since the aim of social work is the better adjustment of social relations, the modern social worker seeks to find out the physical, social and mental causes of maladjustment, and to utilize to the full the resources of the community for the purpose. Consequently, social work has become a field of human activity in which professional standards

of action are essential and in which there is a rapidly growing demand for the services of persons who have professional qualifications.

Admitting the claim that social work is most important to human welfare, we may turn our attention to the question: Is social work a profession? In answer to this question, some may maintain that it has not yet arrived at full professional status. While it is true that in India social work as a profession is still in the making, it has in some of the progressive countries of the West attained a fairly definite professional standard. No profession ever appears on the scene ready-made; it is a matter of slow growth and development. Social work is no exception to this rule. Some twenty-five years ago, it was not recognized as a profession even in America; but during the last two decades leading American social workers have done much to raise its standards to meet professional requirements. Their success in achieving the goal is due to some measure to the demands of the modern age which lays greater emphasis upon the utilization of scientific knowledge and upon a more extensive educational and professional training.

In its struggle for professional status, social work has to contend with some special difficulties, one among them is its complex nature. The removal of the causes of misfortune, and even of setting up a new or wholesome environment, good as they are, are not in themselves a sufficient goal of the social worker if the highest objects of social work are to be attained. The range of human nature is infinite and no two individuals react the same way to external circumstances. Every maladjusted person must, therefore, be reached individually if he is to be reclaimed, or revitalized so that he can grow into a self-respecting and self-directing member of society. To this end he has to utilize every agency available for the purpose and provide the treatment prescribed. In this respect the social worker accepts a wider responsibility than other professionals, and it is this aspect which makes the definition and limitation of professional function a difficult problem.

Nevertheless, it is important to determine the status of social work. While it may be argued that it is unimportant whether or not social work is termed a profession, provided its activities are carried on efficiently, yet the conditions which must be met to establish it as a profession are indispensable for insuring that the activities are efficiently carried on. If social work is raised to a professional status, it will bring about a distinction between adequately and inadequately equipped practitioners and help to formulate more clearly standards determining the general and special educational qualifications for efficient performance of their duties. In fact, the efforts of American leaders to raise it to a professional status have already resulted, not only in making social work more scientific but also in establishing higher standards of efficiency.

So much so, that few in the United States now regard common sense and a desire to do good to one's fellows as sufficient equipment for social work, and the tendency now is to restrict the application of the term "social workers" only to those who are employed as professionals, that is, to those giving their whole time to the work and usually working at it for pay. Just as those dabbling in medical or legal practice are not recognized as physicians or lawyers, so also those engaged incidentally in social work are not recognized as social workers. Why should we not also move in the direction of making social work a profession in order to raise its standard and efficiency?

Social work carried on by ill-equipped men and women does more harm than good. Our philanthropy confirms dependence instead of relieving it; most of our reformatories turn offenders into criminals instead of rehabilitating them. Why recognize this sort of thing as social work? If it is anti-social, as it really is, why not designate it as such? Our social workers are untrained; our methods are unscientific; our social work is poorly organized and inefficiently managed. Is it then a matter for wonder if the most grievous waste of human effort in India is in the realm of charity?

This unfortunate situation is the result of the popular attitude of regarding alms-giving as doing good to oneself, irrespective of its effect upon the one who receives.

In spite of all these shortcomings the attitude, we must admit, of the intellectuals towards social work and social workers is changing, and those responsible for programmes dealing with health, poverty, family life and social relationships in its many intimate aspects are becoming increasingly aware of the resourcefulness needed for the tasks undertaken, and of the importance of placing these tasks in the hands of disinterested, intelligent and professionally trained persons. In the United States no other factor has been so important to the achievement of professional status and efficiency as that of adequate academic and vocational preparation. Within the last two or three decades, some 33 training schools of high standard have been established in America. In the year 1936, there were 1,861 full-time and 2,261 part-time students registered in the 33 schools. Out of these, 73 per cent. of the full-time and 88 per cent. of the part-time students were graduates. So also in Europe and Great Britain much progress has been made during the last twenty years in raising the standard of social work by providing special training and education for social workers.

Though we have not yet made social work a profession, we must be thankful for the new national awakening which has stimulated public bodies to ever-increasing activities in the field of social welfare. There are already hundreds and hundreds of social service agencies scattered all over the country. The provincial governments, municipalities and local bodies have begun to show new concern for public well-being, while private agencies are multiplying their programmes and expanding their services. But the main weakness in all these enterprises is that they are carried on by several independent organisations, more or less on a communal basis, without any formulation of common purposes and principles of organisation for the field as a whole. In consequence, there is an immense amount of futile and inefficient organisation.

If we are to make our social work scientific, it is necessary not only to establish functional standards, that is, boundaries of social work, but also professional standards. This first step needed in this direction in the establishment of professional schools of social work. Even in America, it is the growth of such schools that has profoundly affected social work and its status. In our country, there is, no doubt, a growing feeling that our old methods are inadequate to meet the ever-increasing complexity of social problems, and that adequate scientific training should be provided for workers to enhance their efficiency and skill.

Among the papers submitted to the 4th session of the All-India Social Service Conference held in Bombay in the year 1924, there were as many as five papers which dealt specifically with the problem of training social workers and of providing necessary facilities for such training. As a result, the Social Service League of Bombay started about the middle of 1925 an evening class for those interested in public welfare, and a brief course of lectures were delivered on social problems. Since then, this system of arranging popular lectures twice a week over a period of six weeks has been kept up, and it has now come to be known as "Social Workers' Training Class". A course of popular lectures lasting over so brief a period can be neither adequate nor scientific. Nevertheless, it is an attempt in the direction of providing some training to those interested in social work.

Another institution, known as the "Social Training Centre for Women," was started in Bombay in the year 1927 by the joint effort of the Y. M. C. A., the Missionary Settlement for University Women, the Church of Scotland Mission and the American Marathi Mission. The sole responsibility for running this Centre was taken over by the Missionary Settlement for University Women in 1932. The girls admitted were immature as the age limit was 18, and the educational requirement was low as the students were either matriculates or even below that standard. The course offered lasted ten months and was of an elementary nature.

Though this institution was closed down in 1937, it was one of the early attempts to meet a felt need.

It was in June 1936 that the first professional school of social work was started in Bombay. We cannot be adequately thankful to the Trustees of the Sir Dorabji Tata Trust for taking the necessary steps to give a lead in providing the professional education of a high standard to social workers. The Sir Dorabji Tata Graduate School of Social Work is not only the first but the only one of its kind at present in India, and it offers a two year course of training in the general field of social work. In the first term such pre-professional and introductory courses as Social Origins, Sociology, Social Economics, Social Pathology, Child Psychology, Social Case Work, Medical Lectures for Social Workers, Hygiene and Sanitation are offered. During the rest of the three terms, courses in Social Psychology, Indian Social Problems, Crime and Delinquency, Organisation of Social Welfare Activities, Labour Problems and Industrial Welfare, Rural-Urban Social Problems, Psychiatry for Social Workers, Social Research and History of Social Work are covered.

Since the courses are professional in character, and the complexity of our social problems requires maturity of judgment, poise and dignity, which are usually gained only with age and experience, admission to the School is limited to graduates, men and women of recognised universities. Moreover, the undergraduate student has not the academic background and mental grasp to pursue successfully courses in social work. If social work in India is to be recognized as a profession, if it is to be made scientific, then graduate work is essential. Four years of college work are therefore none too many as a pre-requisite for either the academic training or the personal maturity that is desirable for professional training.

It may be of interest to the reader to know the different kinds of social work the graduates of the School are engaged in. Out of the first batch of graduates, one is engaged as the Labour Welfare Officer of the Government of Bombay. Another is the Chief Probation Officer of the

United Provinces. Two are working as Labour Welfare Officers in Bombay Mill. Three are Probation Officers of the Children's Aid Society. Two are engaged as municipal social workers of the Bombay Municipality. One is working as a Rural Development Officer among the depressed classes of Cochin, while another is carrying on a survey of the Harijan Seva Sangh. One is the Superintendent of a Children's Home, while another is a social worker of a Child Guidance Clinic.

Lack of trained leadership is largely responsible for the chaotic condition of our social work. To make social work in our country more exact, scientific and effective, we need an army of leaders trained for the profession, and to train them we need more Graduate Schools of Social Work, and more readiness on the part of social service agencies to give preference to trained workers. The untrained and part-time workers,—and they form no negligible element—will continue for some years yet to come to hamper the development of social work as a profession. However, their usefulness can be greatly enhanced by making them perform their work in conjunction with and under the supervision of professionally trained workers.

As a profession, Social Work must interpret human maladjustment not in terms of benevolence or uplift but of natural processes, that is, "laws" of cause and effect. It must view it as resting on relative rather than on absolute standards of conduct. As a means of control, it must depend upon "insight" and manipulation of natural processes rather than on mere authority and enforcement. The field of social work is ever-changing in response to new concepts of possible usefulness. Where the sphere of activity is of such elasticity, the type of personnel is of prime importance in determining what is done and how it is done. It is, therefore, necessary not only to place, our social work on a more dignified plane but also to demand professional standards of action on the part of those who choose to enter this new profession in the making.

HUMOURS OF THE LAW COURTS

By "OMEGA"

—O—

A certain lawyer was defending a man who had been sued for returning a borrowed kettle in a damaged condition. "I intend to prove my client's innocence in three different ways," said he, "first I intend to show that he never borrowed the kettle. Secondly, I intend to prove that it was cracked when he borrowed it. And thirdly, I will prove that it was whole when he returned it." Surely, it is only a lawyer's skill which can prove all these things in the same breath. And that was probably the reason why a judge stopped a prisoner who was giving evidence on his own behalf and making a bad job of it. "You are lying so clumsily," said the judge, "that I shall advise you to engage a lawyer." Is it a tribute or a fling at the legal profession? But anybody who has frequented law courts is well aware that no member of the bench has ever resisted the temptation of casting a gibe at the legal counsel. Nor have lawyers been silent and suffering targets; for many of them have given 'an eye for an eye' and returned a blow with a counterblow.

Many battles of wit have been fought in the sacred precincts of law courts and some of the passages-at-arms between lawyers and lawyers, or between lawyers and judges have caused great amusement. There was a stiff-necked judge who made no disguise of his contempt even for eminent lawyers. Once he tried to insult a distinguished counsel by putting his legs crosswise on the table facing the lawyer who was to begin his arguments. "Which end of your lordship may I address," inquired the lawyer with perfect composure. "Any you please," returned the judge trying to be witty. "Yes, my Lord," rejoined the counsel, "there is as much law in the one as in the other." It is reported that the judge, thereafter was very courteous to this lawyer. The lesson was neatly given. It was an Irish barrister, John Filpot Curran, who was considered the "high priest of repartee". An Irish judge had trained a mastiff dog to sit beside him in the court, and one day while Curran

was arguing, the judge turned his eye from him in scornful indifference and began to fondle the dog. The Barrister stopped. "Go on," said the judge without turning his attention from the dog. "I beg your pardon," answered Curran, "I thought your lordships were in consultation." The same judge once said to Curran: "Oh Sir, if that is law, I may burn my law books." "Oh, no, my Lord, better read them," came the reply. There is another story of this Irish barrister's presence of mind and native genius for wit. Once when he was addressing a jury, the judge from time to time shook his head in denial of the counsel's arguments. Curran remarked: "Gentlemen, common observers might imagine that that implies a difference of opinion, but you will perceive if you remain here for many days that when his lordship shakes his head there's nothing in it."

F. E. Smith, the late Lord Birkenhead, was another supreme artist in this line. He was the master-craftsman, a doughty champion, the hero of a hundred battlefields. Have you heard this story of a verbal duel between him and Judge Willis in the Southwark County Court?

A boy who had been run over was suing a tramway company for damages. F. E. appeared for the company. It was alleged that the accident had led to blindness and the judge, a kindly soul, allowed sympathy to outrun discretion. "Poor boy, poor boy," he exclaimed. "Blind! Put him on a chair so that the jury can see him." Such sympathy was misplaced in a judge F. E. was moved to protest. "Perhaps your honour would like to have the boy passed round the jury box," he suggested.

"That is a most improper remark," exclaimed the judge.

"It was provoked by a most improper suggestion," came the startling reply. Judge Willis tried to think of a decisive retort and it came. "Mr. Smith, have you ever heard of a saying by Bacon—

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the great Bacon—that youth and discretion are ill-wedded companions?"

"Yes, I have," was the instant reply. "And have you heard of a saying of Bacon—the great Bacon—that a much talking judge is like an ill-tuned cymbal?"

"You are extremely offensive, young man," exclaimed the judge. "As a matter of fact we both are," said Smith, "I am trying to be, and you can't help it." That was the time for the judge to stop. F. E. was in a devastating mood. But Judge Willis continued: "What do you think I am on the bench for, Mr. Smith?" "It is not for me, your Honour, to attempt to fathom the inscrutable workings of Providence," Lord Birkenhead replied.

A witty Scottish barrister was the brilliant but eccentric John Clerk, afterwards Lord Eldin. Once he pleaded in an appeal case in the House of Lords that his client had a prescriptive right to a mill stream because "the water had run that way for forty years". The Chancellor, much amused at the Scottish pronunciation, asked him in a jesting tone: "Mr. Clerk, do you spell water with two t's in Scotland?" The sensitive Mr. Clerk who had seen through the joke replied with lightning swiftness: "No, my Lord, we don't spell water with two t's in Scotland, but we spell manners with two n's".

In this account of great wits and humorists of the legal profession, it will be unpardonable to omit mention of Sir Edward Carson who stood in a class by himself. He had no mercy for a troublesome witness. Questioning an inveterate drunkard, he asked: "Do you drink?" "That's my business," came the curt reply. Instantly turning to the man, Sir Edward asked: "Have you any other business?" Another witness who thought no end of himself was once roughly handled by Mr. Justice Darling. When challenged, the witness said in a rather pompous tone: "I have been wedded to truth from my youth upwards." "Quite so," flashed out Lord Darling, "but the question is when did you obtain a divorce."

And this reminds me of an encounter which the late Pandit Motilal Nehru once had with a witness who had a swollen

head. Nettled by an inconvenient question in the course of the cross-examination, he said to the legal counsel: "You are mistaken." And in an angry tone continued: "Sir, do you think I'm a fool." The astute Pandit retorted: "Why, no," and then after a pause added, "but, of course, I may be mistaken." It was a hard stroke and the effect of it was visible. Indian law courts have witnessed occasional combats of wit in which lawyers have scored points over supercilious judges or refractory witnesses. The late Sir Rash Behari Ghosh shone in Calcutta High Court with a brightness all his own and eclipsed the men on the bench who sat mute as statues. A pensive English judge once got into a fighting mood and said to Sir Rash Behari: "Do you know whom you are addressing?" "Yes, my lord, I am addressing a *puny* judge of the High Court. The accent on the word *puny* did the trick and we are told on good authority that the judge was convinced of the virtues of silence while dealing with this brilliant legal luminary. The story goes of a young English barrister who knew more law than Hindustani. Cross-examining for defence regarding a question of measurements, he asked the plaintiff's witnesses: "How came you to know these measurements?" "By *Andaj*," said one. "By *Andaj*," said the second. And others repeated the same. The barrister addressing the Court said: "My lord, I have very little to say. The plaintiff cannot hope to succeed because he has omitted to call the most important witness in the case, that man *Andaj*. You will have observed, my lord, that every witness who has given evidence on this question derived his knowledge from *Andaj* and *Andaj* has not been called." Imagine the annoyance of the barrister who found the court convulsed with laughter at his intelligent suggestion.

Unconscious humour has often a large share in producing laughter in court. Winding up his speech, the counsel for defence in a case observed: "The principal fault of the prisoner has been an unfortunate characteristic of putting faith in thieves or scoundrels of the basest descrip-

tion. I have done. Gentlemen of the jury, the unhappy man in the dock places implicit faith in you." And here is another of the same type. A prosy judge was trying a case of alleged nuisance and in his charge to the jury explained at great length the legal definition of a nuisance. After fully expanding the statute and the common law, he asked the jury if they understood what a nuisance meant. "Oh, yes," the foreman of the jury promptly replied: "We are all agreed that we never realised what a nuisance was until we heard your lordship's summing-up." But this is small wonder, for the gentlemen of the jury are upto anything. In a case of petty larceny the jury were asked: "Do you find the prisoner guilty or not guilty?" The foreman promptly said: "Not guilty, with a recommendation that he should be told not to do it again."

Witnesses have no small place in producing that humour which is the one saving grace of many courts that are noted for their deadly dull proceedings. The magistrate glowered at the man in the witness-box. "You say this man robbed you. Can you pick out any of your property from the heap of articles found on the prisoner?" "Yes, that's my handkerchief with 'B' in the corner," said the witness. "But that is no proof, my man," snapped the magistrate. "I have a handkerchief with 'B' in the corner." "Well, I lost two handkerchiefs," said the witness in a most innocent voice. Mr. (afterwards Lord) Jeffry was addressing a jury and he found it necessary to make free with the character of a military officer who was present during his speech. On hearing himself several times spoken of as "the soldier", the son of Mars, boiling over with indignation, interrupted the pleader. "Don't call me a soldier, sir, I am an officer." Jeffry immediately went on, "Well, gentlemen, this officer who is no soldier was the sole cause of mischief." It is hard to beat a witty lawyer. Carlyle used an apt epithet when he described a barrister as a "loaded blunderbuss". If you bought him he blew your opponent's brains out, if your opponent bought him, he blew yours out. But let us leave Lord Jeffry and attend another scene.

Here is a judge asking in a challenging voice: "Prisoner, explain how it is that you stole these worthless articles and left a valuable gold watch and chain close at hand untouched." The prisoner replied humbly: "Don't find fault with me for that, my lord, my wife has been hard enough on me for it already." The atmosphere of the court was no more sombre, it became gay.

But what do you think of the deep seriousness and gravity of a judge who allowed the sacred atmosphere of his court never to be defiled by frivolous talk or scenes of excitement. It so happened that two lawyers fell out in his presence. And, horror of horrors, one said to the other: "You are the biggest fool I have ever seen." Promptly exclaimed the judge, rising to the occasion, "Order, order, don't you see I am present here." If one is not impressed by this magistrate's dignity, it is not his fault. There is no end to telling stories of legal humour. But space in a journal is limited and so I must call a halt.

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SCIENCE AND ART

BY MR. S. N. CHOPRA

EVERY TIME a genius who combines the scientist and the artist in him appears, a controversy on whether science and art are compatible with each other flares up. Yet the question is never resolved. The great discussion which ensues each time is buried under its own weight and the world left to repeat the argument as another such super-man is born. The world laments over the tardy progress of art in modern times. In the sphere of art to-day, geniuses do not recur as frequently as they used to. Some prophesy that the springs of creative art have gone dry under the burning sun of science. Lesser contact with nature and greater reliance on man's handicraft have fled the sense of wonder which is the parent of all creative art. Others ascribe this barrenness to some periodic movements that control outbursts of creative activity. The present period, according to this school, is a fallow period for art. Be that as it may. Our concern here is to show that art and science are not inconsistent with each other; that under balanced cultural conditions, the complimentary nature of science and art can lead to the enrichment of both.

It is questionable if wonder and awe, which are the founts of artist's inspiration dissolve as science progresses. A scientific answer to why the sky is blue, cannot dilute the artist's ecstasy on beholding a vast sea of the palest blue overhanging his head on a spring morning. The artist does not derive his inspiration from the "how" but from the "is". To him the idea is more important than the explanation. I wonder if any artist doubts the legendary nature of Greek mythology. And yet around that rich store of myth and speculation have grown sublimest creations of art. Neither is a scientific attitude inconsistent in an artist. Despite Ruskin's affirmation, there is no evidence to show that imaginative literature suffers from scientific knowledge on the part of the poet. Goethe, the greatest of the German poets, carried a head that could not only compose poetry but also grasp the minutest problems of astronomy and physics. Michael Angelo was an engineer, poet and a visual artist all combined in one. And

of Leonardo da Vinci it is said that he could successfully conduct a scientific research in the morning and sit down to paint his master-piece in the afternoon. His analytic faculty did not suffer because of his supreme synthetic genius.

A psychologist has attempted to reconcile science and art on a fresh basis altogether. To him there exists no contradiction between the two, because both spring from a common human faculty,—the intuitive faculty. He maintains that it is more by intuition than by progressive reasoning that great scientific truths are discovered. The momentous discoveries of Archimedes, Lavoisier, Newton and Darwin originated as lightning does on a dark sky, flashing through the genius mind and bringing sudden knowledge when deductive reasoning had come to a blind end. On this reasoning, the poet is essentially a great chemist and a great chemist a poet. Both have the same sixth sense which is denied to the common individual. Ridiculous as it seems, Nobel and Goethe can now sit as twin-brothers in history's lap without fear of being pointed out as queer companions.

This explanation, while it solves some problems, creates others of as great importance. As against the exceptional artist who has also some scientific aptitude, there are scores of eminent scientists to whom music is merely a succession of notes with definite pitch intervals and a picture a collection of smudgy dyes which the chemist has dug out of coal-tar. Should a ballot be arranged, it would not be surprising if a good number of the Fellows of the Royal Society pronounce a pushpin to be as good as poetry. Their intuitive faculty may altogether fail to register excellence of form, colour or sound.

How can we explain this contradiction? In view of what we have said in the preceding paragraph, how can we assert that science is not prejudicial to art? The explanation is somewhat on the following lines: There is a difference between the method of the scientist and the artist which always introduces a distinction between the respective spheres

of the two. And although it may be true that great scientific discoveries, like great creations of art, are conceived intuitively, their later life-history is differently laid. To superficial observers there now begins to appear a contradiction between the respective objectives of art and science. Yet this apparent conflict between science and art is more in the method than in the idea. Starting from a common source of inspiration, the scientist proceeds along the path of analysis while the artist adopts a totally synthetic attitude. Science, thence onwards, is for precision and accuracy; art, on the other hand, now puts its faith in an imaginative conception of universal truths. What confuses the question of art and science is the common habit of mixing up categories. This confusion can be avoided and the apparent conflict between science and art resolved by constantly reminding ourselves of the distinctive spheres of science and art.

This prompts the question; What are the respective functions of science and art? Superficially considered it would seem that whereas science resolves the mysteries of nature, art re-creates them. Such a view led an eminent scientist into the irresponsible statement that art is opposed to science; that it attempts to replant superstitions swept away by science. The scientist's resolve is to tear

away the mysterious veil that covers the maidenly face of nature and wring from her all her secrets. The poet's resolve is just the opposite. To him naked knowledge would dilute the sense of wonder wherefrom all artistic impulse proceeds. The well-being of art lies in the perpetuation of that sense of wonder.

This, however, does not mean that science and art are pulling in opposite directions, or that the aims of the two are in conflict. Both science and art are forms of discovery. Scientific discoveries relate to knowledge on the material plan; the discoveries of art are revelations on the spiritual plan. One treats of the relation of the grosser mind to the universe; the other exhibits the connection between the world and man's subtler mind. Whether science or art is more important is an irrelevant question. The necessity of science for promoting material culture is apparent. So also is the need of art for promoting spiritual culture. Man's progress has to be dual if it has to be progress at all. The real problem is not whether we can be more happy by abandoning science or neglecting art. The real problem is to attain that cultural balance in which science and art become two complementary instruments to human progress, each carrying us further towards its goal of perfection, but neither thwarting or competing with the other.

STRATEGIC DARDANELLES

BY MR. A. T. SRESHTA

"RUMANIA and Russia were beaten not by the German and Austrian armies, but by the Dardanelles," recently wrote Lloyd George, speaking of the last World War. So important are these Straits in a major European conflict.

Over the Dardanelles, history echoes with endless high-voiced discussions when tempers grew short and war-scare gripped nations. The Straits came to the forefront in the Napoleonic wars, the Crimean struggle, and the Russo-Turkish war of 1875. In 1912, they were fearfully bombarded by Italian battleships and early in the Great War, the belligerents

made a wild scramble for their possession. And all over a strip of blue water that Byron loved to swim across for pastime.

Today, the centre of political gravity is again shifting towards this channel on which Stalin and Hitler have cast covetous eyes.

STRATEGIC VALUE

The Hellespont of ancient days, the Dardanelles are the narrow straits connecting the Mediterranean with the Sea of Marmora and thence through the Bosphorus with the Black Sea. They average about 3 or 4 miles in breadth,

On the European bank is the peninsula of Gallipoli and, on the Asiatic, the province of Anatolia. Along the shores are a number of ancient castles, the chief of which are Sultanien-Kalensi (Old Castle of Anatolia) and Kilid-Bahr (Old Castle of Rumelia).

Owing to the narrow width of the channel, the Dardanelles are easily defended from naval attack. Under the now defunct Ottoman Empire, the banks were lined with batteries, fortified particularly at the point known as the Narrows, 10 miles from the Aegean end of the Straits. The channel itself was strewn with submerged mines.

For the Balkan kingdoms bordering the Black Sea and for Southern Russia, the Straits form the only sea-outlet. In wartime the Dardanelles can make or mar these countries and this is what exactly occurred in the Great War.

THE DARDANELLES CAMPAIGN

Late in 1914, Turkey, whose relations with Britain had become strained owing to the presence of the German warships *Breslau* and *Goeben* in the Bosphorus, declared war against the Allies. To Russia, it came as a bomb-shell. As an ally of Great Britain, its trade had been greatly hampered by German submarines in the Baltic. And now, with suddenness, Turkey slammed the door on her southern sea-coast. Rumania also was on the verge of a collapse, Allied help for these countries became imperative. The Dardanelles must be captured at all costs.

The British Admiral, Sir Sackville Garden, suggested a methodical advance through the Straits by a fleet of semi-obsolete warships and mine-sweepers. The plan was carried out in February 1915, but finally abandoned as impracticable after the loss of 8 battleships.

A regular military campaign was then decided upon. Troops were landed on the north-western side of the peninsula of Gallipoli under Sir Ian Hamilton. The campaign lasted 8 long months during which the British tried every means in their power to surprise the Turks. But the mountainous nature of the country presented a serious obstacle to the Allies. The Turks, on the contrary, were acquainted

with every inch of the ground and, besides, were led by a brilliant young officer, Mustafa Kemal (later the great Dictator) whose terrific drive and energy goaded his tired and ill-equipped troops to fight with heroic courage. Down Chonuk Boir, the main point of attack, thrice did Mustafa hold down the British advance.

The campaign took a heavy toll of Allied troops amounting to 130,000 killed, wounded, and missing. The British could ill-spare their men who were urgently required on more important fronts. In December 1915, the Allies withdrew from Gallipoli. This closed a memorable chapter in the Middle East, the consequences of which were not easily foreseen at that period. According to a British Prime Minister, the war itself was thereby prolonged by nearly two years, involving millions of casualties and thousands of pounds expenditure.

INTERNATIONAL CONTROL

The close of the Great War saw serious efforts by the victorious nations to settle once for all the future of the Dardanelles which, while in the hands of the Ottoman rulers, had caused so much of distress in the war.

Before the Armistice, by a secret agreement among the Allies, Russia was promised the land surrounding the Dardanelles and the Bosphorus. But the rise of the Bolsheviks in 1917, with their strong antipathies for the Allies, totally altered the situation. The next proposal was to give the Straits to the Greeks, but was dropped under strong Italian opposition.

It looked now as if no settlement could be reached over so important a problem. But early in 1919, British Foreign Office experts, after much deliberation, suggested a neutralised zone to be formed around the Straits, inclusive of Constantinople, and controlled by a responsible power under a mandate.

At the Peace Conference, the Allies unanimously offered the mandate to America which, with its freedom from continental prejudices, was considered the best nation to administer this small State with its diverse populations. President Wilson,

at first reluctant to entangle his country in European obligations, accepted when pressed on considerations of world peace. He stated, however, that everything would depend on his capacity to influence the Senate to ratify the Peace Treaty.

This American scheme, which included also a mandate for an independent Armenia, was unquestionably a plan *par excellence* and would undoubtedly have promoted goodwill among the embittered nations of Europe. But Wilson's serious illness on his return to U. S. A., and the determined opposition of the Republicans, brushed away all hope of America undertaking the mandates.

It was then decided to administer the Dardanelles by an Inter-Allied Commission consisting of France, Italy, and Britain. The details of the control were worked out and later embodied in the Treaty of Sevres (1922).

But a serious development threatened to upset their plans. As the peace-makers dismembered the Ottoman Empire, rode it with supervising commissions, and gave birth to new States, a sinister figure loomed in far-off Anatolia, Mustafa Kemal, the hero of Gallipoli, now the nominal Governor of Erzerum, was organizing a revolt against the Sultan.

For a time, the statesmen at the peace table felt disturbed. Who is this Mustafa? It was as if a troublesome bee were constantly droning round their ears. "Oh!" some shrugged their shoulders impatiently "Mustafa and his band will soon pass away," and continued with renewed vigour their all-important task of ordering the destinies of nations.

But Mustafa also silently continued his work. The previous year, he had won an indecisive victory at Sakaria (1921), over the Greeks, but Turkey's fate still hung in the balance.

All at once, the dreary Anatolian plateau resounded to the boom of cannon and spatter of rifle-fire. In a moment of over-confidence, the Greek Army in Smyrna invaded Anatolia. For Mustafa, it was the signal for battle. With the fury of the Ancient Turk, he whipped his ragged troops into action, smote the enemy hip and thigh, and drove them

across the Aegean Sea back to their native land. Thus, at one stroke, was reduced to bits the carefully drawn-up Treaty of Sevres. At the Conference of Lausanne, General Ismet INUENU (the present President of Turkey) won for Turkey complete independence as well as control of the Dardanelles.

KEMAL RE-FORTIFIES THE STRAITS

The fortifications had been totally destroyed in the Great War. And in the Peace negotiations, Turkey had agreed not to re-erect them without the express sanction of the League of Nations. But in 1936, Kemal Ataturk, foreseeing a second international conflict, issued orders on his own authority for re-fortification. Subsequently, however, the Great Powers ratified his action. How far-sighted Kemal was in his decision is evidenced by recent developments in the present War. Had he not fortified the Straits, or had he awaited permission from the League which would not have been quickly given, the Dardanelles by now would, under Hitler's new-found weapon of lightning swiftness, have passed overnight into Russia's hands.

Today, the Dardanelles hold the key to the defeat of Nazism. In the last two years, Turkey has stood firm to Britain and weathered many storms. There is little hope, therefore, of Germany spreading eastward her reign of terror which, in the west, has brought the finest European States crumbling to the ground.

Blessed Am I That I Am Born To This Land

By DR. RABINDRANATH TAGORE

Blessed am I that I am born to this land
and that I had the luck to love her.
What care I if queenly treasure is not in her store
but enough is for me the living wealth of her love
The best gift of fragrance to my heart
comes from her own flowers
and I know not where else shines the moon
that can flood my being with such loveliness
The first light revealed to my eyes
was from her own sky
and let the same light kiss them
before they are closed for ever.

PROFESSOR K. S. KRISHNAN

By DR. C. MAHADEVAN, M.A., D.Sc., F.A.Sc.

PROFESSOR K. S. KRISHNAN, who was recently made an F.R.S., is the sixth Indian to be honoured with the election to the Fellowship of Royal Society—the blue ribbon in science in the British Empire. When this distinction



PROF. K. S. KRISHNAN, D.Sc., F.R.S.

comes to an Indian, it is recognition of the highest scientific talent and work. The brilliant genius, the late Ramanujam was the first Indian to be selected to the Royal Society, the others being Professor Sir C. V. Raman, the Nobel Laureate of Asia in Science, the late Sir J. C. Bose, Professor Megnath Saha, and Professor Birbal Sahani, one of the foremost palaeobotanists and the founder and inspiration of the Indian School of Palaeobotany. Professor Krishnan is the first researcher who had worked under a great Indian savant to achieve this distinction.

Krishnan was born in Watrap of Madura District of a family held aristocratic according to Indian notion, i.e., aristocracy of character and learning, on 4th December 1898. His father was a great scholar and a very devout Vaishnava who used to frequently hear the call of Shree Venkateswara of Tirupathi and repair there for prayer and meditation. In

reminiscent mood, Krishnan would recall incidents in his father's life illustrative of his great bhakti and spiritual eminence.

After high-schooling at Srivilliputtur and passing the Intermediate from the American College, Madura, Krishnan came to Madras and joined the Christian College, from where he graduated in 1921. He accepted the place of Demonstrator of Chemistry in the same Institution but was delivering lectures in addition, in mathematical physics, out of College hours. These lectures used to have a very crowded attendance, sometimes students from other Colleges hastening to have the benefit of his lucid teaching. The writer had the privilege of being a pupil of both the Practical Chemistry and Mathematical Physics classes during this period.

Krishnan's ambition did not lie in the path of the humdrum life of a college lecturer and he went to Calcutta where Professor Raman was giving a new orientation to the progress of science in India with his small but devoted band of scholars. Krishnan joined the University College of Science and Technology as a post-graduate student in 1923, but worked most of the time in the Indian Association for the Cultivation of Science where Professor Raman was directing advanced work in Science. Krishnan had no glamour for degrees and his heart was set on solid work. With cool deliberation and to the surprise of his friends, he decided not to sit for the M. Sc. examination but went on quietly with his deep study and concentrated work in the research laboratories. He was in no haste to "publish papers", a craze most young men entertain the moment they enter a Research Institution. Professor Krishnan's first published paper was full two years after he began work as a Research Scholar and it was published in the Philosophical Magazine, one of the best known high class scientific journals of the world. This paper, on light scattering, is still considered a classic in that subject. By this time he mastered modern physics involving intricate knowledge of higher mathematics. From then on, began his close collaboration

with Professor Raman resulting in the publication of several joint papers of prime importance in physics in the proceedings of the Royal Society. To humble folk, like the writer, the sight of Raman and Krishnan sitting side by side, on the bench in the library, writing away papers of fundamental importance with no more discussion or talk than mere nasal sounds of agreement or difference used to be a marvel, and a practical demonstration of mutual thought reading faculties. When Professor Raman made his epoch-making discovery of the "Raman Effect" which won him the Nobel Prize, Krishnan became his close collaborator in the extensive experimental work initiated at that time. With him was also associated Dr. S. Venkateswaran, Deputy Registrar of Trade Mark, Government of India, who was then Chemical Assistant in the Government of India Test House. Dr. Venkateswaran found time outside his exacting official work to put in more research of a very high order as a part-time worker than did most whole-time scholars in the laboratory.

In 1929, Professor Krishnan was appointed University Reader of Physics at Dacca. The selection of Professor Krishnan for this post marks a new era in the history of filling scientific posts. Several "influential" aspirants belonging to Bengal, some of them with doctorates in science from Foreign Universities, applied for the post with Mr. Krishnan. He had no big abbreviated letters tailing his name and what he did possess was his contribution to the advancement of Physics in the form of research papers published in leading scientific journals of the world. Like Faraday taking his notes of Sir Humphrey Davy's lectures as a testimonial for a post under the great chemist, Mr. Krishnan had with him the notes he had taken of the lectures in theoretical physics delivered at the Calcutta University by the great German theoretical physicist Professor Sommerfeld. These notes were published by the Calcutta University, and Professor Sommerfeld in his introductory note humorously remarked in admiration that Professor Krishnan had thoroughly prepared these lectures of Professor Sommerfeld that the honour of authorship was more probably Professor Krishnan's

by right than his own. Krishnan was chosen by a group of distinguished scientists and educationalists. This was the recognition of the principle that real merit and work but not mere academic degrees should govern the appointment of persons for responsible scientific positions. After going to Dacca, he initiated researches in Magneto-Optics and allied problems and drew together a band of ardent workers. Professor S. N. Bose, of "Bose-Einstein Equation Relativity" fame, the Head of the Physics Department, a lovable and a genial man and a great statistician, gave Krishnan his warm friendship and every facility for research.

Persuaded by Professor Raman not to entirely ignore academic hall-mark, Krishnan submitted over a dozen papers for M. Sc. thesis of the Madras University, any two of which, in Professor Raman's words, were good enough for a doctorate. Later, he was prevailed upon to submit another lot of papers for D. Sc. and it is said that Professor Sir William Bragg praised the thesis in the highest terms referring to Krishnan as one of the most promising of Indian Physicists.

In 1933, when Professor Raman was appointed as the Director of Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore, he induced Professor Krishnan to accept the newly created research chair of Physics at the Indian Association for the Cultivation of Science. This Institute was founded by the enthusiasm and foresight of one of the greatest Indians of the last century, Dr. Mohendralal Sircar, for affording research facilities for any one interested in science. Several munificent donations from all parts of India including a princely contribution from Maharaja Ananda Gajapathi of Vizianagaram, that great patron of every good cause in the 19th century, laid the foundation of this laboratory, but it was not given for Mohendralal Sircar to see dreams realised in his lifetime. He died about the year 1904, but the first earnest research in this Institute was initiated by Professor Sir C. V. Raman during his spare hours when he was an Assistant Accountant-General at Calcutta about the year 1907. Professor Raman with his unparalleled devotion to science, spent practically all his life outside his

office hours in this Institute and soon made it the foremost research centre in India. He thus completed the work of Mohendralal Sircar and it was not without a pang that he could leave an Institution which was practically his life-work and from which he sent out to all parts of India scores of researchers trained under him in physics, applied mathematics, chemistry and geology. With remarkable foresight the great Guru invited Professor Krishnan, his foremost Sishya, to take charge of the Institute in the newly created Mohendralal Sircar Research Professorship. It speaks to Krishnan's whole-hearted devotion to his research and his great tact, that surmounting every obstacle, he carried on his great work, winning laurels from all over the world. He was soon invited by Foreign Scientific Institutions to lecture on his researches. He visited several European countries and Great Britain in 1936 and 1937 as an honoured scientist from India and established personal contact with scientists who were familiar enough with his contributions. Soon after the Jubilee Sessions of the Indian Science Congress which was attended by some of the foremost scientists of the world, when I was talking to Professor Tutton, the greatest living authority on crystallography, the Professor exclaimed with a gleam in his eyes and almost a feeling of pride that Professor Krishnan agreed with the results of his researches in crystallography. This touching incident was a revelation as to the importance of Professor Krishnan's contributions to the advancement of crystallographic knowledge. Professor Krishnan's election to the Royal Society comes none too soon.

Great as is Krishnan as a scientist, he is greater as a man; he is simple as a child, well read, highly cultured and catholic in his outlook. He is modest and his manners are very unassuming, but within a very few minutes he would be the central figure in any society. He is incapable of making enemies and his transparent sincerity and honesty like those of his great master, Professor Raman, win him respect and admiration. He has great tact and political foresight and can steer clear in stormy waters. He

is generous to a fault, and is most loyal and affectionate as a friend. Though devoted to science, he loves sport and is a keen tennis player. One of the few recreations Krishnan allowed himself as a scholar was to witness the Calcutta League Matches and it was a sight to see this serious researcher completely absorbed in the game, cheering lustily every fine stroke and display and going into temper boisterously over the referee's lapses. The really great people are truly simple.

Generations of scholars who passed through the Indian Association for cultivation of science would acknowledge with gratitude the immense help they derived from Professor Krishnan during their stay in the laboratory. When any scholar new to the laboratory asked Krishnan where a particular apparatus was, he would unostentatiously go with the scholar and take it himself and give him even if he was amidst engrossing work. When a researcher had any difficulty in his problem and approached him, Krishnan would give up his own important work and spend as much time as was required to make the scholar clear his doubts. He possesses intellectual generosity of the highest degree that is placed unreservedly at the service of those who seek his help. It was this generous spirit which permeated the Science Association that made it possible for less gifted scholars to still spend useful years there.

Professor Krishnan, who was married when he was twelve to a spouse not much younger, is happy in his domestic life; it is a pleasure to see him surrounded by a devoted wife and loving children whom all he treats as pals. He is just past forty and has a long life of scientific activity before him.

Though he has no time for politics, he is a staunch nationalist and a believer in the great destiny of our country. He is a happy blend of the "Pundit Type" characterised by thoroughness and deep scholarship, as well as a creative faculty with critical vision. He is one of those great Indians who give our Beloved Mother country a place in the world.

COLOURED HEARING

By MR. R. M. LOOMBA

(Lecturer in Philosophy, Ramja's College, Delhi University)

COLOURED hearing is one of the most peculiar among the uncommon phenomena in the wonderland of the mind. It is the most frequent form of what may, in psychological terminology, be called *psycho-chromesthesia*, or a complication of a state of the mind by colour-experience. In it, when there is a sound, there is not only a hearing-experience but also a clear colour-experience that is spontaneously produced without the agency of a real coloured object. Thus in some individuals' mind music gives rise to colour-experience. When a scale of musical notes is played, at each note a colour flashes into their minds. Not only music, but voices of friends and acquaintances may appear coloured to these peculiarly gifted persons. The colours seen in this manner along with sounds without the agency of any real colour-objects are known as 'colour photisms'.

Coloured hearing appears among children as well as among adults. It is most prevalent among the former. But since its signs are among children very vague, more ephemeral and less striking, it can be more easily recognised among adults.

Cases in which all hearing is coloured are rare. But cases are oftener come across of individuals who hear only musical notes as coloured, or only the proper names, or again, only names of the days of the week, or, may be, perhaps, only the names of the seasons. In one case, Monday was a name heard as pale pearly grey, Tuesday as Prussian blue, Wednesday as light yellow, Thursday as brownish orange, Friday as bright bottle green, Saturday as pillar-box red, and Sunday as pale but brilliant gold.

There does not seem to be any uniformity or consistency about the colour seen with the hearing of sound. Even where the same sound is heard as coloured by several persons, the colour is not necessarily the same for each individual. Indeed, the same person may hear the same sound in different colours at different times. For

instance, the same note, middle A, corresponding roughly to *dha* on the Indian scale of music, has been known to have been experienced by the same person at different times as yellow, grey, blue, orange, purple, red and green. Similarly the same note, *fa*, corresponding to *ma* on the Indian scale, has been known to have been called by the same person pink, black, red, rose, purple, blue and green on different occasions.

Only in a very general sense some degree of uniformity has been observed to prevail. The range of colours which any person may experience during his coloured hearing seems to be limited. And this limited range appears to remain constant so far as that person is concerned, and not to expand or to contract with the passing of time. Thus the same colours are always used by the same individual no matter what time elapses. In one case, two years elapsed and yet the second record communicated at the end of this period reported the same colours as the original report. It has also been observed that the low tones are experienced as dark-coloured and the high tones as bright-coloured. Likewise the louder a sound the darker it is 'seen' to be in colour. Most blue music is loud, but not so loud as 'black' music. If two notes are sounded together, two colours are experienced. Chords of three or more notes appear as "jumbled mixture" of colours. More complex groups of notes are 'seen' as more unitary, and dark. One three year old child of the psycho-chromesthetic class of human beings is reported to have described soft group music as yellow.

All these colour-experiences during audition seem to be characterised by great clearness. There have been some cases in which the clearness has taken time to appear in consciousness. That is, for instance, the colour of the sound would appear blurred and indistinct when the note was first sounded, but would attain great clearness in about a--

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seconds' time. After the sound ceases, the colour has been observed to stay in all its clearness as long as the note could be recalled by him. As would naturally be expected, the clearness of the colour-experiences makes them strike the psycho-chromesthetic as very real and sometimes even they themselves are surprised at it.

The colour-experience is not only 'real'. It is also characterised by certain other mysterious and interesting features. Usually the person gifted with the phenomenon claims that the colour 'seen' by him does not match with any on the colour chart, although, he says, its shade might resemble perhaps a mixture of some of them. Again, he localises the colour 'seen' in hearing somewhere at a point within the head. The high tones are placed in the forehead and low tones in the region of the ears. The shape of all colours is seen as circular. The size of the colour seen depends upon the pitch of the tone. Thus, tones of the middle range of the piano may be seen between 1 and 3 inches in diameter. In one case, the high tone of a Galton whistle was reported as "small as a pea". At the same time, however, there have been cases of psycho-chromesthetics who have reported the colours seen by them to have no form whatsoever and to colour the entire field of objects visible to them.

Some psychologists believe it to have been established that coloured hearing is a hereditary feature. But others are of the opinion that it has its origin during childhood. Considering its wide prevalence in childhood and also the latter view mentioned above, it may be that perhaps the several separate senses of man: hearing, seeing, tasting, and the others, are all products of specialisation and differentiation out of a more primitive 'general sense' in the child in which they may still be. And it may be that in some cases they remain still inseparably related to each other inspite of the advance in age and thus give rise to the phenomenon of coloured hearing.

Or, again, another common observation may throw some light upon the nature of this peculiar phenomenon. There is a

general tendency to overlay all ideas and impressions with vivid visualisations in the form of images of visible qualities. This observation suggests that, after all, coloured hearing may be but an unusual survival in an extreme degree of early imageries of childish fancy. Some children undoubtedly indulge strongly in this fanciful brainwork; and they may thus alter the world of sense in ways which it is usually hard for the older stiff-joined minds to follow.

It may even be that sounds develop in these cases a correspondence with the colours of objects connected with them or referred to by them. The feelings of pleasantness and unpleasantness may constitute another factor responsible for coloured hearing. In that case the pleasantness or unpleasantness of the source of the sound would determine the colour 'seen' in hearing it. There seems to be some justification indeed in the view that the mind spontaneously applies a very pleasing colour to an agreeable sound and an unpleasant colour to a disagreeable one.

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STATE THE WAR AIMS

BY ACHARYA J. B. KRIPALANI

(General Secretary of the Indian National Congress)

ENGLAND entered the present conflict for the defence of Poland and the resuscitation of Czechoslovakia and Austria. There was some vague talk about democracy and a new order in Europe. India was immediately dragged in without its consent. Soon after the Working Committee of the Indian National Congress reviewed the situation. It found that no clear or authoritative statement about British war and peace aims had been forthcoming from any quarter. The British Cabinet and the Parliament were silent. The politicians whenever they touched this topic were mystically vague. The Working Committee of the Congress, therefore, in their historic statement of September 1939, demanded of the British Government, among other things, a clear enunciation of its war and peace aims before India could willingly and freely participate in the conflict, not as a subordinate municipal Government but as an independent nation. The response to this demand of the Congress is well-known. It was *nil*.

However the demand for the clarification of war aims was not confined to the Indian National Congress. Nearer home radical groups made the same demand. It had to be satisfied in some way. The politicians soon discovered an ingenious way to get over the difficulty. Thereafter the slogan "win the war" was repeated from the press, platform and the radio on every conceivable occasion till through sheer repetition people began really to believe that it was a sufficient and exhaustive, though brief, statement of war aims. "Win the war" is no war aim. It is only a condition precedent to the establishment of some sort of new order. The last war also established some kind of an order considered to be just and equitable by the victors. Victory in the war was merely a condition precedent to the establishment of this order. To install a necessary condition as an aim is, to say the least, muddled thinking. Hitler's New Order, however preposterous and unjust, would as a war

aim appeal to the human mind better than the mere cry "Win the war". . . .

Therefore those who here or in England insist upon the clarification of British war and peace aims are not, as a matter of fact, hampering war effort and drawing popular attention from it. Rather they are asking the authorities to furnish themselves with the most powerful psychological weapon in their armoury to beat Hitler. . . .

In the last war, America insisted upon the formulation and acceptance of war aims, because it had not yet developed the present fear complex; nor was it obsessed by the idea of its imperial influence in the Pacific being in danger. Under changed circumstances, the most powerful urge, the pressure of America and its vast resources in favour of the clarification of war and peace aims is lacking. The task of demanding clarification has, therefore, fallen on the colonial peoples and uninfluential political and intellectual groups.

H. G. Wells' efforts towards the defining of war aims are well known. Other individuals and groups too are demanding the same thing. Even the fighting lines are not immune from it. A soldier contributor under the pen-name "Cadet" writing in the March issue of the *World Review* discusses this question. He believes that by April 1941, the British and the Nazis will equally have first class military equipment. "But," he says,

we could possess one priceless asset that the Nazis can never possess. We could have a British army which had figured out for itself what it was fighting about, precisely what sort of people it was against and roughly what it meant to do with victory when victory had been won.

Evidently this soldier contributor does not agree with the ruling politicians and does not think that the aim of war is mere victory. The soldier continues:

At the present time the British Army is not particularly clear about any of these three points. The prevailing official attitude could be expressed as follows: 'Well, boys, there is a war on and

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naturally we have got to win it' This attitude is not good enough. . . . because this war isn't just any old war, it is a very particular kind of war. Our opponents aren't any old opponents. They are a particular kind of opponent. And finally our victory this time cannot be used in any old way. Yet the confusion in the army about how victory is to be used is paralyzing.

The position taken up here is the same taken up by the Indian National Congress. If a common British soldier whose duty as defined in the military and honour codes is not to question why but to do and die, feels at this time of world history the need for a statement of war and peace aims beyond mere victory, how much more so must a nation feel that is forcibly involved in a quarrel that is neither of its instigation nor its seeking. If a British soldier thinks that only well defined moral aims can generate sufficient enthusiasm to compensate for the advantages of a perfectly regimented and seasoned military automata, much more must the Indian soldier feel likewise. The British soldier is better educated generally and politically; he sees before his eyes all the preparations going on for the invasion of his island home, he witnesses every day the havoc that is wrought by enemy sea and air action and yet even he needs something more than mere victory, something psychical and moral to further steel his heart and put iron in his soul against the aggressors. In India, not only the soldier but the general public have to be enthused. However beneficent British rule may have been—to-day this is an antiquated mid-Victorian superstition—the fact that this rule is a foreign domination and that India is a helpless dependency is too obvious to be ignored. It acts as a great damper to the enthusiasm of the people. Add to this the policy that has been followed after the war, when normally speaking it was to England's obvious best interest to conciliate Indian public opinion. Even the most moderate politician is constrained to admit that there is no desire to part with power. If the Britisher in India were not living in his Himalayan isolation, he would know what is passing in the minds of Indians. He would know that his reluctance to part with power at this

juncture surprises and disheartens even those who wish him well. The reasons given for the denial of responsibility to Indians, the want of settlement between the Congress and the League, deceive nobody. Rather, people have begun to be progressively convinced that the British statesmen have come to an open or tacit understanding with reactionary Muslim League forces to keep India down. They ask in wonder why is this done in the hour of England's greatest peril? The only answer that occurs to millions of them is that Indian resources will be needed by England for its economic recovery after the war.

It is to allay such apprehension in the minds of people, to put moral enthusiasm in them and to make India feel identity of interest with England, that the Indian National Congress has insisted upon a declaration of Indian independence and an enunciation of war and peace ends. It is not a question of bargaining. It is a condition precedent for enthusiastic and single-minded war effort. Mere hatred of and opposition to the Nazi and Fascist creed would be only a negative force. Something more positive, purposeful and dynamic is necessary to rouse the moral and spiritual fervour of the general public and the soldier. This alone can set off the advantages of physical and technical efficiency derived by the enemy armies through years of training under expert guidance. The history of revolutions, national and political, bears witness to the fact that enthusiasm generated by the consciousness of a just and moral cause has more than compensated mere military and strategic advantages. When Gandhiji talks of moral support, he is thinking of this consciousness of a moral purpose and a just cause and the holy zeal that accompany these. England can get enough of men and materials from India, through official effort, but if the consciousness of right and justice and the consequent enthusiasm and fervour are also necessary conditions of success against an enemy superior in physical might and technical skill and instruments, then these in India can only be supplied by Gandhiji and the Congress.

The late Mr. Srinivasa Iyengar

THE death of Mr. S. Srinivasa Iyengar removes from our midst a lawyer of great eminence and an outstanding personality in the public life of the country. As a lawyer, he won his spurs pretty early in life and quickly rose to the top of the profession. The thoroughness with which he mastered the cases, the quickness of his grasp of essentials, the vigour and eloquence of his advocacy, and the fearless independence which always characterised his actions won for him universal esteem from the Bench and the Bar. The fruits of his vast learning and mature judgment are embodied in more than one of the books he has written and edited. His new edition of Mayne's *Hindu Law* is a classic of its kind, unrivalled for its learning and authority.

But so dynamic and many-sided a personality could hardly be confined long to the limitations of the profession. And for the last twenty years, he has been an outstanding figure in the public life of South India. His independence of thinking, his amazing powers of organisation, his zeal for the causes he espoused and the sacrifice of money or health in pursuit of what he deemed his public duty, made him a power to be reckoned with. He presided over the Session of the Indian National Congress held at Gauhati in 1926. On his invitation, the next session of the Congress was held in Madras the following year and he induced the Congress to adopt the "independence" resolution.

As a politician, he was singularly free from the bias of communalism. Though in the political field he has held views of his own at variance with those of Gandhiji and other leaders of the National Congress, he has always held the attention of the public as a man of ideas and a resolute patriot.

Freedom within the Empire

The stress of war has occasioned a lot of generous sentiments in responsible quarters without, however, any relation to what actually obtains in the countries of the Empire. We were familiar with such pleasant courtesies exchanged between Britain and her Dependencies and Colonies during the last great war. Lord Olivier, a former Secretary of State for India, calls attention to an advertisement of the British Ministry of Information glorifying the British Empire as "a family of free nations" in which "men and women of every colour are working out their own destiny" and that "in this war they are fighting shoulder to shoulder of their own free will".

The ex-Secretary of State, with his knowledge of the real condition of affairs in India and elsewhere, is stung by the anomaly of this exalted description of a thing that does not exist. "Unhappily," he says, "facts controvert those assertions."

The large majority of the people of the Empire are not free and have little or no say in either their own or imperial affairs. India, for instance, has been committed to this war without any consultation of the wishes of her people and this is leading to a very critical state of affairs in that country.

If the Ministry's statements are true, why, for example, are not India, Ceylon and Burma free and independent countries and why are Indians imprisoned for their attitude to the war and, in other parts of the Empire, British subjects imprisoned for struggling to improve social conditions and raise the standard of living. Why has there been no undertaking to establish the democratic freedom of the peoples of the Colonies on the lines that they themselves shall freely determine?

Why, indeed, we ask?

Sir Mirza Ismail

After sixteen years of successful administration, Sir Mirza Ismail, Dewan of Mysore, has earned for himself great respect and popularity, not only in his own State but throughout British India as well. As chief executive of Mysore for over a decade and a half, he retained throughout the complete confidence of His Highness the late Maharaja. Mysore owes its present position among the States to the labours of a succession of able Dewans, who have guided its destinies in the past, and Sir Mirza's industrial policy has done not a little to modernize it and bring it in line with the progressive States. Sir Mirza is a veteran administrator whose contribution to the State has been as memorable as that of his illustrious predecessors—Sir K. Seshadri Iyer and Sir M. Visvesvaraya.

It is needless to discuss the circumstances leading to his retirement. Suffice it to remember that Sir Mirza held the high office uninterruptedly for more years than any of his predecessors and his record of service is not only great and striking but of which he may justly be proud. Apart from his administrative ability and his tact and judgment, his success was in no small measure due to the fact that as Dewan of a great Hindu State, he was free from the curse of communalism and was a patriot through and through.

Mr. N. Madhava Rao, who succeeds Sir Mirza, has had a brilliant academic career, is a pucca Mysore civilian, who has had ample experience in various high offices of the State—an experience which must stand him in good stead in the very responsible and arduous task which awaits him.

Businessmen and the Deadlock

The opposition of certain European Commercial interests to any plan of *rapprochement*, not to speak of concessions to Indian demands for constitutional reforms, is one of the saddest features of the present deadlock in India. The Bengal Chamber of Commerce is wroth against Mr. Arthur Moore of the *Statesman*, because he happens to hold views not exactly in conformity with the reactionary elements. The Chamber of Commerce cannot speak for the whole of the European Commercial interests even in Bengal, or even on behalf of the vast non-official European Commercial community in the other parts of India. It is significant that it should have taken itself so seriously as to urge its view that the India policy of His Majesty's Government as propounded by the Viceroy on August 8, 1940, and in subsequent utterances by H. E. and the Secretary of State offers India the most effective means of simultaneously advancing her war effort and her constitutional status within the empire.

Surely, the British Commercial community in India cannot be altogether unaware of the fact that the proposals embodied in the declaration have not found favour with any section of Indian public opinion whatever. No wonder that the preposterous statement should have elicited a strong rejoinder from the Indian Chamber,—a body representing the bulk of Indian businessmen in the country. Such an attitude, they rightly say, is not conducive to creating the necessary goodwill and spirit of co-operation and partnership between Britain and India by resolving the existing deadlock in their mutual interests and for achieving a common object. Such an attitude can, therefore, be characterised as one of positive disservice to the common cause.

The Indian Chamber rightly warns that the present impasse is not only prejudicial to Indo-British relationship but also detrimental to the wider economic interests of both India and Britain and must be speedily and satisfactorily ended.

Sapru-Jinnah-Gandhi Correspondence

Blessed are the peace-makers! But the release of the correspondence between Mr. M. A. Jinnah, President of the Muslim League, and Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru on the one hand, and between Sir Tej Bahadur and Gandhiji on the other, shows that their lot is by no means enviable. All honour, however, to Sir Tej Bahadur who, undeterred by previous failures and the bitter experience of other politicians, bravely undertook a difficult task. Throughout the correspondence, Mr. Jinnah, lawyer-like, takes meticulous care to refer to Gandhiji as a Hindu leader. In his letter, dated 10th February, he says with apparent suavity: "I have always been ready and willing to see Mr. Gandhi or any other Hindu leader on behalf of the Hindu community." It is obvious that there cannot be any meeting-ground between Mr. Jinnah who deems himself as an unchallenged head of the Muslims, and Gandhiji and the Congress whose right to represent any but Hindu interests Mr. Jinnah would not recognise. Gandhiji is, of course, too shrewd a politician to be caught in the trap and he warns Dr. Sapru against the obvious futility of the attempt. On February 16, he writes to Dr. Sapru:

Mr. Jinnah's letter confirms my fear. He would see me if I go "on behalf of the Hindu community". This I cannot do. I do not represent the Hindu community. I am not even a member of the Hindu Mahasabha.

But you may not now get out of the situation. You must not mind my warnings. I suggest your writing to Mr. Jinnah that his position is unsound, if you agree with me.

Dr. Sapru did go on with his Conference and did write to Mr. Jinnah. With what

result every one knows. Mr. Jinnah has been insolent and more proud of his position than ever.

It is a consolation to note that there are, however, other leaders in the Muslim community who do not think or act like Mr. Jinnah. Sir Sultan Ahmed in a recent communication to the Press expresses his public sympathy for the proposal of Sir Sikandar Hyat Khan and Mr. Fazlul-Huq for a conference of all Premiers including those in prison to concert measures for the removal of the present deadlock.

Dr. Khan on the Muslim League

League propaganda is rather crude. Nawab Bahadur Yar Jung of the All-India Muslim League and leader of the Pakistan delegation, made an astounding statement the other day that Dr. Khan Sahib, the Congress Premier of the N.-W. F. Province and his fellow-workers, favoured the League for all practical purposes, although they were ostensibly Congressmen. This has elicited a prompt denial from the Khan Sahib. The Doctor's rejoinder is emphatic and unambiguous:

I was very clear in my conversation and I explained to them the principles for which we stood. Equally plain I was when I gave them an idea of what we thought of the League and its leaders and the absurd scheme of Pakistan. . . . I believe that this statement has been deliberately made to mislead the Muslims of India. . . . I prefer death to joining a futile set of people utterly devoid of action but loud on the stage. What the Pathan wants is action, sacrifice, and selfless service to the cause of the country. Where are these to be found in the Muslim League?

Could anything be more explicit?

FOREIGN AFFAIRS

BY "CHRONICLER"

Vichy-Berlin Collaboration

CONFIRMATION that many firms in unoccupied France are producing military supplies for Germany was given by Mr. R. A. Butler, Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs in the House of Commons. Mr. Butler said:

"It is not known whether the terms of the recent agreement with Vichy specifically cover the utilisation of French industrial resources for war purposes against Britain. But there is no doubt that a number of industrial concerns in unoccupied France is working for the German account and is producing goods of military importance for Germany."

In this connection, Mr. Anthony Eden, Foreign Secretary, gave the people of France stern warning of the serious consequences likely to follow if the Vichy Government permit action detrimental to the British conduct of the war.

Mr. De Valera on Conscription in Ulster

"There can be no more grievous attack on any fundamental right than to force an individual to fight for a country to which he objects to belong," said Mr. De Valera addressing a crowded Dail on the question of conscription in Ulster. He recalled that when the British Government proposed conscription for Northern Ireland, he made representations to London against it. Mr. De Valera continued that the six northern counties are part of Ireland and the inhabitants are Irishmen and nothing could alter that fact. No matter what political or economic changes may take place in the world, the people living in these two Islands are destined to live as neighbours.

He concluded with a warning:

We have refrained from doing anything that might be regarded as hostile to Britain. Should the British Government go ahead with the conscription proposal, the people of the two Islands would be thrown back into the old unhappy relations.

As we go to Press *Reuter* cables that the conscription proposal for northern Ireland has been dropped.

Rudolf Hess

Hess, who has fled from Germany and is now a prisoner in England, has been described as "Hitler's Man Friday" and "Hitler's shadow". The Fuehrer had nominated him as his successor-designate after Goering. He was responsible to Hitler alone—above Himmler, Goebbels, Von Ribbentrop and Goering. The mystery of his daring flight to Britain is yet unsolved.

The Battle of Crete

Crete still continues to be the centre of a grim fight. The battle of Crete, says *Reuter's* special correspondent, presents an amazing sight, like a fantasy of Mr. H. G. Wells, "with the sky around Suda Bay full of strange aircraft, drunkenly swaying parachutes, enemy planes filled with troops crash-landing in a restricted area."

Exciting manhunts among ravines and woods progress all over eastern Crete.

Syria and Iraq

The attack on Crete is not the only place at which the Germans are trying to break our Middle Eastern or rather Mediterranean front, observes *Capital*. Syria is a more insidious danger-point, both politically and militarily. The extension of Axis operations into Syria and Iraq is bound to exercise a profound influence on the policy and attitude of Turkey, Iran and other Islamic States.

The Duke of Aosta Surrenders

The Duke of Aosta, the Italian Commander-in-Chief in Abyssinia, accompanied by five Generals and a number of senior staff officers formally surrendered, on May 20, following the handing over of all equipment within the Amba Alagi area.

The total number of prisoners taken during and since the battle in this area amount to between 18,000 and 19,000.

DIARY OF THE MONTH

May 1. Iraq Government object to landing of fresh British troops.
 May 2. Churchill re-shuffles his Cabinet.
 May 3. General Smuts sends S. A. troops to Libya.
 May 4. Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru releases correspondence with Gandhiji.
 May 5. President Roosevelt dedicates Woodrow Wilson's birth-place as a national shrine.
 —Britain declines Turkey's mediation offer.
 May 6. Mr. Eden opens the debate on the war situation in the Commons.
 May 7. House of Commons expresses confidence in Government by 147 to 3 votes.
 —Vichy reaches new agreement with Berlin.
 May 8. Mr. Wendell Wilkie urges effective help to Britain.
 May 9. Russia refuses recognition to Yugo Slav and Belgian governments.
 —Nazi raider is sunk in the Indian Ocean.
 May 10. Nazi raid on London Westminster Abbey damaged.
 May 11. Herr Hess, Hitler's deputy, fleeing from Germany arrives in Glasgow.
 May 12. R. A. F. attacks enemy bases.
 May 13. House of Commons meets in new quarters.
 May 14. Vichy accepts Nazi terms.
 —R. A. F. attacks Heligoland.
 May 15. German aircraft in Iraq.
 —Petain approves Darlan's negotiations.
 May 16. President Roosevelt condemns Vichy's collaboration with Hitler.
 May 17. A Press *communique* announces Sir Mirza Ismail's retirement and the appointment of Mr. N. Madhava Rao in his place as Dewan of Mysore.
 —Germans rush reinforcements to Iraq.
 May 18. Vichy replies to President Roosevelt, expressing determination to maintain integrity of territory.
 May 19. Death of Sri S. Srinivasa Iyengar.
 —Surrender of Italian troops in Abyssinia.
 May 20. A Vichy *communique* announces release of 100,000 French prisoners.

May 21. Mr. C. Basudev, Mayor of Madras, is dead.
 May 22. Mr. Eden warns Vichy.
 May 23. Installation of H. H. Sri Kerala Varma as ruler of Cochin.
 Gen. Smuts on his 71st birthday is made Field Marshal.
 May 24. British battle cruiser H. M. S. Hood is blown off the coast of Greenland.
 May 25. King of Greece and Greek Government leave Crete for Egypt.
 May 26. Sir R. K. Shanmukham Chettiar, Dewan of Cochin, requests permission to retire.
 May 27. Heavy fighting in Crete.
 British Navy sinks Bismarck.



SIR MIRZA ISMAIL,
the retiring Dewan of Mysore.

The WORLD of BOOKS

CONSCIENCE AND LIBERTY. By R. S. W. Pollard. George Allen & Unwin. 2sh.

In this neat little volume, Mr. Pollard undertakes a spirited survey of the struggle for freedom of opinion and liberty of conscience from Socrates down to our times. The book is replete with facts and extracts from different authors on current happenings. An analytical discussion of the place of conscience and its relation to human personality is undertaken with great skill and clarity. The author stands for liberty, democracy, and equality as the saving principles of civilisation.

Mr. Pollard concludes his survey with specific proposals such as the abolition of the House of Lords, setting up proportional representation, etc., for maintaining and strengthening liberty and democracy in a rapidly developing collectivised state. Without freedom, religious faith degenerates into a paralysis and servile submission. Science congeals into dogma, art shrivels into imitation, and human society sinks into the level of animal society.

A PROSE MISCELLANY. Compiled by B. K. Talookdar, M.A., Ph.D. Mrs. Radha Bai Atmaram Sagoon, Bombay.

No less than 27 authors are represented in this fine collection of English Essays which includes such writers as Bacon, Addison, Swift, Goldsmith, Gibbon, Lamb, Coleridge, Kinglake, Macaulay and Ruskin. What is of particular interest to us is the inclusion of excerpts from the writings or speeches of Gokhale, Mrs. Naidu and Mr. A. S. Wadia.

DOCK LABOURERS IN BOMBAY. By R. P. Cholia. Edited by C. N. Vakil. Longmans Green & Co., Ltd. Rs. 4-8.

This neatly got-up book embodies the results of an enquiry into the conditions of work and living of the 10,000 and more dock labourers in the port of Bombay undertaken in the year 1933-34 on a 10 per cent. sample basis. There are two kinds of dock labourers: one, the principal dock labourers handling the cargo at the docks and two, other dock workers covering labourers on water, shore, mechanical workshop and railway. Of them all, about 22 per cent. are unskilled. The two main problems facing the dock labourers are the decreasing trade of the port and the heavy toll exacted from the wages of labourers by the parasitic class. The money-lender and the middleman like Tindals, Toliwalas or Muccadams constitute the parasitic class taking away a share from the due wages of the labourers. The mode and standard of living differ from one class of labourer to another among them, but on the whole most of them are in debt and suffer on that score. The remedies suggested are registration of workers and their restriction, direct employment of labour, fixation of minimum wages and some measures against unjust attachment on the pay of the employees. The enquiry has been undertaken in the face of a number of difficulties inherent in its nature and has brought together much material generally inaccessible. It fills a gap in the study of labour conditions in the city of Bombay.

INDIAN STATES PROBLEM. By M. K. Gandhi.
Navajivan Press, Ahmedabad. Rs. 4.

CHRISTIAN MISSION. By M. K. Gandhi.
Navajivan Press, Ahmedabad. Rs. 2.

The two books are the latest additions to the series of Gandhiji's writings and utterances on the respective subjects. Culled from the files of *Young India* and the *Harijan*, they cover a period of over twenty years and embody his complete views on the subjects of Indian States and Christian Missions. Full texts of important documents relating to the subjects dealt with by Gandhiji are also incorporated in these pages, besides writings of others which are supplementary to his own and which were originally published with his approval. The arrangement of the articles in chronological order are of particular value to the student of current affairs, as they throw light on the sequence of events from time to time and their reaction on Gandhi at different stages of their evolution.

THOUGHTS AND THINGS. By S. V. Ramamurty, I.C.S. Kumbakonam Parliament, Kumbakonam. As. 8.

This is a print of the S. Ramanujam Memorial lecture for 1940, delivered at Kumbakonam by Mr. S. V. Ramamurty, I.C.S. The learned lecturer, himself a distinguished Mathematician, looks at the world from the point of view of mathematics, envisages God Himself as a pure mathematician and gives a brilliant exposition of what he calls a "Mathematical theory of Monism". He seeks to combine two hypotheses—one derived from the *Synthesis* of India and the other from the *Analysis* of Europe and thus finds a meeting point,

ECONOMICS: A SOCIAL SCIENCE. By Father Carty, Trichinopoly.

This book constitutes a collection of the six Sir William Meyer Lectures for 1939-40, delivered by Father Carty at the University of Madras. The main theme running through all the lectures is that Economics is, and should be, a practical science devoted to the betterment of humanity. The lectures form a brilliant piece of criticism and constructive analysis, full of forceful arguments and amply supported by the views of eminent authorities. They establish the point that Economics should not be a sterile and merely positive science, but should be a useful instrument in furthering the economic progress and social happiness of mankind.

Having been a teacher for over thirty years, the author has produced a very able defence of Economics as a light and guide to the affairs of men. This book bristles with critical discussions and illuminating quotations from eminent authors and thinkers from different parts of the world. These lectures from the doyen of South Indian Economics are bound to be of great educational value, both for students and for those who are interested in the social improvement and economic progress of their country.

SHANGHAI. By P. R. Kalkini. Published by the New Book Company, Hornby Road, Bombay. Re. 1.

This is a collection of Poems by a writer who is already well known in the literary field. Realistic verses like these are essentially modern in outlook and vigorous in expression.

MODERN TRAVANCORE: A Handbook of Information. By A. Padmanabha Iyer, Journalist, Trivandrum.

Planned on the lines of the author's book on Mysore, "Modern Travancore" is precisely what a handbook of information should be. Its 400 pages are crammed with facts and statistics relating to different aspects of Travancore life and government. There are two maps and an exhaustive index for easy and ready reference to any topic in which the reader may be interested. The author is a well known journalist, has had experience in compilations of this kind and is an adept at getting precise and up-to-date information relating to the different departments of the State. The result is a book of copious information on many aspects of life and progress in a state which, under its enterprising Dewan, is making headway in all directions.

HINTS ON MUSEUM EDUCATION. By J. C. Basak, 863, Upper Chitpore Road, P. O. Beaden Street, Calcutta. Re. 1.

A remarkably informative book on the utilisation of Museums as an effective means for the diffusion of general knowledge among the people. It is an attempt to make museums which at present may be regarded as static, archaeological and antiquarian, into institutions dynamic, modern and utilitarian.

BUDDHA THE GREAT. By Mohammadali Haz Salmin and S. R. Aiyar. Re. 1-4.

The two authors have given us within a space of fifty pages a clear and pictorial account of the greatness of Gautama the Buddha. The familiar story of the Prince-Philosopher is narrated in very attractive style.

A SHORT LIFE OF SWAMI VIVEKANANDA. Published by Adwaita Ashrama, Almora.

This work gives in a nutshell the life and the life-work of the genius who kindled the lamps of self-conscious nationalism and integral Hinduism in India and took them and their illumination with him all over the world. It gives us a *resume* of his remarkable life and his meeting with his master who transformed and sublimated his life. After Sri Ramakrishna's passing away, Swami Vivekananda wandered for two years all over India, from the Himalayas to Cape Comorin. He spread the gospel in America and in England. Though he is dead, he lives for ever more. The work winds up with some of his great utterances, among which is the supreme utterance: "I shall inspire men everywhere until the world shall know that it is one with God."

BOOKS RECEIVED

GLIMPSES OF ANCIENT GLORY: Essays in Ancient History. By Prof. K. N. Vaswani. With a Foreword by Sadhu Vaswani, New Book Company, Bombay.

TOPICS OF THE DAY. By S. S. Ayengar. Sri Vani Vilas Press, Trivandrum.

WORLD PREDICTIONS FOR THE NEXT FIVE YEARS (1941 to 1945). By B. V. Raman, M.B.A.S. Malleswarazi, Bangalore.

STATES OF INDIAN PRINCES. By Pyerelal Nair. Navajivan Press, Ahmedabad.

ANNUAL STATEMENT OF THE SEA-BORNE TRADE OF BRITISH INDIA. Vol II. Manager of Publications, Delhi.

VALLABHABHYAN DAYAMER. By Kodandarama Kavi, Madras University Telugu Series, University of Madras.

MARXISM AND THE INDIAN IDEAL. By Brajendra Kishore Roy Chowdhury. Thacker, Spink & Co. Ltd., Calcutta.

THE WORKING OF THE PROTECTIVE TARIFF IN INDIA (Sir Kikabhai Premchand Readership Lectures 1938-39.) By L. C. Jain, M.A., Ph.D. University, of Delhi.

Hyderabad

THE NIZAM'S SOVEREIGNTY

A Moslem organization in Hyderabad known as Majlis Ittihadul Musilmeen has been responsible for the theory that Hyderabad's sovereignty vests in the Muslims of the State and that the Nizam merely embodies the Moslem sovereignty. The Nizam's Government has now found it necessary to issue a *Gazette Extraordinary* repudiating the Majlis's view. It stresses the Nizam's "undivided sovereignty over all his subjects, irrespective of class and creed". It appears that the Majlis has recently used its theory in support of its demand for responsible government and had argued that certain statements in the Nizam's Government's Reforms scheme accord with its view. Moslem crowds, says the *Gazette*, have been made to repeat the cry: "We are the Kings of Deccan." The *Gazette* is a stern reproof to those who demand responsible government on behalf of one community.

THE NIZAM'S APPEAL

The Nizam has made a personal appeal in an Urdu daily to the different communities inhabiting the Dominion that just as they participated in the funeral of his mother irrespective of caste or creed, similarly they should sink their differences and make renewed efforts towards communal harmony and friendship among the communities, so that peace, tranquillity, and prosperity might reign supreme in the State.

The Nizam thinks that this will be possible only if efforts in this direction are made with sincerity by those commanding the respect of the public.

Mysore

SIR MIRZA AND MR. MADHAVA RAO

A press communique states that H. H. the Maharaja of Mysore has been pleased to sanction one year's leave to Sir Mirza Ismail preparatory to retirement, the leave to take effect from June 1, 1941.

From this date Rajamanthrapravina N. Madhava Rao, First Member of the Executive Council, will officiate as the Dewan of Mysore.

MYSORE PRISON REFORM

The abolition of whipping and solitary confinement as forms of judicial punishment is unanimously recommended by the Chandrasekhara Aiyar Committee Report on Prison Reforms in Mysore, which was released for publication in the middle of last month.

The report is a bulky volume covering over 260 pages of printed matter and deals in an exhaustive way with several aspects of prison reform. A survey of the prison system of Mysore and an enquiry into prison administration in British India have been made and after setting out their recommendations, the Committee have added to the report appendices which arise out of the recommendations.

MYSORE LAWYERS' CONFERENCE

The abolition of capital punishment, and the introduction of a Bar Council Bill in the Mysore Legislature, were urged by the Mysore Lawyers' Conference at its two-day session, Mr. G. Devoji Rao presiding.

The Conference also urged the withdrawal of the Public Security Act, the Newspaper and Printing Press Act and the Contempt of Courts (Amending) Act, as they curtailed the liberties of the people.

Baroda

EDUCATION IN BARODA STATE

The history of education in the State begins in 1871, when for the first time two Gujarati and two Marathi primary schools were established by the Government. Progress was at first naturally slow and when the late Maharaja Saheb Sayajirao III assumed full powers in 1881, there were no more than 180 primary schools with 7,465 pupils. Under his inspiration, however, education developed rapidly. In 1893, compulsory primary education was introduced as an experimental measure in the Amreli district and was rapidly extended till in 1906 it was applied to the whole State. Primary education is now free and compulsory between the ages of seven and twelve, and all vernacular education is free. The Government now spends nearly 80 lakhs of rupees on education.

CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES

Baroda has a good record of work done by its agricultural as well as non-agricultural societies as a vital part of the wide-spread and comprehensive co-operative movement, which covers the State with a network of beneficent organisations. This can be seen from the following brief account of the work done in this sphere in the year 1939-40.

The number of agricultural societies with taluka development associations rose during the year 1939-40 from 996 to 1,026.

The average membership per society was 35.5 as against 33.3 during the previous year. The working capital increased appreciably during the year. The repayments show an appreciable increase of Rs. 3.71 lakhs. Overdues decreased as societies were reconstructed, and recoveries were better.

Travancore

ELECTRIC POWER IN TRAVANCORE

The vision of a day when cheap electric power would be available throughout the country-side, not only for large scale industrial production but in every village for growing better and more valuable crops and for purposes of cottage industry was envisaged by Sir C. P. Ramaswami Iyer, Dewan of Travancore, while switching the electric power supply of Shencottah town.

ECONOMIC SURVEY IN TRAVANCORE

An economic survey of Travancore on a stratified and representative sampling basis in 55 selected centres, along with the present census, has been sanctioned by the Government of Travancore. About 200 full-time investigators who will mostly be students of economics and statistics as well as other educated young men will be employed by the Census Commissioner for the work, which is expected to be completed shortly.

Patiala

THE PRAJA MANDAL

"It is not denied by the Government pleader that the Riyasti Praja Mandal, Patiala, of which the accused is the General Secretary, is carrying on its business peacefully. It is not a society which conducts subversive activities." Thus said the Sessions Judge of Patiala in acquitting Sardar Wazir Singh Dardi. The Judge further remarked: "When the society is such whose aims and objects are to remain loyal and faithful to His Highness' Government and Person, it cannot be expected from its General Secretary to use any words which might offend the State any way."

Cochin

COCHIN'S PREMIER MUNICIPALITIES

Reviewing the administration reports of the three premier Municipalities of the State, *viz.*, Ernakulam, Cochin and Trichur, the Government of Cochin observes that the incidence of taxation in the Trichur Municipality continued to be low, property tax being levied here at the low rate of 6 per cent. of the annual value of buildings as against 11½ per cent. in the Municipalities of Ernakulam and Mattancherri. Neither lighting tax nor water and drainage tax has been levied in this Municipality so far. Government have stressed on more than one occasion the extreme need of enhancing the rate of taxation in Trichur. The Municipality has yet to provide one of the most pressing needs of the town, *viz.*, a system of good drinking water supply and has also to tackle effectively the problem of dust nuisance. Government hopes that the Municipal Council will show courage to enhance the level of taxation in order to meet the primary needs of inhabitants.

Jodhpur

One of the largest in India, Jodhpur is the first State in Rajputana in respect of area, income and administration. The area is 36,000 square miles, population 21½ lakhs according to the 1931 Census, and the average annual income is nearly 1½ crores or 17 million rupees.

It extends from the Aravalli Hills in the East to the Rann of Cutch in the West. The soil, climate, and the rainfall vary greatly: the area adjoining the Aravallis is more fertile, while the western part is really a portion of the great Indian desert, the Thar. Rainfall is scanty and precarious except in the Aravalli region.

Indore

INDUSTRIAL EXPANSION

His Highness the Maharaja Holkar has accorded sanction to the opening of a large Sugar Mill in the State, with a working capacity of 100 to 600 tons. The gentleman who has agreed to start this Mill will enjoy some concessions, including a free gift of land for the purposes of the factory, a monopoly for 20 years and exemption from Customs duty on machinery, etc. With a vast market ready at hand in the State and protected from foreign competition by Customs duty and with light taxation, the factory is expected to make substantial profits. The most important consideration is of cultivation of a paying cash crop, like sugar-cane in the interest of the cultivators of the State and the revenue to be derived by the State from the levy of excise duty and industrial tax.

Bhopal

POWER ALCOHOL IN BHOPAL

It is understood that the Bhopal Government intend shortly to introduce suitable legislation, making compulsory the use of petrol mixed with power alcohol as motor fuel. It is stated that this is being done to encourage power alcohol industry and provide against possible petrol shortage.

A fully equipped modern plant is already manufacturing power alcohol in Bhopal, and the State Government, it is said, are awaiting the results of tests being carried out to ascertain the most suitable proportion in which power alcohol and petrol should be mixed before enforcing the use of the mixture as motor fuel.

INDIANS OVERSEAS

Ceylon

INDO-CEYLON RELATIONS

Addressing the eleventh annual general meeting of the Indian Mercantile Chamber of Ceylon, Mr. F. Dadabhoy, the retiring President, made a comprehensive review of commercial, economic and political developments in Ceylon in the past year. Referring to Indo-Ceylon relations he regretted the break-down of the Indo-Ceylon Exploratory Conference held at New Delhi and remarked: "The trouble is that the respective protagonists see so much of their side of the case that they are apt to lose sight of the other side. He felt sure that Indo-Ceylon differences were not so acute as to be incapable of peaceful settlement.

Characterising the introduction of the control of immigration and registration of non-Ceylonese Bills, which have now passed the second reading as ill-timed and unwise, Mr. Dadabhoy said: "The precipitate haste and the spirit with which the Ministers have launched the Bills following closely upon the failure of the Conference at New Delhi were not marks of statesmanship. That the implications of these two Bills with their humiliating and harsh provisions are opposed to all canons of fair play and justice are obvious."

Mr. Dadabhoy also deplored the gross exaggerations which had marked the utterances of some responsible leaders and pointed out that according to the Labour Controller's figures at the outside approximately 400,000 out of 679,000 men and women on the estates would be potential voters. These figures do not justify the feeling that the power of the vote, which has to a limited extent been conferred on Indians, might assume such proportions as to nullify the political power of the Ceylonese.

PLANTERS' MEMORANDUM ON INDIANS

"The Indians living in Ceylon is over 250,000 Indians all of whom except less than 25,000, have lived in Ceylon for over five years," declares Mr. D. E. Hamilton, Chairman of the Planters' Association of Ceylon, in a memorandum on behalf of the Association regarding Indo-Ceylon relations and the planting industries.

In the course of the memorandum, Mr. Hamilton points out that there is agreement among the three parties concerned, *viz.*, the Industries, the Ceylon Government, and the Government of India in regard to restriction of further immigration of Indians in Ceylon. Mr. Hamilton expresses the view that neither the present position of Indians in Ceylon nor their birth-rate justifies any fear of political domination by Indians.

Regarding the question of franchise, Mr. Hamilton declares that at most only 400,000 estate Indians would immediately qualify for it. He states that it is estimated that the maximum number of Indians now in Ceylon who could possibly qualify for franchise is about 450,040 and not 900,000 as both Mr. D. S. Senanayake and S. W. R. D. Bandaranayake have stated.

Mr. Hamilton points out that of these the vast majority have lived in Ceylon for an average of probably 20 years, while only less than 25,000 had lived in Ceylon for less than five years. He adds: "While the Ministers failed to reach an agreement in Delhi, they ran the risk of upsetting the present trade and did not develop increased trade, because statesmanship was bankrupt in finding some way of dealing with these 250,000 Indians."

South Africa

INDIAN PENETRATION COMMISSION

The Indian Penetration Commission completed its work on May 9 after 51 public sittings in six months during which 2,100 pages of evidence were taken.

At the conclusion of the hearing, Mr. A. I. Kaje representing the Natal Indian Congress thanked the Commission for the kindness and courtesy extended to them during the period of the sittings. He added that the fate of the half million Indians resident in South Africa was dependent on the Commission's findings. He hoped that it had been shown to the Commission that Indians had been assimilated in the general South African life. "India is our country of origin but is now merely a term to us. Since the Capetown Agreement, we have shown by our efforts our desire to assume responsibilities, burdens and risks being true South Africans, but we hope to receive some benefits from our citizenship."

HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR S. A.

The *Leader*, the Indian Weekly in Pietermaritzburg, opposing the appointment of an Indian civil servant as High Commissioner for South Africa, makes a plea for utilising the services of a non-official. Through the High Commissioner, the paper declares, South Africa must see India interpreted in terms of its progress and its cultural advancement. He must also in some measure convey Indian feeling on the subject of treatment of Indians domiciled abroad. We refuse to believe that there cannot be an Indian in the public life of India patriotic enough to place the cause of Indians overseas greater than himself. It is among these men the Government of India must look for its choice.

Malaya

INDIA AND MALAYA

Disinclination to travel on the part of the unsophisticated labouring classes who, "in spite of discrimination of information, are not altogether free from entertaining credulous rumours during war time", was partly responsible for the considerable fall in the volume of migration between India and Malaya.

This view is expressed in the annual report of Mr. C. S. Venkatachar, the Agent of the Government of India in Malaya, for 1939.

The ban on assisted emigration which came into force from June 15, 1938, was in force throughout the year 1939. The effect of the ban on the movement of labour is seen both on immigration into and emigration from Malaya. There was a considerable fall in the volume of migration both ways. This was also due to causes arising out of war conditions, such as the increase in the passage rates from the Madras ports to the Straits Settlements and irregular sailings since the outbreak of the war.

Burma

INDIAN IMMIGRATION INTO BURMA

The Government of Burma have given notice of the termination of the Burma Immigration Order, 1937, with effect from April 1, 1941, which will cease to have any effect on March 31, 1942.

The *communiqué* explains that under the terms of the order, immigration into Burma from India cannot be subjected to any restrictions which were not in force at the time of separation, and 12 months' notice on the part of the Government of Burma was required to terminate its operation.



TOPICS From PERIODICALS



EMANCIPATE INDIA

"A free India could become as valuable an asset to England as a free America," declares Mr. Edgar Snow, the American journalist and writer in an article in the American magazine *Asia*. "It may be suggested that the emancipation of India would mean the end of British unity. It is the only way in fact to create it."

Britain and the Dominions—if they wish to preserve their unity as a political force—need to proclaim a programme of emancipation of the colonies as the basis of a world commonwealth of democracies.

Do not imagine that political frontiers can really be sealed in war and that men's minds are not reaching out everywhere for a weapon with which to defeat their own oppressors. Britain offers her allies behind enemy lines little to fight for and in this transitional world it is not enough to have something to fight against.

Britain's political weakness in India is quite apparent; otherwise he says there should be no necessity for Britain to require American aid to hold her position in Asia.

India is a nation of nearly four hundred millions with a war potential far richer than Japan and China combined. If the British are unable to defend India and its frontiers at Singapore and Burma without American help, it is a significant commentary. The same thing applies to the Dutch in the Indies. The Dutch were there long before the Meiji Restoration in Japan, and had the East Indians made sufficient progress under them they would be quite able to take care of themselves having much richer resources than Japan.

The Indian Empire has become increasingly anachronistic in a modern world and is probably the main cause of the decadence of British political life in recent years. No one who has lived in India can have failed to be depressed by the immense time-lag between the archaic social life of this huge nation and the rest of the world even in the Orient. It is an enormous millstone round the neck of oriental emancipation and the progress of the whole world.

Democracy, if it is to survive, must pose an ideal which can capture the

political will and invoke the courage of the peoples.

Democracy in England in particular needs to reinforce itself with something no less than a new charter of human liberty, a new declaration of the rights of man. Rulers in England may not see this, but men in England's colonies do and it is there in her flanks that England is weakest.

Britain and the Dominions—if they wish to preserve their unity as a political force—need to proclaim a programme of emancipation of the colonies as the basis of a world commonwealth of democracies. Such a declaration might include:

First, the promise of post-war Indian and Burmese independence with compulsory education and self-government to begin immediately in a role of co-operation with the present governments in full mobilization for anti-Fascist war;

Second, a comprehensive programme of compulsory education for rapid democratic self-government in the backward colonies to begin immediately as part of war mobilization and to end in independence;

Third, the promise of independence to all the colonies or conquered nations of the Fascist empires, who struggle for their own emancipation, including Korea, China, and Indo-China;

Fourth, the promise of financial, technical, industrial, medical and other social help to the colonial countries and a programme of colonial industrialization on the basis of State co-ordinated co-operative or collective economy;

Fifth, a statement of conditions of the liberation of the colonies, their adherence to a federation of democratic states of the world under a customs union, mutual defence agreements, compulsory arbitration of international disputes, joint support of an international army, air force and navy, the adoption of a democratic form of government, perhaps, a common currency and international disarmament within a framework of collective security.

The declaration might be accompanied by an invitation to all free democratic nations, to join the federation in the struggle against Fascism and contribute their share of talent and capital to the reconstruction of the world.

THE BOMBAY CONFERENCE

In a lengthy rejoinder to Mr. Amery's criticism of the Bombay Conference, Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru, writing in the *Twentieth Century* for May, pricks the bubble of Pakistan and says pointedly that "for the British generally to agree to the demand for the dissection of India, will be an act of black treachery to India". Referring to Mr. Amery's analogy of the eighteenth century in India, Sir Tej observes:

The analogy of the 18th century holds good and should be a warning to Hindus and Muslims alike. Once the strength of the Centre at Delhi was gone, the disruption and disintegration of the rest of the country was a matter of a few years only. To Hindus, it should also be a warning that they were not able, in spite of the advantage of numbers they had at that time, to set their house in order.

If the tidal wave of totalitarianism, either of the Berlin or the Moscow variety, "comes like a Ganges flood, lapping up to the very frontier of India," our position will be one of defencelessness, and after a few years of chaos and confusion, we shall have to start afresh. This can by no means be a pleasing prospect to any reflective mind.

When it is apparent that two big organised parties have been carrying on a domestic war under the inspiration of different ideas, and when each one of them claims for its principle and resolutions the binding force of a creed, it is extremely dangerous, he points out, to make agreement between them a pre-requisite of any change in the constitution.

What is to happen if they do not come to any agreement? Is the old constitution, which has lost all vitality and which satisfies no one, to continue? Will the British Parliament then abdicate its right or claim to frame any constitution for us? Will other parties in India be totally ignored?

Judging of the future in the list of presented obstinacies and perversities, one almost feels that we have been placed at the mercy of some leaders who believe that they have a certain mission in life and that they can afford to dictate to every one.

I should on no account favour any scheme put forward by the Muslims, Hindus, Sikhs or any other class of people which aims at the fragmentation or splitting up India into parts.

Whatever faults you may find with the British there is no doubt that after Asoka's time they are the only people who have been able to evolve and maintain the geographical and political integrity of India.

Even the empire of the Akbar the Great did not comprehend the whole of India. Hitherto it was impossible to speak with any degree of definiteness as to what Pakistan meant. At the Madras session, their leader has put it beyond all doubt.

It hardly occurred to the speaker that there were others, particularly the minorities in those zones who could say that they will never agree to it. Are they to be forced? And what is to happen to the very appreciable number of Muslims outside these "independent" States in the North-West and Eastern zones of India? Are they to take the apprehended risks of submission to the majority rule of the Hindus for the sake of Muslim majorities in these two favoured parts of India?

Sir Tej, of course, would as much object to dictation on the part of the Congress and the Hindu Maha Sabha or any other body as on the part of the Muslim League.

To divide India in this manner would be to divide it into two hostile camps, obstructing such other's progress, intriguing against each other and possibly warring against each other.

Who is going to keep the peace between Muslim India and the rest of India? The British? How can they and why should they when Muslim India wants completely independent Muslim States and similarly the other parts of India are to be equally independent?

INDIA IN PERIODICALS

AGRICULTURAL REORGANISATION IN INDIA. By Dr. Rajanikanta Das. [The Modern Review, May 1941.]

THE MADRAS SEPOY. By Prof. C. S. Srinivasachari. [The New Review, May 1941.]

THE COMMUNAL PROBLEM: A NEW APPROACH. By Dr. Nandalal Chatterjee. [The XX Century, May 1941.]

PRESS INVECTIVE IN INDIA AND BRITAIN. By Dr. Sachchidananda Sinha. [The Hindustan Review, May 1941.]

ELEMENTS OF HINDUISM. By Dr. L. A. Ravi Varma. [Vedanta Kesari, May 1941.]

IN QUEST OF SADHUS. By J. M. Ganguli. [Prabuddha Bharata, May 1941.]

STATE CAPITALISM

A writer in the *New Statesman and Nation*, Mr. Nicholas Davenport, suggests that Parliament should pass a law vesting the ownership of all capital in the State—land, buildings, plant, equipment, cash, in other words, all fixed and working capital.

I am not suggesting that there is any crime in owning capital. But I maintain that the right to own and dispose of capital is derived from the State and must be regulated by the State. It would not be practicable, of course, to take over and husband all the land or all the cash and securities. Homes and gardens would be left in private hands and the owners would pay a rent to the State. Farms which are efficiently managed would remain in private hands also, each becoming a tenancy of the State. A certain amount of cash and securities, no more than \$500,000 each, would be permitted to remain in the hands of individuals.

It is fair to assume that the State takes over public services and public utilities, but it is imperative, says the writer, that they should be managed on individual lines, and that individual talent and imagination should have scope in them.

I am not enamoured of the civil service type of mind which can only be attuned to humdrum administration. If the new State is to flourish, it must evoke the creative impulse of the individual. I submit that each public utility or service be managed by a Commissioner, specially chosen for his ability and enthusiasm, who should be responsible only to a Board of Directors and through them to Parliament.

The public services should include the post office, cables and wireless, broadcasting, water and drainage, harbours, roads, railways and banking, education, health and amusement.

I do not suppose this list will frighten any one except the bank and railway directors, the governors of public and private schools, the fashionable doctors and the amusement racketeers. The nationalization of banks and railways is long overdue. The governors of banks should be appointed not by virtue of their wealth but on the grounds of their individual scientific merits.

Public utilities should comprise such investment industries as gas, electricity, coal, iron and steel, heavy engineering, cement, building, chemicals, such consumption trades as drink (beer and spirits), milk, meat, sugar, etc.

It is important that these investment industries should be State operated, because it must control the rate of investment if it is to maintain economic equilibrium.

No industry needs a more thorough cleaning than the theatres and films, but it needs more than cleansing, says the writer.

We must have a National Theatre and a National Film Centre, where State funds can provide a nursery for native talent and where cultural propaganda can be attempted. A country which neglects its own theatres, its news-reels and its documentary films is throwing away the greatest weapon at its peaceful disposal in international affairs.

Something, too, must be done about newspaper millionaires. Newspapers, says the writer, should represent sections of public opinion and should be controlled by a panel of representative public men.

A law to prohibit their control by private enterprise and to limit the percentage of earnings allowed on capitals invested in these newspaper trusts is recommended as the simple way to end the abuse of papers by newspaper millionaires.

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April '42.

MUSLIMS IN SOUTH INDIA

While the Madras Session of the Muslim League was emphatic on the two-nation theory, the *Souvenir* published under the authority of the Reception Committee has a thoughtful article demonstrating its impracticability in the present conditions of India. The writer, Mr. K. J. Mathew Tharakar, M.A., a research scholar of the Madras University, gives cogent reasons to show how fantastic the scheme would be if attempted to be worked. For, Hindus and Mahomedans have lived together in complete harmony for many generations, and it would be a travesty of history and common sense to go back on the lessons of the past.

Everywhere in South India, the Muslim community lived in perfect amity with the Hindus, retaining the common vernacular and preserving to a very large extent the Hindu customs and habits of thought and expression, notwithstanding the religious change it had undergone.

With the expansion of the Mughal Empire to the south in the latter part of the seventeenth century, a new spirit swept through the community a spirit to live more distinctly and intensely Muslim lives.

Even then, no hostility was shown to people professing Hinduism. Haider and Tippu had as their Prime Minister an able Brahmin, Purnayya. It would appear that they even gave endowments to certain temples.

One would really be surprised to note the large numbers of temples in this Presidency situated in close proximity to mosques. Only a narrow wall separates the famous temple at Thiruvallur from a mosque.

At the famous mosque at Nagore, near Tranquebar, streams of Hindus flock every year to make offerings at the tomb of the Muslim saint that lies buried there. There are other mosques, where similar offerings are made.

The spirit of Muhammed is said to pervade in one granite pillar in Tinnevely where daily *Puja* is done by Hindu votaries. Vows are made to it by Hindus who flock to seek cure of disease, rain and other boons. Ganja and cheroots are generally offered, because the Hindus think they are much to the liking of the Muslims.

Even to this day there is much in common between the Muslims in South India and the other communities, in habits, customs and outlook.

Times are, however, changing. We are living under the shadow of the great Hindu-Muslim controversy, which portends to grow more and more acute. There is real need to reflect on the past and see that an understanding is reached.

FAITH MOVES MOUNTAINS

"The Bhaktiyoga is the easiest method of God-attainment," says Swami Aseshananda in *Kalyana Kalpataru* :

Immense is the potentiality of Bhaktiyoga if it is saved from the pitfalls of narrow fanaticism and bigoted exclusiveness. This priceless gem is to be well guarded. An act of devotion even so slight is capable of producing inconceivable results. Just as from a small seed a huge banyan tree comes up shooting forth its branches on all sides, similarly from a little vestige of true and genuine faith, an uphill and arduous and colossal task of Himalayan height—God-realisation—the priceless treasure of eternal values, is achieved and acquired to the permanent joy of the weary pilgrim soul.

Rightly has it been said: "Faith moves mountains." Faith can work wonders even in this world of doubt and scepticism. It generates tremendous will power. It evokes fiery determination to face and grapple with untoward ills and dangers of life with majestic and serene calmness. It makes a dumb man eloquent and a cripple rise up and cross the mountains with immeasurable strength. Indomitable courage and irresistible power come to his aid to guide him to reach the goal.

WAR-TIME CONSOLATIONS

"It is a horrid business this that we are in," writes Rose Macaulay in the *World Review* describing the horrors of war—"grotesquely barbarous, uncivilized, inhumane and crazy way of life to have had forced on us by a set of barbarous gangsters". War is certainly revolting and beastly and yet we should not be blind to its consolations—these rather "small stars in a pretty murky night".

To begin with, one wakes up each morning (so far) alive and a little surprised sometimes to be so. Each extra day isn't a matter of course, but a gift that we hadn't necessarily counted on having.

We travel together as if poised over an abyss; life has been revealed as the crazily rocking hobgoblin thing it has really always been. We sleep more lightly too; and when we wake each morning we say: 'I am still here, then.' Saying this, we feel that we have scored another point over death and destruction, and the foe that prowls by night.

If you do wake alive, you may enjoy the pleasure of making a tour of the fresh ruins, if any, and if ruins are to your taste.

Of course no one wants ruins, but it is no use pretending that those made last night aren't interesting next day. How greatly our eighteenth century ancestors would have enjoyed them! They paid architects to build picturesque ruins in their grounds; we keep herds of busy ruin-makers who nightly do it free. . . .

Here is a jumbled pile which was once a house and, dangling poised at its top, high above the street, is a large bath and a broken lavatory basin and seat. There, round the next corner, is a ruin with a little Austin car poised on its summit, blown up there from its garage by blast, a little battered, thickly coated with grey dust but still a car.

From such bizarre spectacles one must get what interest one can among the tragedies of smashed homes.

For æsthetic pleasure, you must wait until dark.

London nights, once garish, have grown beautiful, black, with tiny lights like glow-worms, piercing the blackness and on clear nights the stars parading in a new brilliance, blinded no more by the tawdry flares of city lights. Or, on moony nights, the city lies magically silver and black, an ivory town sharp with shadows and deep

lanes of night. And always the long lances of light that search the skies, crossing, sliding, probing.

Suddenly the quiet is shattered by a long howling as of wolves on the trail; again and again the uncanny wail rises, swells and drops; it ceases, and after a minute or two comes that deep drone of bombing planes; flashes begin, and crashes; the sky is aflame with golden fruits that burst and are lost among the stars.

Above it the foe malevolently zooms, pitching down destruction with long whistling whooshes and thundering crashes.

And I say nothing for this horrid scene except that æsthetically, it has a kind of horrid and infernal beauty, and that, if you chance to be out in it, you do at least get an eyeful and see something you don't see as a rule in the London street.

There is another pleasure, less æsthetic—a sense of friendly companionship, a new comradeship, overriding class and sex. And then there are shelters.

Shelters must be counted among the major consolations of war for their addicts. They are a quite new pleasure and are among the town amenities most missed by evacuees to the country.



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MODERN BUDDHISM

"Buddhism under European influence" is the subject of an interesting article by Mr. J. M. Ganguli in the *Aryan Path* for May. Disproportionate emphasis is put on what Buddha is supposed not to have taught rather than on what he actually taught by the modern scholars. Referring to this, Mr. Ganguli writes:

The modern Buddhists read the Buddhistic literature, discuss and expostulate but do not sit quietly and worshipfully to realise Truth. Buddhism has been torn out of its devotional setting and reduced to mere abstract metaphysics super-imposed on some precepts and ethical ideas. But faith and devotion are the essential ingredients of all religion whereby it reaches the innermost recesses of the heart and makes the subtlest perceptions admissible there and such faith and devotion arise and develop with increasing realisation and expanding consciousness, which produce also a prayerful mood.

* * * *

European scholars may have created interest in the religion of the Buddha among some intellectuals in distant lands; what they have carried afar, however, has not been the soul-stirring and life-revolutionising message of Buddha but only an Oriental philosophical curio to be comparatively studied with theological trends in other countries. That the world has thereby missed the deep voice and the heart yearnings of a great humanist with all their fervid appeal, is no doubt true; but the greatest misfortune has been that even the traditional followers of the Buddha in India and in Asia at large are getting unmoored from their age-old religious anchorage and are ceasing to cultivate the internal spirit-realisation through outpouring devotion and feeling prayer.

If Buddhism has to be animated again with life and vigour, concludes the writer, it has to be endowed with the same old deep feeling and spirit of devotion which it originally possessed, but which have been overlooked, unappreciated and discarded by the intellectuals of the modern age.

RACIAL SUPERIORITY: A MYTH

Dr. Benoy Kumar Sarkar does not believe in the superiority of one race over another. The superior or Brahmin of to-day, he says in *Prabuddha Bharata*, "has very often grown out of, or is blended with, the inferior or *pariah* biological stocks of yesterday." And this, he adds,

enables me to state that the unknown, the lower, the inferior, the depressed and the *pariah* of to-day, is tending to grow into the renowned, the higher, the superior, the Brahmin of to-morrow.

In other words, the world is being considerably created and conquered all the time by the *pariah*. It is to the *pariah*, therefore, that the future of mankind belongs in a substantial measure and this not only from the standpoint of culture, i.e., social values, but also from that of flesh and blood."

As I am talking so emphatically of the creative role of the *pariah* in the societies of the world, there is every danger of my being misunderstood. People might suspect that perhaps I wish that *pariahdom* should be nursed by the society.

Let me, therefore, declare in so many words that the social condition of the *pariah*, the inferior race, caste, community or class is not an enviable one whether in East or West. We may recall the status of the Roman Catholics in Great Britain down to 1829 and that of the Jews in Russia, Central Europe and U. S. A. down to our own times.

The Indian *pariah* is, of course, a byword—and a world notorious byword. He continues:

The war against *pariahdom* of all varieties and degrees both in East and West, in other words, the war against ethnocentrism or Brahmanocracy in science and politics as well as culture is one of the first desiderata of a new world-planning in my sentiments as well as scientific researches.

The abolition of all sorts of race prejudices, social privileges and inequalities based on ethnic considerations, and distinctions between occidental and oriental peoples on the one hand, and the establishment of race-equality in interhuman or social relations on the other, are two of the fundamental planks to my scheme for national and international reconstruction.

PAKISTAN & THE FUTURE OF INDIA

A regrouping of territories for considerations of administrative convenience, economic advantage or racial or linguistic or geographical homogeneity may be desirable. But what is called Pakistan, with its sinister implications and ever widening scope may well disturb the equanimity of all Indians who look forward to the emergence of a strong, united and self-governing India. Although Pakistan may be a mere pawn in the game of political settlement, says the Hon'ble Sir Chhotu Ram in the *Hindustan Review* for May, the serious misgivings and doubts which the scheme has already generated and which its further developments are likely to multiply and accentuate will do incalculable harm all round.

The immediate effects of Pakistan will be:

1. A worsening of the communal situation as a result of growing mutual distrust and bitterness, a dissipation of valuable energy in arranging propaganda of mutual recrimination and communal demonstrations on either side;

2. A misunderstanding of Britain's motives and distrust of British good faith both by Hindus and Muslims in consequence of the natural and easily intelligible reluctance of British statesmen to make any categorical and absolutely unambiguous statement on all the aspects of Pakistan; and

3. Impairment, due to 1 and 2, both in the quality and volume of India's war effort.

Hence, Sir Chhotu Ram pleads that those who believe in communal peace and good-will as well as in a successful and vigorous prosecution of the war should set their faces against the scheme.

The assumptions on which the scheme is based cannot stand examination. Difference in religious belief is no bar to the growth of common nationhood. Japan and China present excellent examples of common nationhood in spite of the differing religious beliefs of their peoples. Nor does identity of religious faith imply or ordinarily lead to common nationhood, or supply a reliable basis for peace and mutual goodwill. Turks, Iranians and Afghans constitute different nations, although they all profess Islam, Russia, Germany, Great

Britain and France, although all followers of Christ, are separate nations and have not set a very good example of friendship or harmony. On the other hand, although India may not have succeeded so far in developing a sufficiently keen and strong sense of common nationhood effectively to preclude communal leaders from launching their attacks on her solidarity, it can reasonably be claimed that India is a single nation and can, in the course of time, develop a measure of solidarity which will be proof against such attacks.

The best solution of the problem, according to Sir Chhotu Ram, is the introduction of joint electorates and the formation of non-communal parties based on common economic interests both inside and outside legislatures.

This will divert communalism of the main force of its appeal and will strengthen in men's minds the natural process of thinking in the political sphere in terms of their secular interests rather than of their community.

WHEN PEACE COMES

Peace is a pleasant thought when war is on. "Junis" asks in the journalist: Will post-war reconstruction adjust matters in such a way that there will be no minorities or tiny states, which will be the hotbeds of contention? Why not peace be made on a redistribution of the world on a basis of confederation?

Will life become easy when peace comes? We should certainly hope for such a world.

If peace comes soon, the destruction of all that is cherished and treasured will be spared. Peace will enable the victor and the vanquished to see their bloodstains in clearer vision. World is assured of victory to those who are fighting on a moral stand. As an Indian, the feeling is irrepressible that if India had been properly trained in modern warfare, no European would dare touch Britain. This is also the opinion of Mahatma Gandhi and many other leaders. When peace comes, India is bound to look to this aspect of her individuality.

When peace comes, India may have a larger number of internationals settled down.

The conditions of life, even in a slow moving country like India, are bound to change. The world is a smaller unit today than it was in 1918, because of the rapid means of communication and exchange of ideas.

SHORT MEN VS. TALL

"It is an indisputable fact that short man develops more ambition than the taller one. As a result we more often see short men among great business executives and political chiefs than tall men. The short man wishes to compensate for his undersized stature and comes out on top, thanks to greater ambition and will power," writes a British magazine.

Psychoanalysts like Dr. Jung are of the same view. There are many typical cases to illustrate the point in contemporary history. In France, Pierre Flandin, the tallest politician, has had to give way several times to Pierre Laval who is short. The pushing Laval wants to become eventually the French Fuehrer. Nazidom's Fuehrer and Italy's Mussolini are short men. In Spain, leadership has been secured by another short man, General Franco, whose ambition turned him from a colonial soldier into a dictator. Switzerland has had three presidents in succession during the last few years, each just above five feet.

A similar tendency is noticeable among nations. A short race, the Japanese, is trying to secure by force the domination of the Far East. In the West, the tall Norwegians are reduced to slavery.

Among the short men who have become 'giants of history' are Julius Caesar (5 ft. 2 in.), Napoleon Bonaparte (5 ft. 1 in.), Alexander the Great (5 ft. 3 in.), Lenin (4 ft. 11 in.) and Sun-yat-Sen (5 ft.).

What of women? Glamour girls are mostly tall and slim, but the £ 20,000-a-year Hollywood film stars are mostly very short women. Merle Oberon, Vivien Leigh, Annabella, Janet Gaynor, Joan Bennet and Sonja Henie and many others are in the five-foot class.

WHAT IS PHILOSOPHY?

Under this caption, Dr. Satis Chandra Chatterjee of the Calcutta University contributes an article to the May number of the *Vedanta Kesari*. Dr. Chatterjee says that philosophy is not mysticism although it may have its basis in the mystical experience. He continues:

"It is an intellectual effort to interpret and understand the universe in the light of our intuitive or mystical experience of reality. Although men as spiritual beings may, in one way or other, be in communion with the super-sensuous reality, yet they are not strictly speaking all philosophers or metaphysicians. Philosophers are men who have the experience of the super-sensuous and make an intellectual attempt to rationalize it so as to enable us to understand the world of ordinary experience and solve the ultimate problems of our life. Philosophy is thus the rationalization of our experiences of super-sensuous reality or the intellectual effort to understand the world in the light of those experiences. To rationalize our experiences of reality is, however, not to prove them by the help of sense-experience or scientific knowledge. Rather it is to justify them by a criticism of the knowledge given by the senses and the sciences to show its inadequacy. Philosophy may, therefore, be defined also as the criticism of sense-experience and scientific knowledge to justify our knowledge of super-sensuous reality."

Philosophy as a universal science combines the results of the special sciences, reconciles their contradictions and gives us a general view of the world as a whole.

MULTUM IN PARVO

NEWS * DEPARTMENTAL * NOTES

Questions of Importance

THE NEW WORLD ORDER

There has been considerable discussion in the British and Dominion press over what is called the new world order, which is to be established at the end of the war. The *Indian Social Reformer* points out that the declarations of British statesmen making the reconstruction of Europe on a democratic basis the chief war aim, an excellent thing in itself, could create no enthusiasm outside Europe unless integrated with a definite undertaking that colour bars and racial barriers will be eliminated from the new order. "Insistence on this becomes all the more necessary when among the apostles of the new order are General Smuts and Mr. Menzies of Australia. The treatment of Indians and the large coloured population of South Africa is not far removed from the Nazi persecution of Jews. When General Smuts speaks of world freedom and civilization, we are impelled to ask what is the world he has in mind. Asiatics are debarred from acquiring civil rights in Australia which has vast empty spaces crying for population. Would the end of the war see this land open to all races, or is Australia fighting only to maintain its exclusive White policy? Then, again, the United States has made membership of the Aryan race the test of admission of immigrants to its citizenship. This was done long before Herr Hitler made Aryanism the basis of Nazism. Would the United States maintain the Aryan test in the New World Order? If the Dominions and America intend to stick to their colour

and race bars, there is no common ground on which they and Indians can co-operate in building it up. The supreme question for us is not the re-establishment of democracy in Europe, but the removal of the race and colour bars which constitute a perpetual source of irritation and humiliation to Asiatics and to Indians as an important class of Asiatics. The dire calamities which are afflicting Europe are the direct nemesis for the calamities which Europe has inflicted on weak and helpless races in the course of their exploitation and, not until Europe repents and resolves to make atonement, will she be able to save herself from continued miseries. The moment Europe realises this and turns over a new leaf, that moment her relief will come and the way be shown to her to a new and happy world order."

GANDHIJI ON COMMUNAL RIOTS

In the course of a lengthy statement on the communal riots, Gandhiji gives some illustrations of what a Congressman should do in the given circumstances: "Supposing there is a Hindu procession which has a right to pass through a Muslim locality and a Congressman has no influence over either, he will still give his life in begging a passage from the opposing Muslims.

The immediate result may be zero. But the Congressman will have left a legacy of non-violent bravery. It will be good practice in non-violence. Let us learn from the British people the art of recklessly losing life and property. The same rule applies to a Muslim procession passing through a Hindu locality. He shall never learn the art of mutual forbearance and toleration till some of us, though perfectly innocent, have staggered Indian humanity by losing our lives."

MR. AMERY'S TALK TO BEVIN BOYS

Addressing the Indian technicians at work in a Government training centre, in England, Mr. Amery said:

"If India is to play her part worthily in this war, it is not enough that she should find, as she is doing, hundreds of thousands of splendid and willing recruits. She must also make weapons without which they cannot overcome their enemies. That is the greatest task upon which India is entering today, and for the fulfilment of the task she needs more trained skilled technical workers. That is part of India's battle you are undertaking both by what you can learn here and by what you can teach others when you return to India. You have come to serve your country in the present struggle. Thus you will also serve her hereafter. . . . This country is the original home of trade unionism and it is here that industrial organisation on the part of the working man has reached the fullest development. . . .

Your long journey and your stay here may also teach you something you may not have expected to learn mainly about India. You come from different parts of India, belong to different communities and while at home, you may have thought little about India as a whole. During your voyage here and still more among a different people, you may have become more conscious of the fact underlying your minor differences, that you are Indians and belong to India.

That is something you should feel proud of, proud of India's wonderful past and of the greater future that is in store for her, eager to do credit to India while you are here and do something for India when you return."

SIR C. P. ON THE VITALITY OF HINDUISM

Speaking on the occasion of the opening of the new buildings of the Arya Samaj in Madras, Sir C. P. Ramaswami Iyer, Dewan of Travancore, observed:

"The ideals and teachings of the Arya Samaj were as old as the hills. The main tenet of Arya Samaj was an endeavour to go back to the sources and foundations of the Hindu faith—the Vedas and the Upanishads. Any one who for a moment looked into and analysed the progress of the Hindu faith from the earliest times would see that it moved from simplicity to complexity and then back to simplicity in a spiral process. There were revolvers like Buddha and Jaina but imperceptibly, slowly and surely Hinduism absorbed and assimilated their teachings so much so that Buddhism and Jainism were today but variants of Hinduism. Sankara, Ramanuja, Kabir, Chaitanya and Ramakrishna Paramahansa, all taught a new way of life adapted to the particular level of intellect and stage of emotional and spiritual growth of different people. Each of them different from his predecessors was engaged in the unending process of fitting Hinduism for its immediate tasks which history occasioned or circumstances called for. An incurable optimist that he was, he had no fears for the future of Hinduism and Hindu culture. There must be something vital and some great inward strength in Hinduism which made it survive thousands of years after faiths, no less noble in outlook or exalted in ideals, had perished without leaving a trace. That inward strength and vitality of Hinduism lay in the strength of its catholicism and vigour of its thought and emotion."

MR. MUNSHI ON BRITISH POLICY

In a statement to the Press, Mr. K. M. Munshi points out that during the last few days a new situation fraught with tragic possibilities is developing for India. Unless all the signs point wrongly, the war will soon be waged on the frontiers of India.

"We Congressmen—the natural allies of Britain, if the war is for democracy—went into wilderness after our offer to fight the war if India were granted a National Government, was turned down. No self-respecting national organisation can do less. About 20,000 of us are in jail. Every arrest means increasing estrangement between Britain and India. It is easy to belittle the movement but it brings out in sharp relief the fact that India does not consider the war as hers.

In a letter purporting to be from a Muslim in Europe to a Muslim Leaguer published in some newspapers, India is sought to be divided thus: Bombay and Madras to go to Italy; Burma, Bengal and Bihar to Japan; United and Central Provinces to be mandated; and a new country to be brought into existence stretching from Turkey to United Provinces.

An English journal recently testified to pro-Japanese feeling in Burma and all sections of Indian opinion are anti-Japanese. The bitterness that has come over the Liberals was voiced by the mildest of them, Sir Cowasji, when he said that their lot was to subscribe to the war fund and knit stockings. Even the ex-members of the Viceroy's Council, who have stood outside politics, have displayed their dissatisfaction in no uncertain terms.

A sense of frustration has seized the Indian mind. Is this a healthy state of mind when a supreme effort is required to meet the new crisis? Britain has lost a great opportunity."

SAPRU COMMITTEE & MR. JINNAH

In a statement to the Press, the Standing Committee of the Bombay Conference refutes Mr. Jinnah's allegation that the decisions of the Conference were in any way influenced by any outsider. Criticising Mr. Jinnah's negative attitude, it points out that he is out merely to destroy the unity of the country.

Mr. Jinnah has now come out in his true colours. No scheme of Government will satisfy him even for the period of war unless it is in furtherance of the disruption of India.

The Committee would ask all right-minded men to consider whether in view of Mr. Jinnah's latest pronouncement, any negotiation with him is possible except on the basis of destroying the unity of the country.

GANDHIJI ON DISARMAMENT

Replying to the *Times of India*, Gandhiji points out that there is in fact no discrepancy in his insistence on non-violence while protesting against keeping the people wholly unarmed.

In 1908, when I first expounded the life-saving and the life-giving truth of Ahimsa, I wrote that disarmament was the blackest page in British history in India. I repeated the same thing in 1918, when I was collecting recruits for the British Army with a zeal that brought me serious illness and a fair measure of unpopularity. My statement passed muster then. But times have changed, and I have become inconsistent for stating an unchallengeable fact. I suggest that non-violence cannot be imposed upon any one. It has to come from within. The British measure was undertaken to make British rule safe, not to make the people non-violent. It has made them impotent even for mischief. Good, impotent persons can never do. It is no matter for pride or credit that one representative of the British power can hold in abject subjection, say, a village of 1,000 souls.

My non-violence does admit of people, who cannot or will not be non-violent, holding and making effective use of arms. Let me repeat, for the thousandth time, that non-violence is of the strongest not of the weak. It is a force mightier than violence, though radically different from it in quality and effect.

THE ANNAMALAI UNIVERSITY

A special meeting of the Senate of the Annamalai University was held on May 5, Sir K. V. Reddy Naidu, Vice-Chancellor, presiding. The Finances Reorganisation Committee had recommended drastic cuts in staff and curriculum. These, approved by the Syndicate and the Academic Council, were put before the Senate which accepted them by a majority of votes.

Mr. Papworth, however, moved a resolution requesting the house that action on the recommendations of the Finances Reorganisation Committee relating to (a) courses of study, and (b) the staff, be deferred pending an immediate investigation.

He protested against what he described as "morally questionable methods" "involving dismissal of members of the staff and cutting down scales of salaries regardless of our contracts with and our obligations towards them".

In asking for an investigation into the whole matter, Mr. Papworth expressed his own opinion that the Constitution of the University is not suitable to a unitary University.

"This University is one College, and I maintain it should be run as such; it should function like the Presidency College or the Christian College; for it is smaller in numbers and courses of study than both these big colleges, but with just that extra statutory provision giving it the status of a University with power to confer its own degrees. A unitary University requires no more than that. It does not require an elaborate constitution of a Senate and an Academic Council and a Syndicate. No single College requires this; indeed such a constitution is detrimental to a University consisting of a single college."

Mr. Papworth's motion was, however, lost and the University has now decided not to offer instruction in the following subjects for the courses of study commencing from 1941-42: 1. Philosophy Part III Pass and Honours Degree Examinations; 2. Sanskrit for Honours Degree Examination; 3. Botany for Pass and Honours; and 4. Zoology for Pass Degree Examinations.

SIR MAURICE ON STUDENTS AND POLITICS

"The hall-mark of university education ought to be a sense of proportion and a sense of values," observed Sir Maurice Gwyer, Chief Justice of India, addressing the Convocation of the Delhi University on May 6.

"In the University of Delhi, he added, "it ought to be easier to achieve these two things than in many other places; for, this University is situate in a city with a very great history, in a city which is now the capital of India, and in a city where for good or ill policies will always be discussed, plans made and decisions taken profoundly affecting the lives and interests of millions of mankind."

Continuing, Sir Maurice said:

"I cannot conceive a student in any capital city taking no interest in the politics of his country; for he lives in the very centre of politics, and I should be sorry, indeed, to think that any aspect of Indian politics failed to arouse the interest of the students of this University. I hope that they will always study them and take the keenest interest in them, whether as an intellectual pursuit or with an ardent desire to play a part later on the public life of their country."

LAHORE HIGH COURT'S RULING

"Mere sending of a letter to the District Magistrate intimating that one intends to shout anti-war slogans does not constitute an offence punishable under Rule 121 of the Defence of India Rules."

This ruling was given by Mr. Justice Bhide at the Lahore High Court, on May 6, on a point of law raised by the Bar Association through an *amicus curiae* application in the cases of three Satyagrahis.

Accepting the petitions, His Lordship acquitted all the three accused including Lala Chandit Ram Varma, President of the Ferozepur Congress Committee, who had been sentenced to 15 months' rigorous imprisonment and a fine of Rs. 500.

The other two Satyagrahis were Lala Fatehchand, a Municipal Commissioner of Multan, who had been sentenced to nine months' rigorous imprisonment and a fine of Rs. 2,000 and Mr. Mukandlal, a Congress worker of Hoshiarpur, who had been sentenced to six months' rigorous imprisonment and a fine of Rs. 100.

His Lordship, in the course of his judgment, observed: "It is a well established canon of interpretation of statutes that a penal provision of law must be strictly construed and that no act should be penalised unless it clearly falls within the ambit of the penal provision."

In the present case after carefully considering the language of Rule 121 and other points referred to above, I have come to the conclusion that the mere sending of a letter to the District Magistrate intimating that the accused intended to shout anti-war slogans did not constitute an offence punishable under that rule."

It would appear that the Punjab Government, acting on this decision, is releasing a number of such prisoners.

THE LATE MR. T. JIVAJI ROW

We regret to record the death of Mr. T. Jivaji Row, retired Sub-Judge at Coimbatore, on 17th May. The late Mr. Jivaji Row was the son of the late Rao Bahadur T. Gopala Row, the South Indian educationist.

Mr. Jivaji Row, before joining the Provincial Judicial Service, worked as a junior under the late Sir V. Bhashyam Iyengar. He also acted as District and Sessions Judge for about two years before he retired. He was aged 75 and leaves behind him his wife and only son.

A WOMAN ADVOCATE

On May 1, before the Chief Justice and Mr. Justice Mockett, Mr. J. S. Vedamanikkam moved for the enrolment of Miss Lily Jesudasan as an Advocate of the Madras High Court. He said that she was the daughter of the late Mr. A. Jesudasan, who was a leading advocate in Trichinopoly. She was the first lady of the Indian Christian community to pass out of the Madras Law College, and she proposed to set up practice at Trichinopoly. Their Lordships directed her enrolment.

TWO NEW MADRAS JUDGES

The Governor-General has appointed Diwan Bahadur C. Kunhiraman, Chief Judge, Court of Small Causes, Madras, and Mr. N. Chandrasekhara Ayyar, District Judge, Madras, to be additional judges of the Madras High Court for two years with effect from July 16, 1941.

SUBASH BOSE'S PROPERTIES

An order to attach the immoveable properties of Mr. Subhas Chandra Bose was passed recently by the Additional Chief Presidency Magistrate, Calcutta, in connexion with the case pending against him under the Defence of India Rules.

WAR RISK INSURANCE

The Government of India have now decided not to allow war risk insurance policies to be taken out with retrospective effect even in cases of under-insurance, according to instructions given by the Under-Secretary to the Government of India in the Department of Commerce to the Accountants-Generals of Bengal, Bombay, and Madras on the subject of the War Risks (Goods) Insurance Ordinance of 1910.

Explaining the decision, the Under-Secretary states that even where a policy has been taken out for an amount less than the estimated value of goods held in stock, Government are not willing, on the balance of premium being subsequently tendered, to issue cover retrospectively with regard to the excess of stocks.

He adds that such cases of under-insurance which come to the notice of the staff in the course of local checking, should be reported to the special officers concerned.

THE LATE SIR DARCY LINDSAY

Sir Darcy Lindsay, formerly Director of the Calcutta Branch of the Royal Insurance Company, died at Shillong last month.

Sir Darcy was born in Duns, Scotland, in 1865 and came out to India very early on business. He was connected with the Royal Insurance Company in India for 32 years, first as Secretary of the Bombay Branch and then as Secretary of the Calcutta Branch. He was appointed a Director in 1923. Sir Darcy was a member of the Central Legislative Assembly from 1921 to 1931 and was the leader of the European Party there. He was a familiar figure in business and social circles in Calcutta.

INSURANCE PAYMENTS IN U. S. A.

According to an estimate by the travelers, more than three and a half billions of dollars were paid to the public last year by American insurance companies.

Payments under life insurance policies amounted to more than \$2,700,000,000 which is approximately 75 per cent of the total, viz., \$3,615,000,000. Disbursements under various forms of insurance applying to persons as compared with forms applying to property amounted to 82 per cent of the total.

Payments under fire insurance policies amounted to approximately \$100,000,000 and under automobile policies \$175,000,000.

A NEW INDIAN INSURER

The opening ceremony of the Hindu Insurance Co., Ltd., a company which has been floated after the dissolution of the Punjab Mutual Hindu Family Relief Fund, was performed in the office of the Company at 18, Chamberlain Road, Lahore, on Sunday the 13th April.

Mr. Bhagat Gobind Das, Chairman of the Company, described briefly the objects and aims of this new Company. The guests were treated to light refreshments.

AMERICAN MARINE INSURANCE

Despite the loss of practically all insurances on European commerce, a substantial increase is anticipated in the 1940 premium income of American marine insurance. This increase is attributed partially to the higher premium rates and partially to new business for instance from the Dutch East Indies and South American countries. It is expected that business will continue to increase unless the United States and Japan go to war.

INDO-AUSTRALIAN TRADE

Australia is very keen on improving trade with this country, says *Capital*, and the Sydney Chamber of Commerce has been making efforts to form an "Export Development Group". The Government of India, too, has not been insensible to the potentialities of the Australian market, in recognition whereof an Indian Trade Commissioner was appointed. The Sydney Chamber has addressed commercial bodies in India and Ceylon on the subject and state *inter alia*:

"We would greatly appreciate your assistance in bringing the formation and objects of this Group before the commercial community in your territory.

Owing to defence requirements, the export at present of metals and metal manufacture is difficult, but there are many other items your country may require on which there are no restrictions. Whatever the inquiry is for, you may be sure that it will receive efficient attention, the inquirer will be either placed in touch with a supplier or correctly advised of the position regarding the goods required.

In future, it may again be necessary for us to call upon your services for assistance on matters relative to your territory and we feel sure that we can rely on your co-operation while we, in turn, are entirely at the service of your organisation and its members."

INDIAN DEFENCE LOANS

A Press *communique* says: Subscriptions to the Second Defence Loan from 1st February to 3rd May amounted to Rs. 5,22,92,800; to Interest-free Defence Bonds 2,36,72,000; Post Office Ten-Year Cash Certificates Rs. 2,64,12,000. Grand total of subscriptions to all Indian Defence Loans Rs. 55,09,49,000.

BURMA CUSTOMS TARIFF

About 77 articles specified in the Burma Customs Tariff are on the Burma free list, while in respect of 179 articles, Burma concedes preference to goods of Indian origin of not less than 10 per cent. compared with Empire products and not less than 15 per cent. compared with non-Empire goods according to the *Burma Gazette Extraordinary*.

The chief among the free list are coal, raw cotton, cotton twist and yarn, gunny bags, pig iron and certain classes of machinery. The chief among goods which become dutiable at 10 per cent. for the first time are certain types of cotton fabrics, raw silk, jute, cement, ghee, molasses, condensed milk, aluminium and vegetables.

Indian tea now becomes subject to a duty of two annas per pound while Colonial tea to three annas. Indian chemicals are now dutiable at 5 per cent. which represents a margin of preference of 15 per cent. of Empire chemicals. Sugar is taxable at Rs. 8 per hundred-weight, while the duty on salt, matches and silver bullion will be equal to the excise duty.

INDO-MALAYAN TRADE

The Indo-Malayan trade of 1939 showed a marked increase over 1938, the increase being about 7 million dollars. Exports from Malaya exceeded the imports from India by 3½ million dollars, giving a favourable balance of trade for Malaya. With the restriction of trade with many European centres, there appears to be scope for increasing the volume of Indo-Malayan trade.

WOMEN'S WORK IN WAR TIME

"The women in this country have made an overwhelming response to the appeals made to them and have shown themselves worthy in every respect to share the front line with their husbands and brothers," writes the Dowager Lady Reading in a personal letter from London to Rai Bahadur Radha Krishna Jalan, a prominent citizen of Patna.

She adds: "British women work during the day and care for their families, shelters neighbours and friends during the nights of raids and they seem to be able to carry on unperturbed and untired. They face difficulties of cooking and domestic arrangements in their own homes and are an example to the world."

The former Vicereine is now the Chairman of the Women's Volunteer Services for Civil Defence, and in her letter she describes at length the work of that organization.

"The scope of our work," says Lady Reading, "has extended steadily and from dealing only with A.R.P. matters, ambulance personnel and first aid post workers, we have now been asked by the local Government authorities throughout the country for whom we work to help them with all problems they have to face which need a woman's attention. This covers evacuation, salvage-work parties, clothing depots and distribution, the care of homeless people, canteen work and an endless variety of activities."

CRETAN WOMEN FIGHT NAZIS

When Italy invaded Greece, Cretan hills-women of the Lassithi plain petitioned the King of Hellenes to be allowed to form a Women's Regiment to fight for Greece. Their desire is now granted, and armed, stalwart Cretan women, famed for their beauty, now mount guard over their homes and stalk Nazi parachutists.

WOMEN AND COMMUNAL PROBLEM

Presiding over a meeting of the women of Trichur held under the auspices of the Mahila Samajam, Mrs. Ammu Swaminathan held that women are particularly fitted to play an important part in the settlement of communal questions. She observed:

"I believe that women as a whole who are the least actuated by communal feelings and considerations in their lives are much better fitted than men to find a quick and easy solution to the communal problem of India.

If the women of India had enough political consciousness to realise their influence in this respect, I could have easily predicted that the future generations of Indians would not fight among themselves and risk the cause of the nation on this communal issue. I earnestly and confidently hope that the women of Kerala who are freer and more literate than women of other parts of India, especially from a social and economic point of view, will feel their responsibilities towards the nation and towards their less fortunate sisters and devote their attention to do away with communalism, an unholy issue on which *Swaraj* their birthright is said to depend."

MRS. ROOSEVELT'S APPEAL

Mrs. Roosevelt, broadcasting under the auspices of the Committee to defend America by aiding the Allies, declared:

"Americans must make themselves worthy to offer the world the example that democracy has vitality, democracy has strength, and, above all, that the people who believe in democracy have the courage to fight and die if need be, and above all, to live for their convictions at all times."

LITERARY

EXPANDED ENGLISH

In an article on "English—All Dressed up", the organ of the Head Masters of Great Britain and Northern Ireland has some pleasant examples of how to make a little English go a long way when done up in the best official manner:

1. "More precipitation, less acceleration,"—more haste, less speed.

2. "Proceed to the due performance of your prescribed task,"—Go to it.

3. "You are enjoined not to disseminate reports of indeterminate provenance which have insufficient bases of authenticity and which by repetition tend to acquire cumulative inexactitude,"—Don't spread rumours.

ITIHAS PARISHAD

The Council and the Editorial Board of the Bharatiya Itihas Parishad, which met at Calcutta on April 13 and 14, have, it is understood, decided finally to start work on the national history of India in twenty volumes. Editors have been appointed for six volumes which are to be taken in hand immediately.

Sir Jadunath Sarkar, the Chief Editor, has himself taken up the volume on the Age of Akbar.

CHINA'S GIFT TO TIRUPATI INSTITUTE

On the recommendation of Prof. Tan Yun-Shan of Visva-Bharati, Santiniketan, Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek, President of the Chinese Republic, has made a munificent gift of the Shanghai edition of the Chinese Tripitaka consisting of 8,416 fascicles to the Sri Venkatesvara Oriental Institute, Tirupati, and the books have been transmitted to the Institute by the Professor.

BRITAIN'S OLDEST NEWSPAPER

Britain's oldest surviving newspaper, *Berrow's Worcester Journal*, recently celebrated its 250th anniversary. It was founded in 1690. It has received congratulatory messages from Lord Camrose, Major the Hon. J. J. Astor, Lord Beaverbrook, Lord Rothermere, Lord Kemsley, Lord Southwood, Sir Emsley Carr and Sir Ernest Benn, and from many distinguished journalists in England and overseas.

PERSONAL

DR. SAPRU ON MR. JINNAH

"This is the spirit of an angry man who has too long played the part of a dictator but who realises that the challenge to his authority is daily growing and that the chances of his favourite theories and schemes being accepted by others, including the British, are being imperilled every day." So observes the Rt. Hon. Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru in a long reply to the statement by Mr. M. A. Jinnah, President of the All-India Muslim League, who criticised the Bombay Conference resolution.

After pointing out that the story of the conspiracy with Mr. C. Rajagopalachari in drafting the Bombay resolution was a pure myth, Dr. Sapru says:

"It is most unbecoming conduct on the part of a public man—more so in the case of the leader of an organisation—to rely upon rumours, and on the basis of those rumours to characterise the statement of the Standing Committee as 'crooked and tortuous' and in certain parts perversion of truth. He has tried to cover up the weakness of his position by the bitterness of his phraseology, but it is not difficult to see that his mind is excited, his pride wounded, and that he is suffering from a dearth of rational arguments."

RAMU MEMORIAL

The Ramu Memorial Hall—a hall in the Ramakrishna Mission High School, Thyagarayanagar named after the late Mr. C. Ramaswami Ayyangar, Founder-Secretary of the Ramakrishna Mission Home School, Mylapore,—was opened on May 5 by Sir P. S. Sivaswami Ayyar in the school premises at Thyagarayanagar. Sir C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar unveiled a portrait of the late Mr. Ramaswami Ayyangar, and the Rt Hon. V. S. Srinivasa Sastriar a portrait of Mr S. Vasudevachariar, the present manager of the school.

ROOSEVELT'S POPULARITY

President Roosevelt's popularity in the United States has reached its highest level, according to results shown by the latest nation-wide Gallup Poll. Seventy-three per cent. of the voters expressed full confidence in the President, while only 27 per cent. disapproved.

NEW CURE FOR DYSENTERY

Sulfathiazole, a baby member of the amazing sulfanilamide family, is bidding strongly for recognition as the long-sought effective weapon against dysentery bacilli, a rugged pest equally at home in nursery or army camp.

At an Atlanta hospital for children, physicians have watched the drug score repeated, spectacular victories over acute dysentery in children, one to three years old.

The hospital staff is unwilling yet to say positively that 'thiazole is the long-needed curative agent for this ancient ill, but it definitely is encouraged.

FREE BED FOR CEYLON PATIENTS

His Excellency Sir Andrew Caldecott's recent visit to Madras for treatment in the Madras Radiological Institute has led to a free bed being endowed in that institute for deserving Ceylon patients. This was revealed to the Colombo press by Dr. P. Rama Rau, the Director of the Institute when he was there recently on a week's holiday.

He said that as His Excellency insisted on paying his fee and as Dr. Rama Rau was unwilling to accept it from the King's representative in Ceylon, he hit upon the idea of endowing a bed to be named after Sir Andrew Caldecott, to which His Excellency agreed.

AYURVEDIC MEDICINE

In order to popularize and encourage the Ayurvedic system of medicine, the Nizam has sanctioned the scheme which involves a non-recurring expenditure of Rs. 43,000 and an annual recurring expenditure of Rs. 35,000. An Advisory Committee with the Secretary, Army and Medical Departments as chairman and seven others as members has been set up.

CURE FOR DRUNKENNESS

A cure for drunkenness has been invented by Drs. Walter Lyle Voegtlin and Frederick Lemere of Seattle, U. S. Four to seven times a week a patient is given first a drink of good liquor, then an injection of a nauseating drug until he develops a conditioned aversion to liquor. Number of total abstainers for four years of this treatment, they claim, is over 350.

DIET OF SOUTH INDIANS

No time should be lost in improving the diet of South Indians. Stressing this point, *Health* writes editorially:

"It was reported to the Government of India that the average duration of life in India was about half what it ought to be and that the increasing prevalence of tuberculosis and other diseases, which are associated with malnutrition, suggested that the conditions of life of the people were steadily deteriorating.

The diet of a South Indian is much inferior to that of a North Indian, and so some of the diseases mentioned above cause great havoc in this part of the country. Rice, the staple article of diet in South India, is deficient in proteins and fats which are the main muscle-building factors. The people of North India take whole wheat, plenty of dhal, large quantities of milk and ghee which are all good body builders.

The milled rice that we use has lost even the little nutritional properties that it contained. So we should include in our diet plenty of dhal, a good supply of milk and its products such as butter, curd, ghee, etc., liberal quantities of vegetables and fruits. The quantity of rice should be reduced in the diet and sweets should be used sparingly.

CURE BY WALKING

According to Dr. Thomas R. Thorburn of New York, walking in sand relieves fallen arches, arthritis, and rheumatism of the feet. For those who are not fortunate enough to live near the sea-shore, he advises a few minutes walk in a trough filled with sand in their bed room.

STARCHY FOODS

Take starchy foods sparingly such as potatoes, bread, rice, porridge, puddings, pastry, cakes and rich biscuits, because they require a double process of digestion; they must be converted firstly into dextrine and then into grape sugar. Of all foods, they require the most thorough and most complete mastication whereas they usually receive the least.

INDO-CHINA BANK ASSETS IN INDIA

Explaining the position created by Indo-China's ban on remittances to India, the Government of India state:

"The Bank of Indo-China is an enemy within the meaning of Rule 97 of the Defence of India Rules and its assets in India being enemy property vest in the custodian of enemy property. As a retaliatory measure against the freezing of the bank's assets in India, the authorities in Indo-China have forbidden remittances by British Indians from that country to India.

The Government of India have of course no objection to remittances being made to India in any manner that may be permitted by the authorities in Indo-China and have even agreed to pay small drafts for family maintenance drawn on the Pondicherry branch of the bank of Indo-China, thus reducing the assets of the Bank which have been frozen in India. There is, however, definite information that the office of Exchange in Indo-China, which is virtually the bank of Indo-China, will not permit any bank to issue drafts in respect of any remittances. Efforts are being made to have this ban removed as soon as possible.

NEW 3 P. C. LOAN

The Nizam's Government has notified the issue of a new three per cent. loan, the principal and interest of which are secured on the revenues and assets of the Government, says a press note.

The loan will be repayable at par on 8th August 1961, but the Government have reserved to themselves the right to repay the loan on or after the 8th August 1951.

The issue price will be Rs. 99-8 for every Rs 100. Subscriptions will be received from 7th July 1941 to 6th August 1941 in the form of cash or the 6 per cent. loan 1352 Fasli, the 6 per cent. loan 1351/61 Fasli, or the 5 per cent. loan 1352/62 Fasli.

Subscriptions will be received in the currency of the State, but for the convenience of the public, British Government rupees will be accepted at a specified rate.

RAILWAY AMENITIES

With a view to greater uniformity among the amenities provided by the Indian railways for the travelling public and in order to improve the standard of comfort of lower class passengers generally, the Railway Board have laid down a schedule of minimum requirements which are to be provided in future. The Board have also adopted as standard four types of coaches which comply with these requirements. The railways owned by the Indian States have also been asked to adopt these standards.

The new designs for standard-pattern coaches have one main feature in common — they are all of the six-compartment type. This means that each coach is divided off into six separate compartments, each with a carrying capacity of not more than 20 passengers.

RAILWAY INSPECTORATE

In pursuance of the recommendation of the Pacific Locomotive Committee and of the views expressed in the Legislature, the Railway Inspectorate has been separated from the Railways Cadre with effect from May 12, 1941.

The Inspectorate will be independent of the Railway Board and of any Railway Administration. There will be five circles of inspection, each in charge of a Government Inspector of Railways, who will be subordinate to the Chief Government Inspector of Railways.

RAILWAY BAN ON BEGGING

By an amendment of the general rules for all open lines of Railways in British India, it is announced that except under and in conformity with the terms and provisions of a licence granted by the Railway Administration in this behalf, no person shall canvass for any custom, or hawk or expose for sale any article whatsoever on any train, station platform or premises, and no person, whether in possession of a ticket or not, shall beg or solicit alms, subscriptions or charity. REFRESHMENT ROOMS AT S. I. RY. STATIONS

The South Indian Railway authorities have directed the District Engineers and Managers of the Company-managed Indian Refreshment Rooms to remove the caste-distinction boards from the rooms.

THE INFLUENCE OF AJANTA

"The frescoes in Sigiriya in Ceylon are the culmination of the Ajanta," said Dr. Andreas Nell at the Art Gallery, Colombo.

Throughout Eastern Asia, he added, with the progress and triumph of Buddhism, went Indian art. Race and environment produced regional modifications but did not obscure the symbolism, the types and the imagery derived from Indian art.

Especially wide-spread was the influence of Ajanta. Examples of the influence of Ajanta abound in Eastern Asia, and in Ceylon we have at Sigiriya examples which are of the Ajanta School and are of an excellence which justify the claim that the Sigiriya frescoes are the culmination of the Ajanta.

MUSIC FOR MUSIC'S SAKE

In a recent interview to the *Evening News of India*, Dr. William Lovelock, Professor of the Trinity College of Music, London, expressed himself against the pursuit of music with the sole idea of passing examinations and pleaded for music for music's sake.

Dr. Lovelock rightly stressed a high standard of general cultural education as essential to music. It should be noted that music appreciation is an essential element of cultural education. In India, integration of music in the educational system will enlarge and enrich the cultural scope of general education. It will foster in students genuine appreciation of music for music's sake and will also create an urge in them towards seeking true and human music behind and beyond the modern trends of commercialised and mechanised staff.

CAVE PAINTINGS

Recently mural paintings of 11th to 15th century in the Trithakrapuram Temple in Puttan Chira, North Travancore, and the remnants of some old Jain paintings in a rock-cut temple at Chitalal, South Travancore, have been brought to light. India has been slowly regaining the vestiges of her art-treasure, which will greatly facilitate the task of tracing the continuity of her art of painting through the ages.

FIRST INDIAN DERBY

Mr. A. C. Ardeshir will go down in the annals of our Turf history as being the originator and framer of the first Indian Derby which will be run in 1913, writes *The Sporting Times*, Bombay.

The race will be for four-year-olds and the distance will be 1½ miles. The initial stakes will be Rs. 50,000 in all.

Mr. Ardeshir has also suggested the introduction of the other two world-famous classics, the 'Two Thousand Guineas for fillies only, which will also be considered and incorporated in future programmes.

Thus for Indian horses there will be the usual full programme of the classical races prevailing all over the world.

INDIAN CRICKET TEAM FOR CEYLON

"The best time in 1942 for an India XI to visit this Island of Ceylon would be between the period February 15 to March 15," writes Mr. B. E. R. Cooray, Honorary Secretary of the Ceylon Cricket Association, in the course of a letter to the Honorary Secretary of the Board of Control for Cricket in India who, it will be remembered, had written to the Ceylon Cricket authorities asking them to indicate when they would like an India XI to visit their island.

WRESTLING IN HYDERABAD

Gama had been invited to umpire the wrestling bouts organized in Hyderabad in aid of the War Purposes Fund. A number of his pupils took part in the wrestling and defeated all the local champions. The champion wrestler, when interviewed, said:

"The standard of wrestling in Hyderabad is poor and until the State Government takes keen interest as the Maharaja of Patiala does to improve the standard, it is impossible to produce world champions."

HOCKEY FOR WAR FUND

An exhibition hockey match in aid of the Governor's War Fund was played on the Madras United Club ground between the Madras Indians and the Madras Anglo-Indians. The Indians won by four goals to one.

MIDGET SUBMARINE

Very different from the many monster submarines of Britain and Germany armed for destruction and manned with a crew of close on a hundred, is the one-man submarine, recently constructed by Barney Connett.

It is only eleven feet long, but with its one-man crew it has made many successful dives in the Hudson River, U. S. A. It once even crossed the thirty-five miles of Lake Michigan, three feet below the surface and rising only once for air.

Connett, who was once a Chicago mechanic, has built his underwater craft made of one-sixteenth-inch steel to resemble a fish.

It is twenty-three inches wide and thirty-seven inches high amidships just enough room to allow the operator to manipulate the controls.

It carries an oxygen supply and a four-foot periscope enables Barney to see what is going on above the water. When he is on the surface, celluloid windows on each side give him light. Submarine experts of the American Navy recently watched this small underwater craft during trials. They made no comment about it, but it is thought that this "midget sub" might be of use for tracking down and hunting bigger and less manoeuvrable submarines.

DEVICES AGAINST BOMBING

Canadian and American scientists had played no mean part in developing the devices against night bombing now being used in Britain, according to a statement by the Canadian Air Minister, Mr. Power, in the House of Commons. Over 300 men, mostly from Canada, he said, had crossed the Atlantic to work the devices in November and they were recently followed by hundreds more. Mr. Power added that the United States had supplied from 200 to 400 trained airmen for instruction work under the Empire Training Scheme and the actual number of men who graduated under the scheme recently was almost double of that planned when the agreement on the scheme was made in December, 1939.

SOUTH INDIAN FILMS

Advocating regular exhibition of South Indian films in the North, Mr. N. V. Eswar, in the course of an article in the *Hindusthan Standard*, says:

It thus brings us directly to the question of the language barrier. This to me is a phantom. It is not real. At the outset, it is true that we are capable of appreciating only films produced in our language. To-day we have outlived that stage. India has been inside the cinema-house for the past twenty years so that she can by every cannon be said to have turned film conscious. This consciousness alone is sufficient to make one understand films in other languages.

This fact is simply borne out by South Indian ladies, who are for the most part innocent of any other language, save their own and this in a most rudimentary form patronising films in other languages. They not only understand these films but also enjoy them. I do maintain that if it is possible for South Indians to enjoy films other than their own, the enjoyment of South Indian films by Indians of the North must by every standard of judgment be within the realms of actual reality.

'TIRUVALLUVAR'

Famous Talkies' Tamil picture "Tiruvalluvar" has been released in a few centres in Tamil Nad. Serukalathur Sama, Kulathu Mani, Tinnevely Papa and Kali N. Ratnam are featuring in the play. The story depicts the life of the sage Tiruvalluvar, the famous author of "Kural". With nice songs, superior quality of acting and well set dialogues, the picture should have an abundant support from the cine lovers.

CHAPLIN'S CONFESSION

"My mother didn't like my pictures," says Charlie Chaplin. "She didn't like the violence of comedy. After she had been in Hollywood a little while she became very religious, and she used to say she was sorry I felt called upon to be an actor; leading a false life, she called it, because in pictures I was always pretending to be someone I was not."

AUTOMOBILE FACTORY IN BANGALORE

It is understood that the Mysore Government have decided not to participate in the scheme for the establishment of an automobile industry in the State and that the promoters have been informed that the Government have no desire to proceed with the negotiations.

It will be recalled that the Government of India, while expressing full sympathy with the scheme, said in December last that the starting of this industry would divert skilled workers from ammunition work and they also referred to the difficulty of releasing dollars owing to exchange restrictions.

The starting of an Automobile Factory in Mysore was greatly welcomed by local merchants and the general public and already brokers had collected over fifty lakhs towards share capital from Mysore subjects alone. Sir M. Visvesvaraya, who had received promises from other States aggregating fifty lakhs towards share capital, it is learnt, is writing to them releasing them from their promises.

In this connection the Indian Chamber of Commerce, Tuticorin, has sent the following telegram to the Government of India:—

"This Chamber requests the Central Government and the Madras Government to arrange for the establishment of the automobile industry in Madras Presidency at Mettur or anywhere in Coimbatore District owing to availability of cheap electrical energy and of a sufficient number of investors. This Chamber also requests the Madras Government to take shares in the Aircraft Factory in Bangalore ensuring a field for Madrasis being trained as technicians."

AXIS AUTOMOBILE INDUSTRY

Evidence of German economic penetration in France was given by the Paris Radio in announcing co-operation between France, Germany and Italy regarding the automobile industry.

The agreement signed in Berlin provides for a commission comprising five Germans, five Italians, and five Frenchmen under the presidency of the German automobile industry controller.

The announcer stated that 800,000 French families would be maintained by the industry.

GERMAN PLANES IN ENGLAND

At least 33 German planes were destroyed over Britain on Saturday the 10th of May.

Thirty-one raiders were destroyed by fighters and two by anti-aircraft gunfire. The total number of raiders brought down last month is 121. Assuming that each plane carried a crew of five, the *Luftwaffe* has lost more than 600 trained men.

Among the buildings hit by German bombs were the Houses of Parliament, the Debating Chamber in the House of Commons being wrecked and Big Ben slightly damaged, Westminster Abbey and the British Museum.

AIR MAIL SERVICE TO EUROPE

The Empire air mail service to Africa and Europe has been temporarily interrupted, states a Press *communiqué*. Until further notice no air mails will be accepted for destinations west of Basra. Air mails already posted will be forwarded to destinations by the most expeditious route available.

A regular air service between India and Australia is being maintained and mails will be accepted for all destinations served by this service as well as for destinations in the Persian Gulf.

FIGHTERS AND BOMBERS

It is announced from London that donations to Britain's Aircraft Fund totalled nearly £13 million by the end of April. Of this money, it is estimated, citizens in the Dominions and the Colonies have given 46 per cent., the people of Britain 35 per cent., India 15 per cent., and the Netherlands Empire most of the remainder.

FLYING FORTRESSES

Major-General H. H. Arnold, Chief of the United States Air Corps, thus spoke of the part American planes are playing in the offensive against Germany. He stated that the famous flying fortresses had already won their spurs.

He added that for every ton of bombs that the Germans drop on Britain, we must be able to drop two tons on them.

INDIAN SHIP-BUILDING

At the first quarterly meeting of the Indian Merchants' Chamber in Bombay, Mr. J. C. Setalvad, Vice-President of the Chamber, severely criticised the Government for its step-motherly attitude towards Indian shipping and lack of encouragement to the starting of the ship-building industry in this country and said: 'It is particularly praiseworthy, therefore, that the Scindias should put up a plant at Vizagapatam for ship-building, and I wish them all success in their undertaking.'

GLASS INDUSTRY

Considerable development of the glass industry is taking place in the United Provinces. For the first time the manufacture of optical glass is being attempted in the U. P. It will be manufactured in a glass factory in a western district of the province.

Artificial pearls and beads, which used to be wholly imported before, are now being manufactured in the U. P. All these developments are due to the Department of Glass Technology started by the U. P. Government.

PAINT MANUFACTURE IN INDIA

At least a dozen paint factories are operating with indigenous raw materials on modern lines in India to-day. These are producing dry colours, paste paints, mixed paints, enamels, varnishes, and oils excluding raw linseed oil—virtually every kind of paint manufacture from cheaper qualities to meet demand of the Indian bazaars to highly specialised qualities for use by railways, shipping and industrial organisations of all descriptions. They can also manufacture paints required for war purposes including anti-venesicant, camouflage, and fire-resisting paints.

PRODUCTION OF POTASSIUM BICHROMATE

To meet the increasing demand for potassium bichromate, which is indispensable in the manufacture of khaki dyes and production of munitions, a plant has been set up in Bombay. It is expected that this factory will be able to provide at least a fourth of the country's requirements.

MARKETING OF POTATOES

The Report on the Marketing of Potatoes in India and Burma (Manager of Publications, Delhi. Re. 1-4) is a further addition to the growing number of very useful reports on the marketing of various agricultural commodities issued by the Agricultural Marketing Adviser to the Government of India. Reports have already been issued on the Marketing of Wheat, Linseed, Eggs, Tobacco, Coffee, Grapes, etc.

The plan of this report is the same as that of others—the successive chapters dealing with supply, utilisation and demand prices, preparation for market, grading and standardisation, assembling, storage, transportation, distribution, seed and finance. At the end is given a note of suggestions and recommendations.

Potatoes are an important growing money crop in India with an acreage of 418,700 acres and an annual output of 49,100,000 maunds with an estimated value of Rs. 9½ crores. Of this, over 8½ million maunds valued at Rs. 1½ crores are estimated to be lost owing to bad storage and transport facilities. The most regrettable feature of the potato crop in India is its abnormally low yield as compared with that in other parts of the world due to the poor quality of seeds, high incidence of diseases, inadequate manuring and the absence of varieties suitable for local conditions. At present, the grower gets only about 50 per cent. of the price paid by the consumer. The Report not only contains a number of useful suggestions for grading, marketing and storage, but also deals with many points of detail concerning packing, finance, research, etc. The progress in the actual conditions of marketing should be accelerated on the basis of those valuable studies.

DAIRY RESEARCH WORK

The Government of India, says a Press Note, have recently established a dairy chemistry and dairy bacteriology section of the Imperial Dairy Research Institute and these sections have, pending the construction of the new institute, been accommodated at the Imperial Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi.

BEVIN BOYS IN LONDON

Mr. Ernest Bevin, Minister for Labour and National Service, on May 8, welcomed 50 young Indians who had gone to Great Britain for training in munitions industries. I really believe," said Mr. Bevin, "that today we are making history. I think we are forging unity between Indian workers and the workers of Great Britain." Mr. Bevin added: "We know India must be industrialised, but we are anxious today to guide that industrialisation and distribute its benefits."

LOST WORKING DAYS

As a result of industrial disputes in the province of Bombay, 4,693,273 working days were lost in 1940. There were 88 strikes involving 211,543 workers. Forty-eight strikes took place in the textile industry, and the industry suffered a loss of 4,642,885 working days.

Out of the total number of disputes, questions relating to pay and allowances accounted for over 77 per cent. of the strikes. Of the disputes, 21 per cent. were decided favourably to the workers, 31 per cent. partially favourable to the workers, and 44 per cent. ended in favour of the employers.

ADVICE TO KANGANEES

At a reception given to him by the All-Ceylon Head Kanganees' Association at Nawalapitya, Mr. T. N. S. Raghavan, I.C.S., the Government of India Agent in Ceylon, advised the Kanganees to be like elder brothers of labourers and act as a link between the labourers and the Estate Superintendent. Mr. Raghavan said that the question of recruitment of labour may or may not occur in the future, but the head Kanganees would continue to serve a useful purpose in estates.

BONUS FUND FOR MENIAL SERVANTS

The Government of Madras have under consideration the framing of a set of rules in regard to the constitution of a bonus fund for the benefit of scavengers and sweepers in the employ of local bodies. They have asked the Corporation of Madras whether the latter has any scheme for such employees under its control.

HINDU WOMEN'S RIGHTS TO PROPERTY

We regret to state that in the article on "Hindu Women's Rights to Property,—Recent Judgment of the Federal Court", contributed to our May issue by Mr. S. Ramaswami Iyer, an unfortunate error crept into the print in the last and concluding sentence of the article. (p. 299) That sentence should read thus and without a 'not' that was there.

"Thus the result of this recent decision is that Hindu widows can have the benefit of the Act in respect of cash, movables and immovable property except agricultural land in the provinces."

The author of the article would like to add that the resulting position is undoubtedly anomalous but is likely to be rectified at no distant date by suitable legislation as a result of the recommendations of the Committee, which is now examining the whole subject of Hindu Women's Rights to Property.

GALLANTRY OF INDIAN SOLDIER

A Lance-Naik of an Indian regiment, whose gallantry secured the surrender of an enemy headquarters, has been awarded the Indian Order of Merit, says a Press Note. During the advance on Nibeiwa, Anop Singh, by the skilful use of his Bren gun, had secured the advance of his platoon under heavy fire and he moved forward alone in advance of his men and attacked the dug-out of an enemy headquarters until it surrendered. He entered dug-out after dug-out until the whole headquarters had been captured.

CONGRESS EXECUTIVES

Those that hold executive posts in Congress Committees should resign if they are unwilling to offer satyagraha. That is the instruction of Acharya Kripalani, General Secretary, conveyed to the Bengal Provincial Congress Committee for circulation among district units.

PRISONERS OF WAR

India has so far accepted responsibility for accommodating 84,000 European prisoners of war on behalf of His Majesty's Government, says a Press *communiqué*.

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A PROBLEM OF THE NATIONS

BY MR. JUSTICE B. J. WADIA

ONE of the old problems of European civilization is the difference between the standard of morality held up as the ideal of conduct for individuals and the practical ignoring of morality frequently permitted to nations. It came to the forefront at the time of the last War and is revived at the time of the present. The conflict is an old one. It is a sad commentary on human progress that States claiming to be civilized and so highly advanced in scientific achievement do not co-operate among themselves according to a uniform standard of morality. Is it because there is one moral law for the individual and another for the State, or because there is a moral law for the one and none for the other? Is it possible to maintain two codes of morality, the one public and the other private? The private code is recognized as imperative and binding. The eternal truths and the rights of things are inherent in the nature of man and the world. They are, as Froude said, no more to be trifled with than the law of gravitation. Right and wrong are real distinctions. The code that expounds the distinction may not be followed; it may even be openly discarded; but its existence is never denied. No plea of necessity or expediency is open to the individual conscience. Honesty is not merely the best policy, but the right policy and the only policy. The State, however, even if it acts morally, recognizes no imperative duty for such action. Circumstances, "vital interests", "reasons of State", State-sovereignty, and political necessity are

considered the dictators of its policy. Man knows the difference between good and evil. According to the Roman poet, he approves the better course even if he follows the worse. He cannot be excused for doing wrong even to save himself. The wrong which States do, they often seek to condone, if it is done to save or advance themselves. They talk of duties to their neighbours. They enthuse over the righteousness that exalts the nations. They will try to help other States if they do not thereby endanger their own interests. But the paramount duty of a State is to itself. The law does not allow a man to break his contract with impunity. The unappeasable aggressor on the other hand knows how to tear up treaties, to rant and to shout and to bully, and when thwarted he will rain death and desolation on peaceful millions. The reason is that "reasons of State" allow no reason for acting otherwise. For States, therefore, the moral law is optional, and when all the big words about armaments and tariffs and economic stability are boiled down in a final analysis, the State acts as if it is a law to itself.

This is the old problem. The distinction between the two codes of morality was not so prominent in the ancient world. The standard of morality for the old Greek city-states was the same also for the citizens, even though it was not very high. A thing had to be done because it was noble to do it; and not to do it was disgraceful. The Romans were sterner moralists than the Greeks, as stern for

the State as for the individual citizen. Towards other States, Rome followed the same standard as it required the citizens to observe among themselves. Their policy was not always above criticism. Temptations and greed for power came their way too, and they often succumbed. The total destruction of Carthage was an act of sheer aggression. For years together the grey eyes of Cato, the Censor, had sparkled, and his hair, grown white, stood on end, when day in and day out, whatever the main subject of his speech, the inflexible old senator always ended with the words: "Carthage must be destroyed." The city was destroyed. It was a mean and disgraceful act when the citizens had already submitted without terms to the mercy of the conquerors. But it was never sought to be justified on the grounds of the "vital interests" of the State. Roman public policy recognized no difference between a public and a private offence. No proposal was ever made to exonerate Brutus for the murder of Cæsar, nor was it condoned for "reasons of State". Marcus Aurelius never referred to "reasons of State", or State-policy, or "vital interests" in all that he wrote; and Gibbon has described the happy conditions in the age of the Antonines when the same private code of morality was applied to the supreme government of the State, and the emperors considered themselves as the accountable ministers of the country's laws.

Very few modern statesmen have resisted the plea that "vital interests" and "reasons of State" make a moral wrong a political right. It took long after the Christian era for this doctrine to take root. For over fifteen hundred years there was no distinction between State and private morality in Europe. What was wrong for the man was wrong for the nation. It was not alleged that the State's moral duty was over-ridden by the necessity of preservation, nor was a wrongful war condoned on the grounds of political expediency. The monarchs who reigned in mediæval Europe were not all models of perfection,

but they did not set their duties as rulers above their duties as men. When the French King was captured by the Black Prince and taken prisoner to England, it was agreed that he should be released on paying a ransom. He was allowed to return to his own country to collect the ransom, but he could not get the money. He refused to go behind his agreement, and brushing aside the sophistries of his Councillors, went back to England and remained a prisoner all his life. Personal sense of honour triumphed over political necessity. In the same spirit, centuries before him, the Roman General, Regulus, went back to the Carthaginians who left him, with eyelids cut off, to die under the blinding sun. In the later years of the mediæval ages, the standard of public morality gradually declined, perhaps in anticipation of the growing doctrine of State-sovereignty. The limits of political necessity were explained with brutal realism by the Florentine statesman, Machiavelli, who stood for all that was wicked and reactionary in the system of government. International policies were for him divorced from morals, and material force was the master-key to civil policy. From his times we begin to hear of "reasons of State". In a later century when the Austrian Emperor, referring to Napoleon, told Metternich: "But are not a dead man's wishes sacred?", the Chancellor drew himself up to his full height and replied: "And what about reasons of State, sire? No moral question, no family affection, not even religion itself can prevail when the fate of the Empire is at stake." This was in the true Machiavellian style. Where the safety of the country was concerned, there was no such thing as justice and injustice. There were no crimes in politics, only mistakes, sometimes blunders. What policy required, justice must sanction. This was his teaching. Safer it was, according to him, to be feared than loved. No wonder that Diderot should have thought that much of what the Florentine wrote might well be headed: "The circumstances under

which it is right for a Prince to be a scoundrel."

It was about the time when State-selfishness was growing that Hugo Grotius, the famous Dutch jurist, asserted that States owed duties to each other. He saw the dreadful anarchy that resulted from the war-wasted condition of Europe, and set about to solve the problem whether there was also a law between States as there was between individuals. Before his time, Dante had declared in favour of one supreme law that should be binding on all nations to keep them from warring among themselves. Grotius too conceived of a law between States which he called the Law of Nations. The law which was to regulate the conduct of States towards each other was, according to him, based on the ancient and universal rule called the Law of Nature, and the Law of Nature was nothing more than the old and inflexible moral law which binds mankind. His famous work was the first book of international law that appeared in modern Europe. What we now mean or do not mean by that still nebulous expression "international law," began with Grotius. The lessons of his time come home to us with renewed significance in these days when the gospel of law and order which he put forward is being set at naught in so many quarters. The condition of the world over which he looked out from his study-window bore a poignant resemblance to the disorder of our own times.

State-selfishness was a predominant sentiment in the eighteenth century, although statesmen were not wanting who had high ambitions for public service. It was, however, no longer uncommon for a minister of State to put the interests of his country above every other consideration in foreign affairs for the purposes of self-advancement. The invasion of Silesia, an Austrian province, and its seizure by Frederick II of Prussia, is a glaring illustration. Silesia became a European question when England joined hands with Austria, and France with Prussia. Gradually hostilities extended

from Europe to India and Canada, and Macaulay wrote scathingly that "in order that he (i.e., Frederick) might rob a neighbour whom he had promised to defend, black men fought on the coast of Coromandel, and red men scalped each other by the Great Lakes of North America". Having seized Silesia, he kept it, and all Europe was in turmoil. The various partitions of Poland are another illustration. That unhappy country has had no peace for more than a century. But the last chapter of its history has not yet been written.

At the end of that century, France was in revolution. It was upon a Europe of kings and nobles that the storm swept in all its fury. Reasons of State had wrought havoc in the past. And yet, according to John Morley, the most imposing of all incarnations of the doctrine that "reasons of State" covered everything was Napoleon. He sacrificed all the higher principles of morality, but perhaps less for the sake of the State than to satisfy his overvaulting passion for personal domination. He conquered neighbouring peoples and annexed their countries. When the countries retaliated by war, he conquered them again and annexed more territory. He built up a colossal edifice by cannon-shot, cemented with the blood of a score of nations. God was on the side of the heaviest artillery, he once said; but he found his mistake in 1815, when two hundred and fifty of his guns were silenced by a smaller number of the other side. That year is not only famous for Waterloo but also for the formation of the Holy Alliance which for the first time in history prescribed the highest standard of State conduct. It talked of the "reciprocal relations of the States" and of the precepts of "Justice, Christian Charity, and Peace". The document opened "in the name of the most Holy and Indivisible Trinity", though its authors—Russia, Austria, and Prussia—were a very divisible trinity indeed. But it made a great beginning, even though only on paper. The agonies of the

Napoleonic wars, the flagrant disregard of all moral principles by Napoleon, the eloquence of Chateaubriand, and the teachings of international lawyers, all contributed to the recognition of the moral law as a guide in international relations. It led to the system of consultation and conference known as the Concert of Europe. It was a system worth trying. It was tried, but failed. From 1859 to 1871, a succession of wars broke out, and the moral law was again discarded. International relations founded on principles of State-sovereignty could not succeed in establishing the rule of righteousness on earth. There was no stern international moralist at the time, and Bismarck showed utter unconcern for the moral sanction. He refused to accept even the possibility of a State acting in any other way except in pursuance of a policy of ruthless self-interest intended to make the State more powerful than its neighbours. He was too cynical to allow moral considerations to influence his plans. Other nations, more humanitarian in policy, have also not been above reproach. A hiatus in the application of moral principle to the government of a vast empire has more than once vitiated the history of British Imperialism in the past. The cement of every civilized society is justice. And there is, and always will be, a crying need for justice between nation and nation. Without justice,

honesty, and freedom there can be no civilization. That is the eternal vision of history.

This brings a short review of the history of international morality down to 1914. What little of moral distinction between right and wrong there remained was destroyed by the theory of the "scrap of paper". When 'Peace' came in 1919, another history began, the history, as we now know, of the twenty years between two wars. It started in exhaustion and hope. The exhaustion was a war-worn world; the hope was the League of Nations. It ended in disillusion and disaster. The disillusion came with Abyssinia; the disaster followed after Munich. The nineteen twenties and thirties are too near to be seen in history, and the forties have begun with another war, as if it was still necessary to teach mankind the unlearned lesson of the elementary fact of the unity of the world. It is easy enough to theorize about the horrors of war. They know it best who have shared "the soldier's crucifixion and his blinding, revealing vision". The broken nations of Europe will tell their own tales in the future. But the dream of a world-empire is as of old still a mirage in the desert; and around it—

"boundless and bare
The lone and level sands stretch far away."

THE FALL OF THE IDOLS

BY DR. SIR C. P. RAMASAWAMI AIYER, K.C.S.I.

DEAN INGE has been long known as one of the most thoughtful and certainly one of the most determined and plain-spoken of those who have discoursed on the present discontents. His book 'The Fall of the Idols' (Putnam, London) is typical of his outlook.

In the essay on Democracy, for instance, the Dean summarises its advantages as

diffusing a sense of responsibility and wide-spread political wisdom and blurring class distinctions. At the same time, he does not hesitate to point out that democracy as understood in England works moderately well only until a nation is fundamentally united and unwilling to carry quarrels to extremities. With characteristic acuteness, the author points out

that any powerful organisation within a State which will resort to direct action or will stick at nothing, can make democratic Government impossible. He also emphasises what has been always obvious, namely, that when a country is either engaged in a war or is in danger of revolution, institutions have to be remodelled to meet the crisis. But the real weakness of democracies according to the Dean is in the direction of foreign policy and those pages (98-107) in the present book which give a summary of the strength and weakness of the Anglo-Saxon system of Government in relation to foreign affairs are most instructive. Democracy is, according to him, an experiment in one of the most difficult of all arts, namely, that of governing human beings; and the limitations of universal suffrage and popular Government and their inter-relation and the problem as to how far communism and democracy are compatible with each other are other matters which are discussed with a rare grasp of fundamentals.

The analysis of the rise and development of the dictators is also of deep interest. Very few will differ from the reverend author when he says that, after all, people have to choose between several evils and he endeavours to prove that the evils of dictatorship are most patent when it embodies, as it often does, crowd morality at its worst. He arrives at the uneasy but perhaps inevitable conclusion that for the time being there is no alternative to democracy.

One of the most constructive essays in the book is headed 'Economism' and dealing with the ideal of economic equality, he describes the over-estimation of the importance of money as a means to happiness, the decay of the hierarchical organisation of society and the transference of political power as at the root of the troubles of today. Emphasis is laid on the spiritual capital of a nation as consisting in its beliefs, habits, interests and

affections and spiritual income as being synonymous with the use made of these.

Analogous conclusions are reached in the essay on 'Progress' and it is very symptomatic of the present state of thought amongst the best products of Western culture that Dean Inge's conclusion is so akin to the Vedanta: "I do not think that our advance in material comfort is likely to continue nor am I convinced that it is desirable. We shall be driven to simplify our lives and to reduce our wants."

The article on 'Pacifism' is frankly pessimistic and stresses fear as the cause of danger more than dislike. He dismisses short-cuts like an international air force or mass passive resistance and points out that the treatment by the world of the one really pacific country, China, by other nations is not an encouraging feature.

In the essay on 'Humanism and Religion' we have naturally as a background the present Christian civilisation although a discerning philosopher like the author cannot but admit that Platonism in its fundamental principles never dies, but still lives in its Christianised form. He also concludes what thinking men all over the world are now beginning to see, namely, that the future of the Church is much more precarious than that of Christianity or other religions. We specially commend to the attention of readers the wise observations about Christianity as a religion founded by a layman for laymen. He asserts with considerable justification that the first apostles included a fisherman, two men with Greek names, a tax-gatherer, an ex-communist but no priests. Nothing, he adds, was far from the mind of Christ than to find a totalitarian Church.

To persons who are now struggling to find a way out of the maze in which the world finds itself at this juncture, this book will be not only provocative of thought but a source of spiritual stimulus.



DIPLOMACY as we understand it, means political skill aimed at procuring advantages and facilities for one's nationals at the expense of other nations. This is exercised generally through the medium of Ambassadors and Envoys accredited to foreign courts as well as by the Government itself. These advantages may be either political or economic or both, because they are inextricably connected with each other. Political rights confer economic advantages and *vice versa*. Ambitious nations are always engaged in procuring these advantages for themselves at the expense of others. There is a mad race going on, as it were, as to who should be the most successful in forming alliances with others, which will place them in an advantageous position in case of war with third parties or will confer upon them economic rights and privileges. Success in war depends to a very large extent upon pacts and alliances with nations whose help whether military or otherwise will be forthcoming when war will break out, or who will at least be detached from alliances with others so as to weaken the latter.

The diplomats have the reputation of being very shrewd and intelligent persons with suave manners and engaging conversation who will be able to coax others and exhort advantageous terms from foreign nations either by cajolery, persuasion or even intimidation. Men of outstanding personalities possessing great tact and persuasiveness are thus accredited as Ambassadors to foreign courts, because upon their successful efforts depends to a large extent the prosperity and prestige of the nation. Men like the late Lord Lothian, Lord Halifax, Sir Samuel Hoare, and Sir Stafford Cripps who have held the highest positions in the government of the country, do not feel it beneath their dignity to fill the posts of these Ambassadors. A time undoubtedly there was when only men belonging to the diplomatic service

were chosen to fill these important posts. They were a sort of close preserve for them. But of late the nation has realised the great importance of these posts and so they have been thrown open to the most outstanding personalities in the Government or in public life. Even the British Prime Minister, perhaps, will not hesitate to be the British Ambassador at Washington if he were convinced that the duties of that office would be best discharged by him and if he could be spared from home.

But in spite of this practical turn of mind characterising the Britishers as evidenced by the changed attitude, it is sad to reflect that in recent times British diplomacy has not been very successful anywhere in the world, for the outlook would not have been so depressing if it were otherwise. For besides her dominions and colonies and the great dependency of India, Britain has at present no great ally except the United States of America. But over against this we find that Germany has Italy and Japan as her active partners, and Spain has practically fallen in with her scheme of things and accepted her 'new order', besides Norway, France, Netherlands, Rumania, Bulgaria, Hungary, Yugo-Slavia and even Greece, which succumbed after such a heroic resistance, where she has been able to find considerable sections of the people ready to accept her domination and actively co-operate with her. Japan was the trusted ally and partner of Great Britain during the last Great War and she was rewarded amply and was allowed to retain many of the German possessions in the Far East and the South Pacific. But the friendship, which was sealed by common dangers gladly undergone, has now been converted into bitter rivalry and enmity. Japan's adventures in China undoubtedly, and the consequent menace to British interests in the Far East, have much to do with this estrangement. Similarly the new

orientation in the policy of Germany, confining her activities and ambitions to the continent of Europe only has also been instrumental in establishing her friendship with Japan in spite of the latter's occupation of many former German possessions which was sure to be a sore point with her. But the initial mistake was committed by Britain when, instead of raising her voice of protest, she openly encouraged the adventure of Japan in Manchuria and a responsible British statesman proclaimed from the floor of the House of Commons that Britain consistent with her own policy of colonial expansion could not oppose Japan. Next when the 'China affair' was started, Britain should have adopted a more determined and firmer course of action and should have helped China more substantially from the very beginning. But with the dark shadow of German aggression looming on the horizon, she was only content with futile and wordy protests which made Japan all the more bold and insolent. This is also exactly what happened in *Spain* where the civil war was going on. The Republican Party, though enjoying the fullest sympathy of the British people, received no help whatsoever from her Government though German and Italian help was offered to Franco in a large measure and which subsequently turned the scale in his favour. Under these circumstances it is no wonder that the Falangist Party under the leadership of Senor Suner should be decidedly pro-German. The last minute efforts of Sir Samuel Hoare do not seem to have borne any fruit though substantial loans have been recently advanced to her by Britain. Spain is undoubtedly war-weary and she sadly requires money for the development of her resources and the resuscitation of her ruined industries and this money can only be found in Britain or America. But if in spite of this palpable advantage Spain throws herself into the arms of Germany, it will prove the triumph of German diplomacy though the mailed fist may be hidden under the velvet glove.

The same story of half-hearted measures and unwillingness to pursue them to their logical conclusion marks the former relationship of Britain with *Italy* on the outbreak of the Abyssinian War. Britain, after much deliberation and with great reluctance, enforced economic sanctions against Italy but had not the courage to enforce military sanctions. This only served to exasperate Italy without in any way seriously hampering her war effort.

Prior to the outbreak of this present war, Britain's relationship with *Soviet Russia* was not at all cordial. The latter was looked upon as a political outcast and all contact with her was scrupulously shunned. Proposals made from time to time of effecting closer contacts with her were turned down by men in authority in Britain. So it is no wonder that she should be smarting under this sense of insult and should readily grasp the proffered hand of Germany when it was extended to her, though the relationship which had existed between them prior to this was anything but cordial. This non-aggression pact between sworn enemies sprang the greatest surprise upon a bewildered world.*

The Balkan campaign recently waged by Germany was preceded by intense propaganda, diplomatic activity, and German infiltration. By a judicious combination of cajolery, persuasion and threats, she was able to bring over to her side almost all the *Balkan powers* with the occupation of Greece. Even Turkey, the trusted friend

* Since this article was in the Press, an even greater surprise was sprung upon the world by the sudden and unprovoked German attack on Russia on Sunday, 22nd June. The war is being waged on a 1,500 mile front from the Baltic to the Black Sea. This has brought Britain closer to Russia, and already British military and economic missions are well on their way to Moscow to discuss methods of collaboration with the Soviet Government in the supreme task of dealing with the common enemy. To a certain extent the presence of Sir Stafford Cripps in Moscow during this crisis has been a great source of strength to Britain. In the debate in the House of Commons, Mr. Anthony Eden, Foreign Secretary, paid a well merited tribute to Sir Stafford's work.—Ed. I. R.

of Britain, proved unreliable at the eleventh hour and remained neutral knowing full well that such a course of action was likely to reduce her ultimately to the position of a vassal state of Germany. So instead of making common cause with one another, these Balkan powers were, like the members of a house divided against itself, were easily either brought under the German sphere of influence or conquered. This catastrophe would have been avoided if British diplomacy would have been more successful.

We cannot but note with real concern the trend of events at *Vichy*. Under the inspiration of Admiral Darlan, the French Government has concluded a pact with Germany, the effect of which will be very far reaching and may have a determining influence upon the course of the war and this very Darlan, not even a year ago, was the trusted friend and colleague of the British and co-operated with them to keep the Seas clear of the German navy. But if we are to find out the cause which has turned this enthusiastic friend into an enemy, can we not point to the ill-starred expedition against Dakar and the naval engagement that took place off Oran which must have, along with the blockade, exasperated the French and embittered their feelings against their former ally without resulting in any tangible gain to Britain herself. For, however inevitable the logic of events, it would not have driven the Vichy Government to this shameful betrayal if the bonds of love between them and the English would have remained intact.

Whilst discussing this want of tact and intelligence on the part of British statesmen, we may also point to their bungling of the *Indian question* at this particular juncture. Through what appears to be dogged obstinacy on their part, the spontaneous enthusiasm of the majority of Indians to fight on Britain's behalf, which first manifested itself on the outbreak of the war and their abhorrence of the aims and methods employed by the

Axis powers were not directed to the right channel and turned to the very best account. The war effort of India would have been multiplied a hundredfold if genuine attempts were made to accede to India's modest request as expressed in the resolution of the Bombay Conference and if initial mistakes had been avoided on the outbreak of the war of sending Indian troops to India's distant outposts without consulting Indian leaders. This would have placated Indian opinion and enlisted the co-operation of the Congress and other political organisations. But nothing was done in this respect, on the contrary Indian public opinion was deliberately antagonised by repeated acts of folly and indiscretion, not the least among which was the remark made by Sir Jeremy Raisman during budget discussions that Italian and German prisoners of war deserved better at the hands of the Government of India than Indian *Satyagrahi* prisoners. This is perhaps the most unfortunate remark which has been made in recent times by an Hon. member calculated to give the rudest shock to those very people whose co-operation was urgently necessary for the successful prosecution of the war.

Thus it is evident that deep-rooted prejudice, arrogance, tactlessness, half-hearted measures and want of courage to pursue them to their logical conclusions, or to choose between the more honest and straightforward of two courses of action, inability to understand the viewpoint of others and too much proneness to wound other's susceptibilities as well as incapacity to move with the times and take advantage of an opportunity as soon as it presents itself have more or less marked the actions of British diplomats and statesmen of late and have stood in the way of Britain's forming lasting alliances with other nations of the Continent or Asia. Surely, Mr. Lloyd George was perfectly right when he lamented that the greatest defeats suffered by Britain have been in the field of diplomacy.

THE RIDDLE OF THE RED ARMY

BY MR. N. G. JOG

JUST how strong is the Red Army?—or how weak?

It is an enigma which has baffled the friends and foes alike of the Soviet for the last many years.

The Red Army has been praised as the mightiest fighting machine of the world and it has been condemned as a barrackful of rabble. Hitler himself observed in an interview with Lord Londonderry that Russia had the strongest army and the strongest air force in the world.

That was in 1936. Three years later, Mr. Arthur Greenwood (he has since become a member of the British War Cabinet) summed up his booklet on the "Soviet's Fighting Forces" as follows: "Today the Russian Army is numerically the strongest in the world. The U. S. S. R. air force is the most powerful in the world. Its navy is formidable."

On the other hand the secret report presented by the famous "Second Bureau" to the French Government in the middle of 1939 revealed a shocking state of affairs in the Red Army. Here are some excerpts: "The very first days of conflict would work havoc with the Soviet Air Fleet. . . . In any major conflict, the Red Navy would never venture any distance from the shelter of its bases. . . . The Red Army would be so stupidly led and so badly supplied that it could never successfully take any offensive against a Major Power."

The truth as usual must lie somewhere between those two extremes. But where exactly? Probably even the inscrutable Stalin cannot provide a precise answer to this query. That might be the reason why he is watching the tentacles of the Nazi octopus spreading from the Baltic to the Black Sea, and even threatening the security of the precious oil-fields of the Caucasus without lifting his little finger.

The riddle of the Red Army becomes all the more mysterious considering that ever since its creation out of the beaten legions of the Czar by the ill-fated Trotsky—under whose inspired leadership it held

at bay 14 different armies and saved the infant Socialist State—it has been treasured as the apple of the eye of Russia's rulers. The much-publicized Five Year Plans were first put in force in the Red Army, and one witnessed the amazing paradox of the peace-swearing Soviet, spending astronomical sums on what it condemned as a capitalist-cum-imperialist purpose, to wit, the building of the machine of destruction.

In 1933, the Red Army appropriations amounted to 1,500,000,000 *roubles*. Since then they have risen to the astounding figure of 70,900,000,000 *roubles*. This seventy-fold increase in seven years, when Russia is professedly wedded to the cause of world peace, will take a lot of explaining away.

At the 18th Congress of the Communist Party of the U. S. S. R. in 1939, Marshal Voroshiloff, then Soviet Russia's Commissar for Defence, gave impressive statistics of "our invincible Red Army". Within the previous quinquennium, he said, there was a numerical increase of 103 per cent. The personnel and equipment of the mechanized units expanded by 152.5 per cent. and 190 per cent. respectively. The air force registered a numerical increase of 250 per cent. and the horsepower of the aircraft engines grew by 213 per cent. Finally, the fire power of the Red Army was then superior to that of any other army in the world.

These figures made excellent propaganda. And it must be admitted that the Red Army gave a splendid display in the streets and squares of Moscow on the Annual Day of Revolution and during the stage-managed manoeuvres. If the former highly impressed the world at large, even seasoned military experts were taken in by the latter. For example, Captain Liddell Hart paid a glowing tribute to the Red Army in his book "Europe in Arms" published in 1937 while the mysterious Max Warner almost went into hysterics over the superlative strength and matchless strategy of the Red Army in his much quoted volume on "The Military Strength of Powers".

Both those prophets were confounded ere long. At the end of 1939, the world watched with a breathless suspense David Finland hurling blow upon blow against Goliath Russia. A tiny nation of 4,000,000 was successfully resisting the might of 180,000,000 people. Verily, the age of miracles had not passed away. Cries of consternation and whoops of joy were heard in every corner of the earth according to the sympathies of the beholders.

It was the biggest military debunking in all history. So within the high boots of the Russian colossus rested his clay feet after all! Ivan the Terrible was again proved to be a myth.

Alleged eye-witnesses on the Mannerheim Line broadcast sensational tales of the tattered uniforms, shabby equipment and deplorable morale of the front-line Russian regiments. Even before that, when the Red Army had marched into Poland, it made a very poor show in comparison with the well-fed and well-groomed legions of Hitler.

The pendulum of international opinion swung abruptly from the extreme of blind idealisation to that of under-estimation, even ridicule. The battle between the giant and the pigmy, however, ended as suddenly as it had begun. The giant won; but he had to go all out for that purpose, and ever since then he seems to be busy licking his wounds.

The end of the Finnish campaign was soon followed by the exit of Marshal Voroshiloff, who less than a year ago had sung the paeans of "the most powerful army in the world. He was the last of the victims of the Stalinist purge of the Red Army as Leon Trotsky, its creator, was the first. Marshals Blucher, Tukhachevsky, Yegorov, Generals Fedke, Orloy and Toupolov, the father of the Soviet Air Force—all once names to conjure with—have one after other faced the firing squad or simply disappeared into the Siberian blue.

This ghastly story has only lately been pieced together in all its gory details. It has been computed from authoritative sources that since 1935, seven out of every eight members of the Superior War

Council and nine out of every ten Political Commissars with the army have been sacked. In the ranks proper, 95 per cent. of the Generals, 75 per cent. of the Colonels and more than 30,000 lower commissioned officers have been liquidated. The Red Navy and Air Force, too, contributed their quota to the purge.

The Red Army has thus justified its name in a literal, sanguinary sense and there is no denying the fact that this blood-letting has had a most devastating effect, not only on the leadership and efficiency but also on the morale of the army. Good-bye to all discipline and loyalty, which are the bedrocks on which an army is built, if the idolised commander of today can be proved to be a dyed-in-the-wool traitor tomorrow. The camps of the Red Army from Leningrad to Vladivostok are cowering under the shadow of the dreaded OGPU and woe to him who falls into its clutches.

Sycophants, wire-pullers, and yes-men have been elevated to all key-posts with what results the Finnish campaign has conclusively shown. Their main anxiety is to keep themselves in the good books of the Kremlin, and no wonder the gigantic army machine is creaking and rusting under incompetence, distrust, and sheer neglect.

The canker has spread throughout the country and the *material* as much as the men has suffered thereby. Though the Soviet is rapidly being industrialised, the pace is too hot for the proper training of technicians. This tells upon the output and matters are made still worse by the elaborate spy system. Accidents are thus far too frequent, particularly in the air force and the replacement rate in the mechanized units is said to be alarmingly high. Distrust of its own arms naturally leads to utter demoralisation of the army.

If the Finnish campaign gave a shattering blow to the prestige of the Red Army and revealed an incredible bankruptcy of strategy and leadership and lack of training and equipment, it also proved to the discerning observer by the shockingly sudden collapse of Finnish resistance that a colossus is a colossus for all his clay feet.

And the developments, which have occurred since then, show that the lessons of that war have gone deep home. To begin with, the system of attaching Civil Commissars—polite term for the OGPU—to the army regiments is done away with and no more is an attempt made to instil political consciousness into the soldier, which was hailed to be the most distinguishing characteristic of the Red Army. Discipline first and ideology last is the new motto. Officers and men may be comrades still but it is strictly off the parade ground.

No longer does the Red Army march to the tunes of its old song:

BROTHERHOOD, UNITY, FREEDOM
THIS IS OUR FIGHTING DEVICE

Those watchwords may be good in their own ways, but the Finnish War has rubbed in the moral that for a successful march the soldier requires above everything else well-soled boots, well-filled stomachs and well-built modern weapons. And towards those ends is now the entire attention of the rulers of Russia directed. Hence the recent staggering increase in the Soviet's military budget.

For all practical purposes, Stalin has put his fighting machine in the reverse gear and the Red Army is thus becoming more and more pink and in that process better trained and equipped. It is, perhaps, the very realisation of the army's shortcomings which is dictating the tortuous, opportunistic foreign policy of the Soviet. Stalin seems to be absolutely determined not to get entangled in another war until he has put the Red Army on an entirely new basis.

What is the exact *effective* strength of the Red Army, Navy and Air Force at present? That seems to be anybody's guess. The figures I have come across from time to time vary so widely, even violently, that it is futile to draw any deductions from them. Since the Finnish War especially, the Red Army seems to be wrapped up in a cloak of secrecy and its striking power has become as unpredictable as the foreign policy of Stalin.

There cannot, however, be two opinions regarding the numerical superiority of the Red Army. It is a formidable machine owing to its sheer mass, as the gallant Finns realised when the Russians hurled divisions after divisions on the Mannerheim Line and smashed it by mere weight of numbers.

In an emergency, moreover, the Red Army can draw upon 30 million men of military age, one-third of whom have received training. The Soviet has an inexhaustible supply of natural resources, particularly oil and steel, the Alpha and Omega of modern warfare. Her factories, though below the production standard of the other Big Powers, are turning out vast quantities of munitions, armaments and aeroplanes.

On the other hand, it must be remembered that Russia has the world's largest contiguous frontiers to guard. Strengthening them strategically has become the main preoccupation if not the obsession of Stalin, as his bare-faced aggression in the Baltic and in the Balkans proves.

The Soviet is faced with potential foes as much in the Far East as in the Far West. Its fighting forces must be thus split up in numerous self-contained units. The Soviet's Navy, for example, has to patrol the Baltic and the Black Sea, the Arctic and the Pacific Oceans. Not only that, but Stalin has good reason to keep a close watch over even the interior of his empire, and Moscow and Leningrad are said to be housing some of the biggest garrisons of the Red Army.

All these considerations lead one to the conclusion that the Red Army is not at present sufficiently strong to wage an offensive war against a Major Power. On the defensive, however, it is presumably in a position to hold its own against any opponent. A hundred and thirty years ago the *Grande Armee* was lured to its doom in Moscow, and that invasion of Russia virtually marked the beginning of the end of Napoleon's career of conquest. Will history repeat itself?

Iraq from Mandate to Independence

By MR. R. SATAKOPAN, M.A., D.L.

IRAQ has of late been very much in the limelight. It is natural that this most vital place in the Middle East should be the object of strategical moves by those powers which bid for world supremacy. During the last war the military genius of Germany, her first class technical skill and her renowned organising ability were made available to the Turks in Mesopotamia, and Field Marshal Von der Goltz was sent as Commander-in-Chief there. Due mainly to the help drawn without any reservation from India in both men and money, the British were able to hold themselves against heavy odds. With the fall of the German, Russian and the Ottoman empires after the war, the path was made clear for the Allies to carve out the boundaries of the Turkish empire. The Turkish vilayats of Basra, Baghdad and Mosul were formed into the modern Iraq, which was thus born as a result of the last war.

The spirit of scramble for territories and for advantageous positions in the world became most active and manifest during the last war. Ray Stannard Baker in his "Woodrow Wilson and World Settlement" gives a map to show how Turkey was carved out by six secret agreements. The Franco-Russian Agreement of March 1915, the Sazanov-Paleologus Treaty of April 26, 1916, the Sykes-Picot Treaty of May 1916, the Treaty of London of April 26, 1915, the St. Jean de Maurienne agreement of August 1917 and the Clemenceau-Lloyd George understanding of December 1918, were all intended for the partition of the Turkish Empire after the war.

On the 20th of March 1919, the Big Four met in secret conference in the Prime Minister's Flat in Paris to discuss these secret treaties. Russia was not represented and the Italian Representative did not say anything. The U. S. A. had no territorial ambitions and, therefore, the tug lay between England and France only. But Wilson was, however, insistent on two things: The control over the Turkish territories should be by way only of a

mandate, and the desire of the people should be consulted by an Allied Commission. Presenting the Covenant of the League of Nations at the plenary session of the Peace Conference on February 11, 1919, Wilson was insistent that there should be no more annexations. "We are done with annexations of helpless peoples, meant in some instances by some Powers to be used merely for exploitation." The mandate idea was due to Field Marshal (then General) Smuts, but it was Wilson that saw it through the League of Nations. The main antagonists to this idea were Lloyd George and Clemenceau, aided ably in their annexation moves by the Colonial Premiers, Hughes of Australia and Massey of New Zealand. Wilson wanted an Allied Commission to visit Syria and Iraq, to determine on the spot the wishes of the people as to the future. The failure of Great Britain and France to send this Commission showed their dreams of going back to the old principles of colony. Tired of waiting, Wilson sent his own King-Crane Commission which, after a tour of the conquered parts of the Turkish empire, reported that the Arabs were bent upon independence from foreign control. Col. Lawrence, who has known the Arab at very close quarters more than any other Englishman, also said that "the Arabs rebelled against the Turks during the war not because the Turk Government was notably bad but because they wanted independence. They did not risk their lives in battle to change masters, to become British subjects or French citizens but to win a show of their own."

The feeling in Syria and Mesopotamia ran counter to a mandate from the start and a congress of Syrian notables met on March 10, 1920, and elected Faisal as the king of Syria and Palestine while Iraq was offered to Faisal's elder brother, Abdullah. But the Allies repudiated the whole proceeding and informed them that such matters were their peculiar concern. On April 24, 1920, they assigned mandates for Palestine and Iraq to Great

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IRAQ FROM MANDATE TO INDEPENDENCE

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Britain and that of Syria to France. On May 3, 1920, it was announced that Great Britain has accepted the mandate for Iraq, with a carefully considered explanation that the goal was the development of independent institutions. In July 1920, Syria revolted and the Syrian army was routed by the French after great losses. Iraq revolted in the same year and it was put down by 53,000 Indian and 7,000 English soldiers.

From 1920 to 1932 when Iraq was admitted as a member of the League of Nations, Great Britain tried one method after another to appease the Arab nationalism in Iraq but it proved itself that unmitigated Imperialism and unadulterated nationalism are two irreconcilables. India is another standing monument to prove that. First, Faisal was made king. He was selected at the Cairo Conference convened by Mr. Churchill, who was then the Secretary of State for the Colonies. It met in March 1921, accepted the candidature of Faisal for the Iraqi throne and after a period of five months, Sir Percy Cox proclaimed: "H. H. the Amir Faisal to have been duly elected King of Iraq" by the unanimous will of the people. Seeing that this also could not pacify Arab nationalism, a second method was adopted. The relationship between Iraq and England came to be regulated by a series of treaties entered into between the two kingdoms. The first treaty was signed on October 10, 1922. A protocol, which was signed on April 30, 1923, reduced the period of the treaty from 20 to 4 years. The agreements subsidiary to the treaty were signed on March 25, 1924, after long and grave discussions between the two governments. But the constituent assembly which was summoned to ratify the treaty could not accept it. Even the staunchest pro-British members felt many of the provisions to be too heavy for a New State.

British determination to postpone League membership to Iraq made the Iraqis clamour for a revision of the 1922 treaty and all its accompanying agreements. King Faisal went to London in 1927 with his premier Jafar Pasha to conclude a new treaty. But while the Premier returned home in disgust to resign in protest against the unwarranted interfer-

ence in Iraq affairs by the High Commissioner, Faisal stayed on and returned only after signing a new treaty on December 15, 1927. But it continued in form and spirit a mandatory document and the popular feeling was in no wise appeased. The coming to power of the Labour government witnessed new orientation of policy with regard to Egypt and Iraq. They promised to see that Iraq was admitted into League membership on 1932. The unpopular 1927 treaty was dropped and a new treaty with independent Iraq was suggested. Iraq was admitted as a full-fledged member of the League in January 1932, but the treaty with the independent Iraq had been concluded on June 30, 1930.

This treaty has been very much objected to. It is a 25 year treaty of close alliance. The military control of Great Britain over Iraq is complete. It speaks of the permanent maintenance and protection in all circumstances of the essential communication of His Britannic Majesty . . . It secures for Britain important air bases on Iraq territory, and the forces of strength to be maintained were to be determined from time to time by Great Britain herself. Special Guards from the Iraqi forces were to be provided for the protection of these bases. Again, it is ensured that the altered conditions will not render the position of the British forces as regards immunities and privileges in any way less favourable than those enjoyed by them at the date of the entry into force of this treaty. It is also expressly enacted that Iraq is to provide all possible facilities for the movement, training and maintenance of these forces. Express provisions are also made for the desirability of identity in training and methods between the Iraq and the British armies. All possible facilities for the movement of forces are to be given, and also for the transit of arms across Iraq and for transport and storage of all supplies and equipment that may be required by these forces during their passage across Iraq. This includes the use of the roads, railway, waterways, ports and aerodromes of Iraq. It is also said that His Britannic Majesty's

ships shall have general permission to visit the Shatt-al-Arab provided Iraq is notified of their coming. The last Article of the Treaty provides that at any time after 20 years from the date of its coming into force either party may require a new treaty to be enacted, but it is provided that the new treaty shall provide for the continued maintenance and protection in all circumstances of the essential communications of His Britannic Majesty. The disagreements are to be submitted to the League Council for decision.

This treaty is now the point in dispute and the terms are no doubt derogatory to the independence of any nation. The Nazi machinery has tried to fish out of the Anglo-Iraqi troubled waters. Thanks again to the Indian soldiery, the Iraqi revolt is being brought under control. But that does not mean that the other methods of pacifying the Arab discontent should not be attempted. The new conditions to be created after the war will no doubt witness a new social order, and wise statesmanship must see that the seeds

for future conglomerations should be burnt to the roots. One of them is no doubt Imperialism. The coming together of the nations must be on an equal and free basis, and each must feel that it is to the benefit of itself and of everybody to be so together. The old-world ideas of domination, Imperial possessions, far-flung empires, colonial expansions, racial superiority and arrogance—all these amidst a host of others must be given a decent burial if we are to build a permanent superstructure based on the lessons of the past and the present. And if any one could give a lead in this matter, it is no other than Great Britain herself and this for two reasons. It is fighting an epic battle for the freedom of the world, but it is unprepared to extend that freedom to the vast majority of the citizens even within the empire. And thus ridding itself of the beam in its own eyes could be started nowhere than in a sub-continent which holds a fifth of the human souls—India. Will the British statesmen wake up at least now and start an ennobling lead in the East?

POETRY AND MORALS

BY PROF. ISH KUMAR M.A. (PUNJAB), B.A. HONS. (CANTAB)

(Government College, Lahore)

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THE relation of poetry and morals has been the subject of discussion ever since poetry began to be talked about. The Greeks who sought perfection in the duties of citizenship enlisted art definitely in the service of society. Poetry was regarded as "elementary philosophy" "the preparatory school of philosophy" and the poet "as a moral teacher and political advisor" (Strabo). Solon, in the same spirit, accused Thespis of telling lies. Plato wanted to put definite questions to Homer: "Friend Homer, what good have you done to mankind? Has any city learnt laws from you? Was any war carried on by your counsel? Is any invention attributed to you? Is there any Homeric way of life as there is Pythagorean?" Poetry, to

Plato, was an imitation of an imitation, twice removed from reality. It enfeebled reason and fed and watered the passions and desires. Plato would allow nothing but the hymns to the gods and the praises of famous heroes in his Republic.

Aristotle put in a reasonable defence against Plato's attacks. Poetry was not an imitation of an imitation but more philosophical than history. It did not water and feed the passions, it purged the excess of them. But these very grounds implied justification on moral grounds. Aristotle was too much of a Greek to give up his ethics for aesthetics. In fact, the Greeks had the same word for both the good and the beautiful. For the same reason their poetry and their morality closely overlapped. The root of

good living for them was to temper good sense with poetic imagination; the root of good poetry, to temper poetic imagination with good sense. Good poetry meant poetry that bred good men. The God of poetry was the God also of prophecy and of healing, the divine voice that spoke at the Delphic centre of the earth. How to plough, how to fight, how to live, how to die—the poets taught all these.

The Greek view prevailed more or less throughout the Middle Ages. For Dante, the three great subjects for poetry were: *Salus, Venus, Virtus*—war by which life is defended, love by which it is perpetuated, conduct by which it is controlled. But there is a rift already. In Greece when a clash occurred, it was the moralist who rebelled against the poet—Xenophanes against Homer, Solon against Thespis, Plato against all poetry. In the Middle Ages, it is the poet, now half an outlaw who turns at times to kick against the pricks of a tyrannical morality. This is the age of the Wandering Scholars, Ancassin, Villon.

Horace added pleasure to the function of poetry. Then came Longinus, who was the first to declare that its most important function was to move. Teaching, pleasing, moving, all controversies since then have centred round these three notions. It has all been a question of emphasis, the other-side-to-every-question-attitude—Gossan versus Sidney, Johnson versus Blake, Peacock versus Shelley, Ruskin versus Morris, Matthew Arnold versus Swinburne, Oscar Wilde and Clive Bell versus T. S. Eliot and Dr. Richards—it has all been history repeating itself. When the pendulum swung too much to one side, it had to be pulled to the other. When Ruskin and Tolstoy demanded that no poet, no art was worth its name if it did not improve and instruct people, Morris protested that the poet was "an idle singer of an empty day." Oscar Wilde declared: "All art is useless: All art is immoral."

Ever since science began to question the religious creeds, the controversy has shifted to another plane. Plato said poetry corrupted the youth. Matthew Arnold, Plato's disciple, in making severe moral

demands on poetry, reached the opposite conclusion regarding its function. Most of what now passes with us for religion and philosophy will be replaced by poetry. Dr. Richards agrees with Arnold. George Santayana thinks that religion and poetry are identical in essence and differ in the way in which they are attached to practical affairs. Mr. Middleton Murry raises Shakespeare almost to the stature of Jesus Christ. Against them stands Mr. Eliot who thinks that nothing can be a substitute for religion.

In this welter of theories and counter-theories ranging between Oscar Wilde's "All art is useless, All art is immoral", and Matthew Arnold's "poetry is a substitute for religion", the truth is apt to be lost sight of. There is in fact an element of truth in all of them, though they mistake in the emphasis.

The aesthetes go wrong when they want to isolate art from contact with life. The moralists go wrong when they demand a definite ethical philosophy from the poet. Art is autonomous; it does not start with ends in view. It does not set about righting wrongs or vindicating rights. The artist sees life—sees it fully and sees it whole—and gives expression to his vision. His vision differs from the vision of an ordinary man. He goes to the root of things, from fact to the sense of fact, as Pater said. Art is the expression of that sense of fact, that experience of life. That is the fundamental condition of all art. The artist must see life without prejudice and bias, without ethical or religious preconceptions. He must bring his whole personality to bear upon it and not this or that part of it. That is what is meant by the impersonality of art. "To say that we are impersonal," says Dr. Richards, "is merely another way of saying that our personality is more completely involved." The personality of the artist must be completely involved if art is to be genuine.

When the experience of the artist has been expressed, it has to be judged by two standards—whether the experience is valuable and whether the expression is artistic. Art is the artistic expression of a valuable experience. A valuable experience without artistic expression tends to be pompous and didactic. An artistic expres-

sion without a valuable experience tends to become Swinburnian jingle. That is the eternal controversy between form and content, between matter and manner. "For poetry," said Arnold, "the idea is everything." When Degas complained that he was full of ideas, but his poetry wouldn't come, Mallarmé replied: "Poetry is not written with ideas; it is written with words." Mallarmé was a worshiper of Form. And yet both Arnold and Mallarmé were right. Word and idea, form and content, manner and matter, expression and experience go hand in hand in poetry in all art. Truth is beauty, beauty truth. Neither truth, the highest truth, nor beauty the greatest beauty; in itself creates great art. If a choice at all is to be made, it is to be for beauty; for, in search of beauty, an artist very often finds truth as well, whereas in search of truth, he often misses beauty. Poetry must be poetry before it is criticism of life; it must be beautiful before it is true; it must be artistic before it is valuable; it must have the quality of the word before it has the quality of the idea; it must please before it instructs. Johnson blamed Shakespeare because he was so much more careful to please than to instruct. Emerson protested that he "chose to give us pictures, whereas he might have given us doctrines. Why expect doctrines from *Hamlet* any more than from a glorious sunset or a child's smile or Lorrain's landscape or the Taj Mahal. Instructive delight rather than delightful instruction is the real object. That is the aesthete's victory. Beauty and pleasure are in the very nature of poetry. Poetry ceases to be poetry if it is not beautiful, if it is not pleasing, however true it may be. It becomes prosaic philosophy. Poetry that pleases without instructing may not be high poetry; it is poetry all the same. But poetry that instructs without pleasing is unimaginable. It doesn't exist. It is not poetry. Poetry must be poetry before it becomes "criticism of life. But poetry that is also criticism of life is certainly of the higher kind. Better poems can be written on the Fall of Man than on the beauty of the rose, but the mere subject matter does not determine the quality of the poem. The poem on the beauty of the rose or even on the

head of a nail may have better poetic quality than the one on the most sublime subject, though it may not be a substitute for religion, though it may not be of the highest kind. The highest kind has the highest value in it, whatever meaning you may give to that elusive term. Nobility, courage, generosity, pity—all the virtues in the world cannot by themselves make a poem great any more than they can make a face beautiful. They could not make Socrates beautiful. But in a poem as in a face, no perfection of form in their absence can reach the highest beauty. And in a poem, as in a face, the presence of their opposites of vulgarity or morbidity or paltriness or or meanness or cruelty is a flaw for which no perfection of form can atone. "Poetry expressing an inferior philosophy," says George Santayana, "would to that extent be inferior poetry." That is the moralist's victory. To be pleasing is in the nature of poetry; to be instructive is its function. But poetry does not start with its function in view. It never aims; it just hits. Aiming is moralist's business. The moralist teaches; the artist shows. "Life ought to be like that," says the moralist. "Life is like that—look," says the artist. One exhorts; the other exhibits. One tries to influence action; the other tries to awaken perception. Art does not rebuke vice, it depicts it. It does not urge reform; it shows us the reformer. Art is neither meat nor medicine. The artist heals, not as the doctor heals, but as nature heals by bringing the conditions of health. He consoles, not as a priest consoles, but as love and life themselves do. He does not look upon life as a puritan or as a Quaker, but as a man. The poet never sets about with a let-me-make-you-moral attitude. The moral is a by-product, so to say, though the by-product goes to determine the value of the article produced. That is the compromise between the aesthete and the moralist. If the moralist allows to the aesthete that pleasure is the immediate object and is in the very nature of poetry, the aesthete will allow to the moralist the kind of pleasure he demands of it. If the moralist allows that Swinburne and Shelley are poets, the aesthete will not object that Browning

; a greater poet than Swinburne, and Wordsworth a greater poet than Shelley. It is dogmatic to dismiss a large part of poetry as unsubstantial in one's anxiety to make it a substitute for religion. It is more dogmatic to indulge in visionary dreams in the vain hope that all art is dream, that nothing that is not surrealism is art, that the more an artist forgets his surroundings, the greater artist he is. The truth lies between the expressionists and inspirationists on the one hand and the communicationists on the other. What the expressionists should seek is the autonomy of art, its independence of irrelevant interests, personal prejudices, ethical prepossessions, its expression of the whole unified personality of the artist. What the communicationists should seek is its contact with life, its avoidance of mad visions, its sanity and strength. Art is art if the complete personality of the artist is involved and if the vision he expresses is whole. Art is great art if the personality of the artist is great, if his vision is elevated. Those who make religious demands on art think only of the art of the highest kind.

But let us not forget the other, perhaps the more important function of art, the function what Longinus first pointed out—the function to move. In fact, art pleases and instructs by moving. Sidney's art may not be of the highest kind, but Sidney placed his finger on the right point when he said: "Moving is of a higher degree than teaching." Poetry delights us as it moves us with the desire to know, it instructs us as it moves us to do what we know. Shelley's art may not be of the highest kind, but Shelley too put his finger on the right point when he said: "The great instrument of moral good is imagination and poetry administers to the effect by acting upon the cause." No more acute statement on the moral function of art has been made so far. It also explains why religion has done more for morality in life than philosophy. Philosophy represents higher thought than religion, but religion is more imaginative; it appeals to "the great instrument of moral

good." That is why Santayana thinks religion and poetry are identical in essence. Both help people to live fully and to live vitally, and same vitality is sane morality. That is why, when religion is losing its appeal in the scientific and rationalistic world, poetry is being sought as a refuge, as a substitute for it. Poetry like religion appeals to the whole soul of man, to his thoughts as well as feelings. It helps him to live more sanely and to live more vitally. It awakens him from torpor and lifelessness. Moral truths have been the same since the world began. At any rate, to discover them is not the business of poetry. The real difficulty of life is not the search for moral truths. All moral truths are given in a school boy's text-book. It is not knowing but doing, living and being that matters. We do not believe with Socrates that virtue is knowledge; we rather believe with Aristotle that virtue is function, activity. Truths themselves do not lead to activity. It is only the spiritual experience, the vital realisation of truths that leads to action, that conduces to morality. Man needs revitalisation, a reawakening in every age to realise spiritual values afresh, to realise them concretely in flesh and blood.

That is the function of poetry, to give vitality to life, to revive decaying and decayed values, to stir up life-blood. It guarantees that we shall not starve any part of our personality. That is what Arnold meant. For him, religion and poetry and culture meant the same thing. For Arnold, art, like culture, meant the disinterested study and pursuit of perfection. For Shelley, art was the expression of imagination, the unifying faculty. For Mr. Richards, it means perfect organisation of impulses and their greatest possibilities of response and activity. The terms are different belonging to different times. The essence is the same. Art is not this part or that part of life; it is not morality or pleasure; it is not thought or feeling; it is the expression of whole life, unhindered and disinterested. It conduces to unimpeded function of the soul—that is virtue. Aristotle said that long ago.

I

POST-WAR economic life (1919-39) easily divides itself into two distinct periods (1) 1919-29. (2) 1929-39. The first period covers the efforts of the war-worn nations at economic rebuilding; the principal features of the era were the reactions of Versailles, the change over to a peace time economy from a war time economy, the comparative stability and prosperity in world trade and currency in 1921-29 and the attainment of an apparent economic equilibrium.

The artificial foundations of world economic life were amply demonstrated by the onset of the depression from 1929, characterised by deflation, unemployment, reduction of output and fall of national incomes and accompanied by the abandonment of gold, the adoption of a number of expedients of exchange control, clearing agreements and increased protectionism. The result was a striking decline of world trade and the disruption of the international monetary system. There emerged economic or political groupings of mutually exclusive preferential nations, which busied themselves from 1936 onwards in the preparation for the next war. The economics of war and the economics of trade depression constitute the essence of world economic life in the period between the two wars.

But the war and the trade cycle are themselves as much the results as causes of a number of other maladjustments. The international movement of goods and capital has in the post-war period been influenced, by a wide number of heterogeneous and even conflicting factors—political, technological and monetary in character.

II

The technological forces which have operated in the post-war era are mainly—the replacement of natural products by artificial products, the wider diffusion of industrial efficiency through the development of new sources of power, and the revolution of mechanisation in agriculture.

The German search for Ersatz (substitutes) is notorious in recent years. Other artificial substitutes have been invented in nitrate, resin, silk and lumber, while recovery

of used materials obtains in scrap iron and rubber. The present war should certainly intensify the race for substitutes and the recovery of used articles. But the possible restriction of world trade on this account is not likely to be significant at the end of the war.

The wider diffusion of industrial efficiency together with the tendency to decentralisation was seen in the development of electricity and oil as power in countries such as Italy, Sweden, France, Norway, etc. This has been an important cause of reduced specialisation in industrial production and is likely to remain so in the future also.

The mechanisation of agriculture and the extension of capitalist methods to it have brought about agricultural over-production, depressed prices and accumulated land debt. The tendency for prices to rise in favour of primary producers, which was in operation before 1914, was reversed in the post-war period except for the brief intervals of 1923-26 and 1934-36. The present war has already given some prosperity to agricultural countries; but whether over-production can be solved by this is doubtful.

III

Economic nationalism has been an all-embracing cause vitally altering the arteries of world trade and resulting in the replacement of overseas supplies, mainly of agricultural commodities by European countries and of the growth of industrialisation in the Eastern countries leading to the reduction in their imports of manufactured goods from Europe.

The restriction of imports of food-stuffs like wheat and rye into Europe after 1930 was somewhat significant; but imports of animal origin had not fallen. The blockade during the war has given an impetus to such restriction. But the after-war development must be towards a relaxation of such checks. Economic nationalism will surely survive the present war too; but its extreme perversions are likely to be abandoned; for war itself is the highest point of its expression and the end of war should see its abatement.

In the Eastern countries, economic nationalism has assumed the form of industrialisation and is born out of the desire to put an end to foreign exploitation. The effects of eastern industrialisation, while injurious to the older industrial countries in the immediate future may not be permanently restrictive of world trade, as there would be with the progress of industrialisation a corresponding enlarged aggregate demand of consumption of capital goods and even of raw materials from the West. This is mainly dependent on a possible resumption of international lending. On balance, economic nationalism is likely to persist as a potent cause of restriction of world trade.

IV

It is the play of monetary factors which, perhaps, has been responsible for the shrinkage of international trade and threatens to be so in the future also. The chief monetary factors have been the difficult problem of international indebtedness, the instability of exchanges and their control and the maldistribution of gold.

Of the different classes of debts, the last war and reparation debts have all been practically suspended, while the debts of the Central European Powers have been hanging fire. The present war will almost certainly increase the debt burden of Britain and her allies with their colossal rate of waste per day. The agricultural countries on account of their debtor position have suffered serious injury from slump and international trade after 1920.

This tendency is being reversed now on account of the war and will be materially altered at the end of the war. The indebtedness of agricultural countries is not likely to be increased and rather given a suitable economic policy, it is likely to be reduced as revealed in the repatriation of sterling debt in India.

Under the pressure of war conditions, all nations who have already devised measures of exchange control consequent on the world crisis of 1929, have further imposed far-reaching measures of exchange control and the end of the war may see

the removal of many restrictions imposed solely or mainly due to war.

V

Taking a broader view of the question however, it would seem that the control of exchange established during the crisis is likely to find a permanent place in the financial armoury of nations, especially because no nation-state can view with equanimity the surrender of its right to monetary autonomy in periods of external crisis in the interests of a non-existent international order. This is likely to apply with particular force to the critical post-war years.

The one-sided flow of gold to certain countries, particularly U. S. A. in the period after 1920 and on a phenomenal scale since 1934 in lieu of debt payments or interest necessary in face of a restrictive tariff, has generally been recognised as having disrupted the international monetary and lending mechanism.

The movement of gold to the U. S. A. since the outbreak of the war has gathered great speed, and since the beginning of 1940, U. S. gold stock has increased by 18.6 billions. Since 1934, U. S. holding of the visible gold stocks has risen from 84 per cent to 60 per cent. The mounting favourable balances and the transfer of the entire European gold since the present war have still further emphasised the U. S. A. as the regulators of its value.

There is almost a unanimity of opinion as to the lack of purpose in the present policy of mere accumulation and as to the great dangers of a sudden change of policy, either by way of a cessation of gold purchase or of a significant change in its value.

Authoritative pronouncement by Mr. Morgenthau, the Secretary of the Treasury, made it clear that no change in gold policy or no limit to its influx was contemplated. He stated further that the huge reserve of gold that was being built up would be available to repair the ravages of the European war after peace has been restored; and that in any case it would be a reserve from which U. S. further demands could be met without shock to internal economy. The only threat to gold

was the emergence of one or two dictatorships ruling most of the world, which he considered unlikely.

The gold sterilisation policy has proved beyond doubt that for purely domestic needs, the existing stock is superabundant to the point of rendering its management a huge problem, while it is extremely doubtful whether American public opinion would express itself in favour of gold coin and circulation. As to the possible utilisation for post-war economic reconstruction, the Secretary expects naturally to lend it only to friendly powers. He further prefers gold pieces to foreign paper. In his own words: "We do not want to repeat the experiment of war debts."

The experiment of the last war debts has been settled so far as hostile nations are concerned and is unfavourably (to the creditor) suspended so far as the friendly powers are concerned. The U. S. will be repeating the experiment she wishes to avoid if she desires to use its gold for post-war lending, while at the same time leaving the wrecks of the previous experiment uncleared. Further, such a lending policy together with the maintenance of a high tariff would stultify itself and again bring about the vicious circle. The alternative is to face the problems of internal economic disorganisation and readjustment consequential to a reduction of the tariff and relatively free imports. The situation raises at once issues of generosity and skilful management.

VI

Neither the progress of economic technology nor the probable future of economic nationalism seems to contain any inherent and insuperable obstacles to the recovery of world trade. Nor is the trend of declining population so threatening as generally imagined. Nevertheless, the operation of these long-run factors for revival would take a fairly long period of time to make their effects felt; and the intervening period would necessitate readjustments, not without a good deal of friction. Further, the monetary tendencies, whether the cause or the result of the trade movements appear to range themselves against the

non-monetary tendencies with the result that there is the likelihood of the revival of world trade being effectively impeded on that account.

The assumption by each nation of economic and monetary autonomy, though not of autarchy, is not likely to be abated unless the much-wished-for world order is ushered in, and is certainly accentuated by the one-sided play of monetary factors. The future of exchange stability and control rests very largely on how the creditor and richer countries are going to utilise their gold and capital resources and to settle the debt question. This again is determined predominantly by the political atmosphere. Conditions of perpetual fear of war and of actual war are certainly not conducive to a settlement; and yet there is no answer to those who argue that the very failure to effect a timely settlement of the issue has brought about the present war. The task of constructive statesmanship lies in seeking a reconciliation between the forces of nationalism and those of internationalism. The question is not even so much one of the way as of the will to achieve it.

Certain significant tendencies since the outbreak of the present war seem to indicate that while the nation-state would continue in the future as in the past to hold sway, yet in the interests of the very stabilisation of the nation-state, certain groups of nations (as envisaged in the recent Pan-American Conference and the Eastern Group Conference convened in India) binding themselves together as against others would arise. Such alliances which existed even before 1939, are likely to gain further impetus.

The future will depend very largely upon the development of such groups or the frustration of others and upon the mutual relations among them. There are unlimited opportunities for economic collaboration as for endless conflicts. Co-operation, if it is likely to come, will come after the war. If it is conflict which awaits us, it will not come after the present war, but will be merged in it. What actually is in store is more than one can say.

ANCIENT INDIAN REPUBLICS

BY MR. K. V. RAMASWAMI, B.A., B.L.

[A melancholy interest attaches to this article. As we go to Press we have the sad news of the writer's death in a village in the Tanjore district. Mr. Ramaswami was an old contributor to the *Review* and had a flair for historical research and Sanskrit lore. He was the author of most of the chapters in a recent publication of ours—*Sacred Shrines and Cities of India*. We deeply regret to record his untimely end.—ED. I. R.]

THE first great period of Indian History was a period of democracies. For several centuries from the 6th century B.C. downwards, numerous small states filled the whole of Northern India, from the banks of the Indus to the mouth of the Ganges. The peoples who constituted those states were the descendants of the old Vedic tribes and had, by growth and fission, developed into innumerable small consanguineous peoples inhabiting small areas. They were very civilized, active peoples, active alike in the arts of war and peace, and their doings and history fill the pages of early Brahminical and Buddhist literature. These peoples—Kurus, Panchalas, Kosalas, Vatsas, Usinaras, Malavas, Yaudheyas—peoples too numerous to mention, still live in the memory and traditions of India.

The majority of these states were democracies (Samghas, Ganas). These Samghas constitute India's first essay in self-government and are interesting alike for the political institutions they evolved and for the great part they played in building up early Indian culture and civilization. The great evangelical cults of Vaishnavism, Buddhism and Jainism arose among those democratic peoples and out of the teachings of their political leaders or other leading personalities. The Sankhya and Yoga philosophies were also born during this epoch. Literary works—the Brahminical Sutras, Buddhist Pithakas, Panini's Grammar, the defunct books on Politics—works which are the foundation of all subsequent Indian literature and thought are all the products of this period. All this philosophical and literary activity flowed from the freedom and mental energy and the spirit of quest generated by the self-governed Samghas.

Politically, these Samghas form a type remarkably analogous to the city-states of Greece and Italy, made famous by the studies of classical writers, Aristotle and

the rest. They had a division of governmental organs, much like that which obtained among the city-states of Greece—deliberative assemblies, elected Presidents and other officers and the judiciary, and the popular elements were fairly predominant in them. The Indian states being greater in territory and in population than the typical Greek city state, and being more agricultural than commercial in character, developed towards settled oligarchic or moderate democratic government. The Indian Samghas did not reach that full democracy which was the glory of Athens and her imitators. None the less the Indian type is historically interesting and deserves to be studied.

The chief or supreme organ in these states was a large deliberative council—the council of 7,707 'kings' among the Vrijikas, the council of 500 among the Sakyas, the assembly of 5,000 who supplied each an elephant to the state among the Yaudheyas, the senate of elders at Patala, who ruled the state with paramount authority the council of elders among the Ambasthas. This council decided war and peace, chose and controlled the executive, passed laws and possessed all supreme power. The Vajjian assembly had, we are distinctly told, power to pass laws, to burn, exile or inflict death upon the citizens. Elaborate regulations as regards the moving of resolutions, the taking of votes and other matters of procedure seem to have obtained in these councils. The councils, however, were not directly popular but aristocratic or oligarchic. They comprised members of the superior land-owning and military classes though in themselves the councils may be considered to be very large.

The citizens of each Samgha, leaving out slaves and traders, greatly exceeded in number the members of the classes who sat in the ruling assembly.

The executive of these Samghas comprised an elected President (Mukhya) or King (Raja), elective or hereditary and a number of other officers—ministers, generals and so forth. They were all elected by the Supreme Assembly (except in the case of hereditary kings) were amenable to the Assembly and held office for a particular period, usually a year. Among the Vajjians there were a king, a vice-king, a general and a quaestor or treasurer chosen out of the council already mentioned. The chief executive authority among the Sakyas was vested in a king chosen "for what period we do not know" (Rhys Davids) who presided over the assembly when in session and over the state at other times. In Patala the executive consisted of two hereditary kings who were also generals in war and who probably exercised other executive functions conjointly with the senate of elders. The Katas had an elected king. As regards the other republican peoples—the Khsudraka-Malavas, the Ambasthas and others—the only executive officers we hear of in the Greek writers are the elected generals. They should have had other elected officers for administrative and judicial purposes, though the Greek writers have not noticed them. The Samghas, like the Greek city states, chose their ambassadors and envoys. The mode of election of these officers is not directly known to us. If we rely upon two instances given by Dr. Jayaswal in his book on "Hindu Polity", the Kings and other officers were elected by votes, for which Salakas on wooden pins were used. It may be pointed out that in the city states of Greece, the election of officers, where lot was not used, was by acclamation or show of hands.

The Samghas had a developed judiciary. The Vajjians had a gradation of courts—the Mahamattas, the Vyoharikas, the Sutradaras and then the council of eight and the four executive officers already mentioned, who exercised their jurisdiction individually and in succession. According to Rhys Davids, the judicial administration among the Sakyas was carried on in the assembly at Kapilavastu. With regard to the rest of the Samghas, we have to

presume that the aristocratic councils and the kings, hereditary or elective, exercised judicial functions singly or together.

These democracies promoted, as in other parts of the world, the sense of individual liberty and patriotism and the growth of social virtues. The Brahmanas, a republican tribe who dwelt on the banks of the Indus, according to Plutarch, gave Alexander great trouble during his invasion, they reviled the princes who declared for him and encouraged the free states to revolt from his authority. The Malavas and Yaudheyas who long dwelt in the Punjab and offered successful battle against the Greeks and the Sakas, gave up their fair fields and cities when further aggression broke over their heads and moved down to live in the plateaus of Rajasthan rather than lose their freedom. As regards the social virtues, evidence comes from all over Northern India. The Muchikarnikas, a free tribe of the Punjab, lived an open life in their homes and cities and delighted in public dinners. The Sakyas, Vajjians, Mallas and other Eastern Samgha peoples were characterised by a great brotherly spirit and hospitality. The Great Buddha loved them immensely and spent his life in their midst.

Some of the Samgha peoples displayed a great intellectual activity. The preacher of the Gita, Vasudeva Krishna, was the elected President of the Vrishni Samgha. Buddha was the son of the Sakyan king, Mahavira, the founder of Jainism, was a Vajjian noble. The Katas were a highly learned and intelligent people. Their recension of the Yajurveda was long the leading one in Northern India.

Democratic institutions not only elevated the minds and spirit of the ancient peoples, but seem to have had a beneficent effect on their physical constitution as well—a fact for which there is interesting confirmation in the history of certain Western democracies as well. Arrian says of the Malava ambassadors, who waited on Alexander, that they were all men of uncommon stature and very dignified bearing. They were proud of the liberty which for so many ages they had preserved inviolate.

MYSORE UNDER MIRZA

By "A MYSOREAN"

THE retirement of Sir Miza Ismail from the office of Dewan of Mysore from June 1, brings to a close one of the brightest and most remarkable chapters in the history of modern Mysore.

After the well-known Sir K. Seshadri Iyer, the Dewan, who served the State for eighteen years and of whom it has been said that "he gave his head to Herbert Spencer and his heart to Para Bramha", the period of Sir Mirza Ismail's stewardship extending over fifteen years is the longest in the annals of Mysore. This period, too, will be regarded by this and the coming generations as constituting in many ways a most fruitful chapter in the history of the moral and material advancement of the State. A statesman of a lesser calibre would perhaps have taken many years more to plan what Sir Mirza Ismail has been able to accomplish in a decade and a half. It is to the credit of this great administrator that he has by his unflagging zeal and industry, disinterested labour, high patriotism and uncommon abilities and talents, brought the State of Mysore to a position which today excites the "envy, admiration and despair of almost every other State and many a province in India".

Though the time is not yet arrived for attempting a review of the work of Sir Mirza in Mysore, it is appropriate to say a few words about its most salient features. There was hardly any aspect of the State's progress which did not receive Sir Mirza Ismail's personal devotion and care, or any problem of uplift to which he did not contribute his own distinctive solution. His knowledge of Mysore, its people and its problems was unrivalled. He knew the State inside out; as John Gunther puts it: "Sir Mirza knows every stick and stone in Mysore." There are no beneficent public activity of any kind which did not receive his sympathy and encouragement. But the most signal of his contribution to the evolution of modern Mysore was in the sphere of economic betterment of the people, the word "economic" being used in its most comprehensive sense. Sir Mirza Ismail tackled the problem of economic backwardness of the masses

from more than one angle, but the remarkable fillip that he gave to industrialisation constitutes the corner-stone of his economic policy. During the last fifteen years, Mysore has seen the growth of a large number of both large-scale and small-scale industrial enterprises inaugurated one after another so much so that the State is at present in the fortunate position of being able to manufacture many of its requirements within its own borders and also of contributing in a substantial measure to the volume of India's war effort. State socialism and economic self-sufficiency were the twofold principles which Sir Mirza adopted in prosecuting his policy of industrialising the State. As a result, a number of concerns either wholly owned and run by Government or jointly with private shareholders have come to be established in Mysore. As Sir Mirza Ismail himself said in his broadcast speech:

We are very proud of the products of these factories and at the risk of being called provincial try to set before all true Mysoreans the ideal that they should wash themselves with Mysore soap, dry themselves with Mysore towels, clothe themselves in Mysore silks, ride Mysore horses, eat the abundant Mysore food, drink Mysore coffee with Mysore sugar, build their home with Mysore cement, Mysore timber and Mysore steel, furnish their houses with Mysore furniture and write their letters on Mysore paper.

Side by side with the starting of industrial concerns has proceeded the encouragement of cottage industries, the development of agriculture and, above all, the extension of the facilities of irrigation to a degree unknown before.

The Dewanship of Sir Mirza Ismail will also be long remembered for the promotion of rural uplift activities in which he took deep personal interest. There was no village, however humble, that did not receive its share of attention and no town, however small or obscure, which was not the object of expert town-planning and improvement. Hundreds of towns, big and small, villages and hamlets, have been provided with the modern amenity of electricity. Hospitals, dispensaries and maternity homes have been established in all parts of the State.

One of the most notable features of Sir Mirza's administration is furnished by the large amounts running into tens of lakhs of rupees, which private philanthropists contributed for the promotion of public causes, chiefly in the direction of the provision of medical facilities over all parts of the State. Incidentally these benefactions are a tribute to the personality of Sir Mirza, and an evidence of the sway he held over his fellow-citizens' hearts.

During Sir Mirza Ismail's Dewanship, the "white coal" resources of Mysore have been fully developed alongside of the increased industrialisation of the State. The Sivasamudram hydro-electrical works, which are among the earliest and best hydro-electrical enterprises in India were enlarged, a new hydro-electric scheme at Shimshapura at a cost of over half a crore of rupees was completed and yet another enterprise of considerable magnitude—the Jog Falls Hydro-Electric Scheme—which is estimated to cost over rupees 2½ crores has been taken up and is well under way. The State Budget today reflects the result of all this increased tempo of the State's economic activity which has been fostered with a rare foresight and imagination combined with a spirit of enterprise uncommon among ordinary administrators. When Sir Mirza took up the reins of Dewanship, the revenue of the State was in the neighbourhood of Rs. 3½ crores. As he lays down office, it has risen to nearly Rs. 5 (five) crores. It is worthy of note that this growth in revenue of the State by over a crore has been achieved mainly by the development of the non-tax sources of income.

One can go on writing pages on the valuable services which Sir Mirza has rendered to Mysore in various other spheres of activity. He it was who put Mysore on the map of the world and gave a tremendous stimulus to tourist traffic. He launched a vigorous publicity drive abroad, seconded by equally vigorous efforts at home in the way of conserving archaeological and other treasures for which Mysore is famous, developing its material resources and modernising and beautifying its cities and towns and

creating such unrivalled beauty spots like the Brindavan Gardens.

His contribution to the solution of the larger constitutional problem of India is a matter of history. Sir Mirza has been a consistent and persistent champion of Federation. Sir C. Y. Chintamani, the great Liberal statesman, has summed up in the following words Sir Mirza's work at the Round Table Conference: "No Indian at the R. T. C. played a more honourable part than Sir Mirza Ismail, the able and distinguished Dewan of Mysore. Reasonableness and fairness, non-communalism and zeal for reform characterized all his work." Indeed, a lesser Dewan could justifiably feel proud of achievements in any one of the many and varied spheres of activity to all of which Sir Mirza Ismail has contributed so richly.

It is a matter of the deepest regret to all and to none more perhaps than to Sir Mirza himself that he is laying down his office on the eve of achieving some more objectives for the realization of which he has laboured all through his career as Dewan. The retrocession of the Civil and Military Station of Bangalore is one of the foremost of his unfinished tasks. When this becomes a *fait accompli* in the future, Mysore should gratefully acknowledge its debt of gratitude to Sir Mirza for his persistent advocacy of the cause and for his deep patriotism. The abolition of the subsidy is another of his partly finished tasks. In fifteen years the burden of subsidy has been reduced by nearly Rs. 16 lakhs, and when in course of time this iniquitous impost completely disappears, not a little of the credit should go to Sir Mirza Ismail who did so much at the Round Table Conference discussions to have the principle of abolition of the subsidy accepted by the British Government.

With achievements so rich and varied, with a record of statesmanship so luminous and with an essentially non-communal outlook and a personality so full of charm, Sir Mirza has, at fifty-eight, a future which should prove to be even brighter than his past.

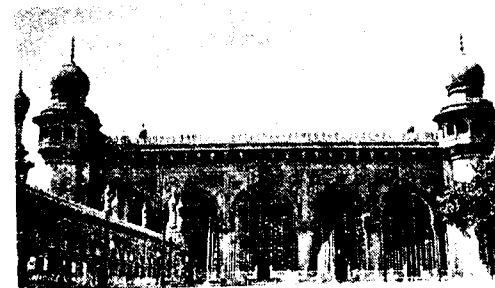
Where Royalty is Laid to Rest—Mecca Masjid

By MR. E. EASWARAN

HAVING seen the Mecca Masjid in Hyderabad before it was completed, Tavernier, the famous traveller, wrote:

About fifty years since, they began to build a magnificent Pagod in the city, which would have been the fairest in all India had it been finished. The stones are to be admired for their bigness. And that wherein the Nich is made, which is on that side where they say their prayers, is an entire Rock of such a prodigious bulk, that it was five years before five or six hundred men continuously employed, could hew it out of its place. They were also forced to roll it along upon an Engine with wheels upon which they brought it to the Pagod, and several affirmed to me that there were fourteen hundred oxen to draw it.

Tavernier was not exaggerating when he wrote this, and Mecca Masjid is considered to be one of the finest mosques in all India. It was commenced in 1617 A.D. by Sultan Abdullah Qutb Shah,



MECCA MASJID

who, after inviting the learned and pious men of the city, asked them to have the foundation-stone laid by one who had never missed his prayers. But as none from the congregation would come forward, the Sultan himself laid the first stone by saying that he had never missed even his "Tahaj-Jud" (a prayer repeated after midnight) ever since his twelfth year.

Abdullah Qutb Shah died before its completion and the work was carried on under his successor Abul Hasan who, however, was sent into captivity by the Emperor Aurangzeb before the mosque was quite finished. Aurangzeb then inspected the mosque and ordered that the work should be completed with the exception of the minarets, which were to remain incomplete as symbolic of worldly

ambition which always remains unsatisfied. When the Emperor was requested for further decoration of the mosque, he replied with a famous couplet:—

Kare Duniya Kase tamam nakard,
Har chi giraid mukhtasar giraid.

(The transactions of the world have never been completed by any one: consequently impose upon yourself as little as possible.)

The Alamgir was as intolerant of Shias as he was of Hindus and issued a Firman consecrating Mecca Masjid for the exclusive worship of the Sunnis.

Standing in the heart of Hyderabad, the mosque is 225 feet long, 180 feet wide and 75 feet high and occupies one side of a vast paved quadrangle 360 feet square. It consists of triple vestibules with fifteen arches in each row and five masonic arches in front, the northern and southern extremities being surmounted by two large domes. The two lofty minarets in front and the sun-dial of the court-yard belong to the reign of Aurangzeb.

To the left of the quadrangle are the graves of all the successors of Nizam Ali Khan, who was the first king interred here. The graves of many of the relatives of past Nizams are close by. A canopy has been recently erected to preserve the royal tombs.

On either side of the quadrangle are two buildings in which the Koran is expounded and taught by learned and religious men. One of the rooms in them contains a hair of the Prophet and other sacred relics. About the centre of the court-yard is a small cistern, close to which are a pair of polished stone slabs, each about eight feet in length, now used as seats, which are said to have originally formed part of a Hindu temple at Maiseram.

"If the pilgrimage of the noble Kaaba (in Mecca) is not attainable to thee, come and pray in the Kaaba of the Deccan" runs a couplet composed by a poet in commemoration of the building of the Mecca Masjid.

INDIAN UNIVERSITIES AND WAR

BY PROF. B. J. VASWANI, M.A.

THE shadows of War lengthen over our homeland, and the peril of external aggression and internal ravage is no longer the mere hobgoblin of chicken-hearts. What is the nation going to do in this emergency? It is true, India has not been made to feel that Britain's war is its own war nor trained in the mechanics of modern warfare to beat off external aggression, and one may presume that the Government of India will face that problem in its own way. But the problem of internal peace and security, endangered by the deeply deteriorating war situation, confronts all the towns and villages of India, and it is this problem which I feel the Universities of India can substantially solve for the nation. The pick of India's youth is in their keeping and no section of the country's population can help maintain peace and security with greater sense of responsibility and honour than the thousands of young men who flock our colleges in all parts of the country. Will the Universities in India continue doling out dull normalities in these abnormal times, or will they step out of the conventional ruts of academic outlook and routine to give a much-needed re-shaping to education? Will they still lie entrenched behind the crumbling citadel of customary self-complacency, or make a vigorous attempt to mobilize the dynamic idealism of youth for urgent national service? I am convinced from my 28 years' experience of extensive contacts with college students that there is enough of manhood still left among them, and that with a proper approach, they could be made to feel thrilled by the prospect of a life of patriotic

adventure. If the Universities, the Colleges, the Professors, the leaders of student movements call out the country's youth for the national emergency, they could be organized into a splendid auxiliary force about 2½ lakhs strong.

Times of trouble are ahead of us all, and it is only appropriate that the Universities in India should seize this opportunity of organizing the youth of the nation to be men. I suggest that for the duration of war, every college affiliated to every University should be converted partly into a Civic Guard Centre. For this purpose, an immediate reorganisation of curricula should be undertaken so that a good deal of chaff in the content of our educational system will be thrown out, and we will get a kernel of realistic vital studies which should not require more than two periods of lecturing and listening per day. The Professors and students would thus be left free to undertake training and service in defence of the nation's hearths and homes. This war-time syllabus of academic studies and national service with a system of exemptions earned by zeal and valour will make each College in the country such a social centre as none has ever been, and one year of *this education* in the Colleges will do more for each individual Collegian and for the nation than the normal four-year Course for graduation has ever done. And our entire system of University education will be placed on a more stable foundation for all time to come.

Will the Universities bestir themselves for the inauguration of this desirable drive in time for the next academic year? It is a testing time for all, and I trust the Universities in India will have the vision and the courage to make it possible for the youth of the nation to play the noble role of the defenders of its honour and safety in the hour of its need.

INDIAN AFFAIRS

BY "AN INDIAN JOURNALIST"

"Talking Points on India"

IN a recent interview, Dr. Rajendra Prasad pointed out that a mere change in the personnel of the India Office would by no means solve the Indian problem. For, unless the British Government as a whole is responsive to Indian aspiration, there is little hope of a change for the better. That dictum finds strange confirmation in a document recently brought to light by the enterprise of a press correspondent. It is no other than the pamphlet containing the so-called "talking points" to speakers on India, supplied by the British Ministry of Information.

It is astonishing that a responsible Government should have countenanced the issue of a document so glaring in its utter disregard for truth and so disreputable to its sense of fairness. Fancy a decent Government, after repeated promises of Dominion Status to India, giving this unabashed piece of counsel to its speakers.

Say nothing about the intentions of His Majesty's Government beyond the general aim towards Dominion Status.

This bare-faced attempt to hoodwink the public passes for diplomacy. It is exactly what a former Viceroy described as "breaking to the heart the words of promise uttered to the ear". To quote the very candid words of Lord Lytton:

We all know that these claims and expectations can never be fulfilled. We have had to choose between prohibiting them (the natives of India) and cheating them, and we have chosen the least straightforward course. . . . Since I am writing confidentially I do not hesitate to say that both the Governments of England and India appear to me up to the present moment unable to answer satisfactorily the charge of having taken every means in their power of "breaking to the heart the words of promise they had uttered to the ear".

Who can deny after this the imputation that the British Government does not

intend to part with its power in spite of tall talks about freedom and democracy after the war. There is a familiar ring in the justification offered:

Agreement between different communities and interests in India is a *sine qua non* for its success.

The rest of the notes is of a piece with this. It is, as a contemporary put it, "a mischievous and malicious collection of half-truths, suggestions and innuendoes about a whole people". Here is a gem in the true Miss Mayo style:

The Oriental sense in values is completely different to the Europeans, *e.g.*, nepotism is a vice to us, a virtue to them.

And then follow facts and arguments distorted beyond recognition. About the achievements of British rule, the justification for the poverty and ignorance of the Indian peasant, about the so-called industrialisation and growing prosperity of India, there has always been a heated "controversy". Much is made of the fact that India does not pay an actual tribute to England. But any tiro in economics could prove that money is drained in a multitude of ways far in excess of any tribute that previous foreigners had extorted from the country.

It would be tedious and unnecessary to examine at any length this monstrous catalogue of "misinformation". It is a stain on decent Government. No wonder the *New Statesman* has urged that "this compilation of half truths and glaring omissions should be suppressed with apologies to the intelligence of this nation".

As we go to Press, we learn that the pamphlet has been withdrawn; but it has already done all the mischief it could. War time morals are proverbially low and it is a pity to think that the governing class in England should be so perilously affected by the malady.

Is India Really Prosperous?

The myth of India's prosperity so glibly held by Mr. Amery and others is challenged by Sir Ibrahim Rahimtoolah in a vigorous statement to the Press. Mr. Amery is reported to have said:

"India is prosperous. There is more revenue for the Central and Provincial Governments, and not only under those Provincial Governments carrying on under democratic institutions, but there is a great deal of active social progress going on all the time."

Sir Ibrahim examines the Secretary of State's remarks in Parliament in the light of the conclusions of the Income-tax report published by the Central Board of Revenue.

According to this official report there are in this country the huge number of 2,85,940 assesseees with an income of Rs. 2,000 or £150 per annum and over. On the basis of a population of 300 millions in British India, this figure works out at one-tenth of one per cent. of the population.

Is that evidence of India's prosperity?

In 1938-39, there were in Britain, with a population of 45 millions, 539 individual assesseees with an income of £10,000 and over per annum. Contrasting this with what obtains in India, Sir Ibrahim points out:

In British India, with a population of 300 millions, the number of individual assesseees with an income of Rs. 5 lakhs and over is the huge figure of 9!

That gives us a measure of India's prosperity!

Sir Shanmukham Chetty

Sir Shanmukham Chetty's retirement from the Dewanship of Cochin after six years of successful and beneficent administration, though a distinct loss to the State, must be counted a gain to the wider public of India. Young, vigorous and forward looking Sir Shanmukham was pre-eminently fitted for the peculiar task of "blending the old world conservatism of the late Maharaja with the forward looking politics of his trusted ministers". The Cochin Harbour and the New Reforms

stand out as the symbol of his policy of giving the little state a significant place in the map of India.

One of Sir Shanmukham's talent and ambition cannot long be expected to be confined to the comparatively narrow sphere of a small state; and he has naturally drifted to the more congenial and accustomed atmosphere of national service. The Government of India's choice of the ex-Dewan to lead the purchasing mission to America is a tribute to Sir Shanmukham's undoubted abilities to cope with large scale business deals.

India For Indians

At a recent University gathering in a Provincial town in England, the Duke of Devonshire, Under-Secretary of State for India, made a striking observation that India will be governed by "India in India for India" and that there will be no interference from Whitehall. He also said that he had the authority of His Majesty's Government for making that statement. The declaration, striking as it is, need make no great difference in the present status of India, as it is felt that it is merely aimed at giving more power to the Viceroy and his British advisers in the emergency situation created by the war. And yet an attempt has been made to explain away even that statement. It is reported that the Duke's speech was in no sense a formal declaration of policy and did not in any way modify the Viceroy's August offer. *Reuter* is made to explain that official circles in London feel that there is no new and sudden development in Indian policy. One can see in all this tedious explanation the hesitant hand of Mr. Amery who is yet unable to make up his mind.

No wonder that the report of his impending withdrawal from the India Office has been received in this country with a certain degree of unconcern.

Tagore's Indictment of Britain

Miss Rathbone, M.P., has come in for a severe rebuke from the Poet Rabindranath. In an open letter addressed to Non-co-operators, she has attempted to impale the Congress on the horns of a dilemma. They are "hating yet aiding Hitler", she says. Replying to her homily on the benefits of British rule, Dr. Tagore asks:

Have all the other peoples in the world waited for the British to bring them enlightenment? It is sheer insolent self-complacency on the part of our so-called English friends to assume that had they not 'taught' us we would still have remained in the Dark Ages.

Stung by the taunts of outsiders at the flight of the people from the scenes of riots, the Poet breaks into a frenzy and retorts:

Examples are not wanting in history when even fully armed warriors have shrunk before superior might, and contingencies have arisen in the present war when even the bravest among the British, French and Greek soldiers have had to evacuate the battle-field in Europe, because they were overwhelmed by superior armaments—but when our poor, unarmed and helpless peasants, encumbered with crying babes, flee from homes, unable to protect them from armed *goondas*, the British officials perhaps smile in contempt at our cowardice.

Christian Tribute to Gandhiji's Work

While Christian Europe has not found it practicable to follow the way of Christ in the tragic situation created by the war, there is no doubt there are voices here and there still hearkening to the voice of religion and peace. Gandhiji's counsel of perfection may have seemed impracticable in the stress of world circumstance, but there are ample evidences of his influence among persons of diverse persuasions. Only the other day, the Bishop of Guntur observed,

that Mahatma Gandhi had, perhaps, done more to bring the influence of Christ to bear on India than any other non-Christian worker in India.

A similar confession was made by Bishop Pakenham Walsh at the Kodaikanal Ashram. Significantly enough, he praised the *ahimsa* ideal of Gandhiji and his faith that as a suffering servant of God, we could in the end conquer the world and set an example to the whole world.

Hindu Maha Sabha and Direct Action

The Committee of the Hindu Maha Sabha, meeting at Calcutta, has decided not to implement its Madura resolution threatening to resort to direct action in certain circumstances. So far so good. Not that there was the slightest fear or possibility of a body like the Hindu Maha Sabha launching an aggressive campaign of civil disobedience. But it was odd to criticise the Congress and unwittingly fall in line with it with a programme which it knows it cannot carry out with any hope of success. Any attempt at direct action would have failed miserably and the decision has saved the Sabha from an extremely embarrassing situation brought about by the folly of a few hot heads. The Maha Sabha has cleverly got out of its awkward commitment.

Scindia's New Enterprise

A landmark in the industrial history of India was made on June 21, when Dr. Rajendra Prasad laid the foundation-stone of the first ship-building yard at Vizagapatam. The story of the persistent efforts made by the Scindia Steam Navigation Company and its final triumph over all obstacles has been told by Mr. Walchand Hirachand with a vividness of detail that has won for this great enterprise the support and goodwill of the whole country. With a coastline of 4,500 miles, India has an indefeasible right to possess a great and thriving shipping industry and command the coastal trade of the Peninsula. The revival of this much neglected industry is an event of national importance, and Scindia's efforts might ultimately lead to the fruition of the dream of one of India's leaders, who said:

I am impatient to see Indian ships carrying the flag of India across distant seas to far away countries.

The Last of the Kaisers

IN the death of Wilhelm II. the last of the Kaisers of the German Empire at Doorn at the great age of 82, the world loses a man whose name became, during the last world-war, a symbol for undiluted hatred or veneration.

Whether and to what extent he was responsible for the action which precipitated the first world crisis, or whether he was a weak instrument of other men and events, is a question which has been the subject of enormous debate. Wilhelm himself wished the world to believe that he was "really not a bad sort of a fellow". Some authorities held that Wilhelm suffered from an inferiority complex which affected his character and temperament as a consequence of an accident at birth.

Called to the throne at the age of 29, the young Kaiser is said to have resolved from the day of his accession to make of the monarchy an absolute autocracy. According to some authorities, almost to the end of the 1914-18 war, he refused to believe that the struggle could end otherwise than by the triumph of Germany. It was, therefore, a disillusioned man who crossed the Dutch frontier into exile on November 10, the day before the Armistice was signed.

For twenty-three years, he has lived the life of a country gentleman in Holland, engaged for the most part in domestic vocations and in giving rulings about the eccentric activities of younger Hohenzollerns. So far as history is concerned, the ex-Kaiser was dead when he abdicated.

He watched closely the development of Nazism in Germany and was understood to favour the Nazi regime as fostering Germany's recovery, while not approving its anti-Jewish attitude.

Russo-German War

Perhaps the greatest surprise of the year was the declaration of war between Germany and Russia on the morning of June 22. It was a surprise equalled only by the Russo-German Agreement of 1939. Mr. Churchill, speaking over the radio the same day, observed:

At four o'clock this morning Hitler attacked and invaded Russia. All his usual formalities of perfidy were observed with scrupulous technique. A non-aggression treaty had been solemnly signed and was in force between the two countries. No complaint had been made by Germany of its non-fulfilment. Under its cloak of false confidence, the German armies grew up in immense strength along a line which stretched from the White Sea to the Black Sea, their air fleets and armoured divisions slowly and methodically took up their stations. Then suddenly, without declaration of war, without even an ultimatum, German bombs rained down from the sky upon Russian cities. German troops violated Russian frontiers and an hour later, the German Ambassador who, during the night before, was lavishing assurances of friendship—almost of an alliance—upon the Russians, called upon the Russian Foreign Minister to tell him a state of war existed between Germany and Russia.

The same old technique! Such is the sanctity attached to Treaties in Christian Europe. The result is the repetition, as Mr. Churchill said, "on a far larger scale the same kind of outrage against every form of signed contract and international faith which we have witnessed in Norway, Denmark, Holland, Belgium and which Hitler's accomplice and jackal, Mussolini, so faithfully violated in the case of Greece".

Announcing the decision of His Majesty's Government at this grave crisis, the Prime Minister said:

We have but one aim and one single irrevocable purpose. We are resolved to destroy Hitler and every vestige of the Nazi regime. We shall give whatever help we can to Russia and to the Russian people. We shall appeal to all our friends and allies in every part of the world to take the same course and pursue it steadfastly to the end.

During the seven days of the war there has been terrific struggle over 3,000 square miles. The struggle is swaying to and fro over a vast battlefield ranging from Minsk, the White Russian capital, in the north, to the important Polish town of Lwow in the south.

Allies' Conference

A resolution to continue the struggle against German aggression until victory and that there could be no peace so long as the German military threat to free peoples continued was adopted at a meeting of representatives of all Allied Governments under Mr. Churchill.

The following is the text of the resolution adopted at the Conference:—

"The Government of Great Britain and the Governments in Ireland and Canada, the Government of Belgium, the Provisional Czechoslovak Government, the Governments of Greece, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Norway, Poland and Yugoslavia and representatives of General DeGaulle, Leader of the Free French men, engaged together in the fight against oppression are resolved.

Firstly, that they will continue the struggle against German and Italian aggression until victory is won and they will mutually assist each other in their struggle to the utmost of their respective capacities.

Secondly, that there can be no settlement, peace and prosperity so long as free peoples are coerced by violence into submission to domination by Germany or her associates or live under the threat of such coercion.

Thirdly, that the only true basis of enduring peace is the willing co-operation of free peoples in a world in which, relieved of the menace of aggression, all may enjoy economic and social security and that it is their intention to work together and with other free peoples both in war and peace to this end."

Turko-German Agreement

The text of the Turkish-German treaty of friendship signed at Ankara on June 18 by Von Papen and M. Sarajoglu consists of three articles which state:

1. Germany and Turkey bind themselves mutually to respect the integrity and inviolability of their national territory and not to resort to any measures direct or indirect against treaty partner.

2. Germany and Turkey bind themselves in future in all questions touching their common interests to have friendly contact with each other in order to reach an understanding in the treatment of such questions.

The third article provides for ratification which will be exchanged in Berlin.

The treaty is valid for ten years with the possibility for prolongation.

A Democratic Alliance

An outspoken leading article in the official Chinese organ *Central Daily News* advocates democratic alliance especially of Britain, the United States and China.

The newspaper sees the United States as the centre of a world army fighting against the Axis, Britain as the left wing and China as the right wing. Any success against either wing must affect the entire camp.

The Late King of Siam

Ex-King Prajadhipok of Siam died after a heart attack at his home in Virginia Water, Surrey, on May 30. He abdicated in 1935 after a prolonged period of disagreement with the authorities in Bangkok and took up the quiet life of a country gentleman in England. He was succeeded by the boy King Mahidol aged 16, a Council of Regency being appointed to act during the King's minority.



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DIARY OF THE MONTH

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- May 28. President Roosevelt proclaims a state of national emergency.
- Vichy assures America that neither the fleet nor the colonies will be given up.
- May 29. British Government withdraws conscription from N. Ireland in deference to de Valera's warning.
- May 30. Standing Committee of Editors' Conference meets at Simla.
- May 31. Iraqi rebels sign armistice with Britain.
- June 1. Imperial forces withdraw from Crete.
- June 2. Petain Cabinet discusses Darlan's plans.
- Hitler meets Mussolini at Bremner.
- June 3. Germans get into Syria.
- June 4. Ex-Kaiser of Germany is dead.
- Alexandria is bombed.
- June 5. Annual Conference of British Labour Party endorses labour executives' memorandum on peace aims.
- Khaksars are declared unlawful.
- June 6. Defence Advisory Committee is established.
- Roosevelt refutes rumours of peace offer.
- June 7. Sir Stafford Cripps returns to London for consultation.
- Germans mine Cyprus coast.
- June 8. Free French forces and British troops enter Syria.
- Alexandria is evacuated.
- June 9. Turkey is cut off from Syria.
- Army takes over U. S. air craft factory.
- June 10. Mr. Churchill replies to criticisms in the Commons.
- Mussolini declares that Italy will occupy the whole of Greece.
- June 11. President Roosevelt presents a report of the operations of the Lease and Lend Act.
- June 12. Allies' Conference in London decides to continue the fight with Hitler to the finish.
- June 13. Indian delegation led by Sir G. S. Bajpai leaves for Burma.
- Allied troops surround Damascus.
- June 14. Roosevelt orders freezing of Axis assets.
- June 15. Japanese Navy moves southwards.
- German assurance to Turkey.
- June 16. German Consulates in U. S. A. are closed.
- June 17. German-Turkish pact is signed.
- Vichy resists allied attack in Syria.
- June 18. Indo-Burma Conference in Rangoon.
- June 19. Germany closes U. S. Consulates.
- Oxford Doctorate is conferred on President Roosevelt.
- June 20. Mr. Roosevelt indicts German methods.
- June 21. Dr. Rajendra Prasad lays foundation-stone of the Scindia Shipbuilding Yard in Vizagapatam.
- June 22. German invasion of Russia.
- Mr. Churchill broadcasting assures all help to Russia.
- June 23. Lithuania secedes from the Soviet.
- U. S. A. Government condemns German attack on Soviet.
- June 24. Sea battle in the Baltic.
- Commons debate: Mr. Eden outlines British attitude to Soviet.
- June 25. Sweden agrees to the passage of German troops.
- Leningrad is ablaze. Germans enter Vilna.
- June 26. Germany is launching eight offensives.
- June 27. Earth tremors felt in different centres in India.
- Gandhi-Munshi correspondence is released.
- June 28. Russian resistance to German push beyond Minsk.
- June 29. Vichy breaks off relations with the Soviet.
- Council of National Liberal Federation meets in Poona.
- June 30. Germans claim capture of Lwow and Liban.
- Death is reported of M. Paderewski, Polish pianist and statesman.



The WORLD of BOOKS



SPRITUAL RELIGION. By Dr. James Baille. George Allen & Unwin. Price 1sh.

This booklet is a reprint of the author's article in the *Hibbert Journal* for April 1932. It gives us a splendid account of the nature and function of genuine religion. Spiritual experience is the core of mysticism. Mysticism is the inward essence of religion. In order to have spiritual experience, Dr. Baille exhorts men to believe in the threefold values of Christianity, Faith, Hope and Charity. What is essential to true religion is unremitting moral life. Ethical excellence and not ceremonial purity is necessary for spiritual realisation. Dr. Baille's book is an effective attack on institutional religions which undermine the true spirit of genuine religion.

INTRODUCTION TO SAI BABA; SRI SAI BABA'S CHARTERS AND SAYINGS. By B. V. Narasimha Swami. 74, Loyd's Road, Royapettah, Madras. Price Rs. 2-12.

The Saint of Shirdi, near Kopergaon, Bombay Presidency, holds a high and an abiding place in the hearts of a large number of devotees. Though he passed away in 1918 from this earthly body, his followers believe that after life, as during it, the Saint continues to guide and help and inspire them. Sri Narasimha Swami has set out in these two books an account of the Saint's life and gives his teachings on a large number of topics and relates numerous instances of the Saint's miraculous doings in helping his devotees in sorrow and sickness and guiding them in their path to self and God-realisation.

WHEN PEACOCKS CALLED. By Hilda Macdowell Seliguran. Published by John Lane. The Bodley Head. 7s. 6d.

A novel nobly conceived and brilliantly written of perhaps the brightest chapter in Indian History, in language and rhythm rising at times as in the love making of the Prince Asoka and the Commoner Devi to lyric heights; resounding to the beating of drums and the blare of trumpets as in the war scenes of Chandragupta and even of Asoka himself; sublimating state craft and military achievement into the realisation of an empire, in which swords were literally beaten into ploughshares.

Like the beautiful jewelled dagger it treats of, the book is studded with many precious thoughts and pithy sayings, the quintessence of ancient wisdom: patience is the key to joy, and hasty the key to sorrow; gold diminishes with using; wisdom increases with use; the river of God's grace never dries up; in the happiness of the people lies the happiness of the king; when a man lives nearest to nature, simply and sincerely, dropping all false motives, then freedom and happiness meet; and love of man for man should be the guiding principle of human conduct.

CONCISE GENERAL ASTRONOMY. By the Rev. O. R. Walkey and Dr. H. Subramania Iyer, Trivandrum.

The book is a very interesting and instructive publication and serves as a complement to the text-book of Astronomy published by Dr. H. Subramania Iyer. It is concise, although it traverses from ancient astronomy of prehistoric times down to the multitudinous problems arising out of modern astrophysics.

ANNIE BESANT: A WOMAN AND LEADER. being reminiscences of Sri Prakasa, B.A., LL.B. (Cantab), BAR.-AT-LAW, M.L.A., (Central). Published by the Theosophical Publishing House, Adyar, Re. 1-12. (Available of G. A. Natesan & Co. Madras). Mr. Sri Prakasa, the son of Dr. Bhagawan Das, who was for long associated with Mrs. Besant in the management of the Central Hindu College, Benares, came to know that remarkable lady even from his childhood. And in this book of reminiscences, he gives an unusually vivid and intimate portrait of Mrs. Besant as she was in her daily life. She was apparently one of those rare persons who improve on closer acquaintance. Whether or not one agreed with all her views and enthusiasms, one cannot deny that she inspired respect and called forth affection wherever she went. Mr. Sri Prakasa, though far from being a devoted disciple, came under that overwhelming spell. And in this volume, he has tried with a simplicity and sincerity that deserve high praise to recreate for us the fascination of her personality. No one who is interested in Mrs. Besant can afford to neglect this revealing work.

ECONOMIC RESOURCES BOARD: STATUTORY AND OTHER NOTICES. FOURTH SERIES. Manager of Publications, Delhi. Rs. 2-4.

This publication, the fourth of the Series, is intended to facilitate reference to Statutory Notifications and other Notices issued by the Government of India and the Reserve Bank of India in matters relating to the Trade and Commerce of British India in connection with the war. It covers the period from the 1st of June 1940 to the 31st of August 1940.

CONCEPTION OF MATTER ACCORDING TO NYAYA-VAISESHIKA. By Umesh Misra, M.A., D.Litt. Allahabad University, Bank Road, Allahabad. Rs. 6.

Works in English on the Nyaya Vaisesika are comparatively rare. Keith's is authoritative but very condensed. Faddegon's book (to which there is no reference unfortunately in the present work) is critical and detailed but not as comprehensive as might be desired. The book under review provides a more comprehensive and clear account than either of these, though in critical value it falls short of either in some respects. Planned originally as a thesis for the D.Litt., it has been revised partly to give effect to the suggestions of the examiners and partly to include a chapter on Atman, the treatment of which, though not coming strictly within the scheme of the book, was considered a necessary supplement to the discussion of "Matter". There is abundant evidence of careful painstaking scholarship, and the documentation is very full.

THE NEW YEAR BOOK, 1941. Edited by J. Guha Thakurta. S. C. Sarkar & Sons, Ltd., Calcutta.

The need for a handy and reliable book of reference for the lay reader and the businessman alike can hardly be over-estimated. Mr. Thakurta's compilation is essentially a book of general knowledge containing facts and statistics mostly taken from official and reliable sources. The sections on war and sport are specially contributed by competent writers. The Who's Who is rather meagre, but in due course it will doubtless be made more comprehensive. The copious index in the opening pages facilitates easy reference for a book of such varied facts and information.

THE MADRAS GENERAL SALES TAX ACT: A STUDY. By B. V. Narayanaswami Naidu and S. Thiruvengadathan. Annamalai University, Annamalai Nagar.

The volume under review embodies the results of an enquiry conducted into the working of the Madras Sales Tax in the South Arcot District in the first six months of its operation from October 1939.

The first six sections of the book are devoted to giving an account of the sales tax in foreign countries and India and to a consideration of the purposes of the levy as well as the criticisms to which it gave rise. The authors take the view that the purpose of the tax was the financing of prohibition and not fiscal reconstruction.

The problem of the sales tax is in essence the problem of its administration. The present enquiry has revealed that not only are there different types of evasion which are sure to disappear with the closing of legislative loop-holes, but the difficulties of double taxation are also real and most noticeable in the ground-nut oil industry, where the levy of the tax on the sale of oil and cake has led unfortunately to the depression of wages. Relief is due to this industry by way of exemption from taxation of the sale of oil and cake.

The authors themselves have admitted a number of limitations, viz., the restricted area and period of enquiry, changes in costs and prices since the outbreak of the war and inadequate data on many points which might, perhaps, vitiate the general character of the conclusions drawn; nevertheless the present work being the first investigation of its kind on the actual working of the tax and of a series to follow deserves a warm welcome.

1. **TALKS WITH SWAMI VIVEKANANDA** Re. 1-8.
2. **PRACTICAL VEDANTA.** By Swami Vivekananda. As. 10.
3. **MODERN INDIA.** By Vivekananda. As. 4.
4. **SPIRITUAL TALKS.** By A Disciple. Re. 1-8. Publishers, Advaita Ashrama, Alameda, Calcutta.

The four books under review give us a very clear and comprehensive account of the spiritual personality and teaching of the saint-philosopher of India, Swami Vivekananda. The great spiritual movement of Ramakrishna is best expressed by the Swamiji. The other movements of Hinduism like the Brahmo Samaj and the Arya Samaj have violently attacked certain of the rickety institutions of the Hindu social order, such as the caste system, untouchability, child marriage, etc. The Ramakrishna Movement is not against all that is ancient. It is out to do away with the evils of the system and are not against the system itself. The teaching of the Swamiji is the attitude of a wise conservative, "a disposition to preserve what is good in tradition and an ability to improve on tradition".

BOOKS RECEIVED

THE OXFORD PAMPHLETS. (Further additions to the Series). i. **WHAT ACTS OF WAR ARE JUSTIFIABLE** by A. L. Goodhart; ii. **LIES AS ALLIES OR HITLER AT WAR** by Viscount Maugham; iii. **SOUTH AFRICA** by E. A. Walker; iv. **THE ARABS** by H. A. R. Gibb; v. **THE ORIGINS OF THE WAR** by E. L. Woodward. Oxford University Press, Bombay and Madras.

INDIAN SHIPPING: A case study of the working of Imperialism. By Asoka Mehta. Published by N. T. Shroff, French Bridge, Bombay.

PRAYERS TO SRI JAGADAMBA CHAMUNDESWARI. By L. Iswari Dasa. Bangalore Press, Bangalore.

BAPU. By Ganshyandas Birla. Translated into Tamil by A. Subbiah. Lalitha & Co., 289, Linga Chetty St., Madras.

Hyderabad

THE NIZAM'S WARNING

H. E. H. the Nizam has issued a *firman*, through a *Gazette Extraordinary* warning speakers at religious meetings to desist from making irrelevant speeches and reciting poems of a political character. Such objectionable activities, says the *firman*, should be abandoned in these days of war when peace and tranquillity are in danger. Otherwise, restrictive rules would have to be applied to such meetings.

EDUCATION FUND

On the recommendation of the Executive Council, the Nizam has sanctioned a proposal for the creation in the State of an educational fund of rupees two lakhs called Madras Deccan Fund in memory of the mother of the Nizam.

The income accruing from the investment of the Fund will be utilised in granting educational scholarships to boys and girls without any distinction of caste or creed.

STATE RAILWAY WORKSHOPS

The Nizam's State Railway Workshops have been placed on a manufacturing basis to produce war materials in co-ordination with the Public Works Department. The Air Transport Department of the Railway is concentrating on turning out trained cadre staff sufficient to constitute the nucleus of a flight unit, while the Road Transport Department has undertaken to train mechanic-drivers for the Indian Army.

THE NIZAM'S GIFT TO ALIGARH

To perpetuate the memory of his mother, His Exalted Highness the Nizam, who is Chancellor of the Muslim University of Aligarh, has offered to bear the cost of a mosque at the university. The mosque will be named Majid Zabra after the Nizam's mother.

Mysore

SURPLUS BUDGET FOR MYSORE

Thanks to the wise husbanding of the State's resources, the total revenues of the Mysore State have been progressively increasing year after year. It must, indeed, be a matter of satisfaction to the Government that along with the bold industrial policy involving an expenditure of several lakhs and the initiation of several new schemes calculated to increase the prosperity of the ryots, there has been surplus since 1936.

The total revenues for 1941-42, according to the budget estimates prepared for the Representative Assembly which met on June 10, come up to rupees four and a half crores. All the departments of Government will be well provided with funds, and adequate provision has been made for the continuance of the Jog Falls Hydro-electric Scheme.

A special feature of the budget for the new year will be the allotment of additional funds for the expansion of primary education.

NEW MYSORE MINISTRY

Under the constitutional reforms embodied in the Government of Mysore Act, 1910, the Council of Ministers was constituted on May 5. The Council is composed of the following:—

Dewan: Rajamantrapravina N. Madhava Rao. Ministers: Rajamantrapravina K. V. Anantaraman, Rajasevaprakashta A. V. Ramnathan, Mr. H. B. Gundappa Gowda and Mr. J. Mahomed Imam. At the Secretariat the Ministers were sworn in by Mr. B. T. Kesava Ayyangar, Chief Secretary to Government in the Dewan's Chambers.

Baroda

CO-OPERATION IN WAR EFFORTS

His Highness the Maharaja Sahab has placed all the resources of the State at the disposal of His Majesty the King-Emperor for the successful prosecution of the war. Permission is, therefore, given by Government for recruitment on voluntary basis of technical and clerical personnel required by the Government of India from among the subjects of the State, including Government servants provided their services can be spared by the head of the department concerned without detriment to the requirements of the State. The general lien of Government servants whose services can be lent to the Government of India will be kept on their present posts.

The period of service under the Government of India will be considered as service in the State for all purposes.

VOCATIONAL EDUCATION

A training school has been established at Deodarda by the Government with a view to improve the status of the Thakarda, Rabari, Waghri and other backward classes in Mehsana district by educating their children. Education is imparted in the institution in agriculture, poultry and cattle-breeding, carpentry, smithy and weaving as well as primary education so that on leaving the institution the student is able to carry on his vocation independently.

The boarders belonging to these classes are not required to pay fees or any other expenses. All arrangements for their boarding and lodging are provided by the Government. A dispensary with a doctor is also maintained. Moreover, the boys are trained in scout for which uniforms are supplied to them.

Travancore

ECONOMIC SURVEY OF TRAVANCORE

What is claimed to be the first of its kind in India, namely, an economic survey, has been started in Travancore and the work has been going on simultaneously in the different parts of the State. The present investigation will be confined to families living in certain typical and representative areas chosen from the different parts of the State. The State is divided in three zones—the Lowland, the Midland and the Highland. Besides these three broad groups, the municipal towns, marketing centres and industrial areas have also been kept in view in the choice of representative units for investigation. A set of 70 questions has been incorporated in a key schedule under the heads of size of the family, wealth and income, expenditure, etc.

INDIA'S LONGEST CONCRETE ROAD

Constructed at a cost of Rs. 14 lakhs and in the record time of 18 months, the 54-mile road from Trivandrum to Cape Comorin with 45 miles of concrete surfacing and nine miles of tarred road at the ends is India's first and longest road. This road starting from Trivandrum passes through beautiful scenery on either side and leads up to the grand spectacle at Cape Comorin of the confluence of the Arabian Sea, the Bay of Bengal and the Indian Ocean. It offers to the motorist a smooth riding surface and a pleasant run free from that occasional bugbear bumps.

TRAVANCORE BAN ON KHAKSARS

Khaksars and all associations or body of persons formed in furtherance of the objects of the Khaksar movement have been declared to be unlawful throughout Travancore under the Criminal Law Amendment Act.

Cochin

RELIEF MEASURES IN COCHIN

Urgent relief measures have been sanctioned by the Cochin Government to the people who have been rendered homeless as a result of the recent cyclonic storms in the State. Government have sanctioned a sum of Rs. 2,70,000. A committee has been constituted to supervise the work.

FRANCHISE REVISION

The Cochin Government have passed orders regretting their inability to accept a resolution of the Legislative Council, recommending the appointment of a committee with a majority of elected members, to revise the existing system of franchise, in particular the system of special communal electorate.

COCHIN FISHING INDUSTRY

Orders have been passed extending the term of the Fishery Research Officer, Mr. E. Sankara Menon, till the end of this Malabar year.

The Research Officer has been engaged in collecting and identifying edible and marketable species of fish and exploring ways and means of organising the fishing industry.

Indore

LABOUR TROUBLE IN INDORE

The Holkar Government has decided to appoint a Committee to inquire into the conditions of labourers in Indore and in particular to investigate the recent rise in their cost of living. Recently there was serious trouble between a number of labourers and the police; for nearly a fortnight there were unpleasant incidents ending with a clash in which firing was resorted to. On these incidents an inquiry has been demanded by certain local leaders.

Jodhpur

REFORMS FOR JODHPUR

A *Gazette Extraordinary* states that His Highness has approved the proposal relating to the establishment of a Representative Advisory Assembly consisting of forty-one elected and twenty-three nominated members. Twenty-nine members will be from urban and rural constituencies. Of the nominated members, nine will be non-official and fourteen official.

The Assembly has been given full and free right of interpellation on the floor of the House with regard to varied subjects connected with public utility and welfare. In urban and rural constituencies, the franchise will be elected ones. Elections shall take place on the basis of electoral rolls prepared for the Jodhpur Municipality. The life of the Assembly is two years.

Kapurthala

KAPURTHALA MINISTER

A *communiqué* issued by the Kapurthala Government says that the Maharaja of Kapurthala has sanctioned extension in the term of office of Sardar Sant Singh, Minister for Law and Order, for a year with effect from the date of expiry of the present term.

Rewa

REWA RENT REMISSIONS

His Highness the Maharaja of Rewa has granted liberal remissions in rent on account of the damage to crops due to the scarcity of rain and hailstorms. The remissions range from 50 per cent. to 12½ per cent. according to the damage done.

INDIANS OVERSEAS

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South Africa

INDIANS IN SOUTH AFRICA

The change of status of India's representative in South Africa from Agent-General to the Government of India to High Commissioner for India is explained by Sir B. Rama Rau, the last of our Agents-General in that Continent. It was the result of the appointment of a High Commissioner for Canada in the Union. The representative of the Government of India in the Union will hereafter have the same diplomatic status as that of India's partners in the Commonwealth.

Sir B. Rama Rau goes on to point out:

It was, however, recognised that for historical reasons the Government of India's representative in the Union had to undertake somewhat wider duties than those of the diplomatic representatives of other members of the Commonwealth. The original appointment of an Agent of the Government of India in South Africa was a direct consequence of the Cape Town Agreement of 1927, which was entered into by the two Governments in an attempt to solve the problems connected with the presence of a large Indian population in this country. It was considered that the presence of a representative of the Government of India in this country would secure continuous and effective co-operation between the two Governments and would help to implement the terms of the Cape Town Agreement. It has been the constant endeavour of my predecessors as well as myself to work to that end, and I wish to state authoritatively that the change in status would make no difference whatever to the duties of the High Commissioners arising from the terms of the Cape Town Agreement.

The opportunity has, however, been taken of defining clearly the position in regard to representations by organisations of Indian Union Nationals in this country. The High Commissioner will not accompany deputations of such political organisations or be their spokesman on matters affecting Indian interests in the Union. These bodies will hereafter make their representations direct to the authorities concerned as they have a right to do as nationals of this country. This does not, however, mean that the High Commissioner will be unable to express his views to the Union Government on matters falling within the terms of the Cape Town Agreement or on other matters concerning the two Governments. When he expresses his views to the Union Government on such matters, it will, however, be with the authority and support of the Government of India whose representative he is.

He then explains the nature of the problem affecting Indians over there and how "there has never been any serious divergence of opinion in India. Europeans and Hindus, Moslems and Christians, all think and feel alike on this subject".

The various steps taken by the Union Government from time to time under the pressure of successive Agents-General for the uplift of the Indian community are then enumerated. Something has been done but more remains to be done. That is the burden of the Agent-General's statement on the subject. Sir Rama Rau concludes with an appeal to the Europeans to face facts and do the right thing by the Indians. He is convinced that many of the disabilities to which Indians are subject are not in a large measure the result of a deliberate perverse attempt to exploit them and to keep them down, but to a misunderstanding of the facts which in its turn have led to fears and prejudices which are entirely groundless.

With the closing of Indian immigration to this country, any danger which may ever have existed in the political or economic sphere has totally disappeared. The Indian community will be in the future, as in the past, mainly a community of small farmers, market-gardeners, labourers and petty shopkeepers. An insignificant number of professional and businessmen emerge from their ranks, but the vast majority do little more than make a bare living.

The British Empire, the vast majority of whose citizens are not of European origin, is fighting not only for its continued existence, but in the belief that the only hope for free men of all races and colours lies in the defeat of Hitler and all that he stands for. I know that the people of Natal share this belief and will make any sacrifice to secure its fulfilment. Is it too much to hope that as a contribution to our cause, they will lift their eyes to a wider horizon, envisage for a moment the scale of the present conflict and determine to do what they can to ease the lot of their Indian fellow citizens? A gesture of goodwill on their part would, I am sure, have its repercussions not only here in Natal, but in India, which with its almost unlimited resources may well become the arsenal of freedom.

Burma

EMIGRATION TO BURMA

The Government of India and the Government of Burma, says a *Press Communique*, are anxious, if possible, to reach an agreed solution of the various problems relating to Indian immigration into Burma. As a result of preliminary discussions, both the Governments are of opinion that a stage has been reached where personal negotiations offer a reasonable prospect of success. The Government of India have, therefore, gladly accepted the invitation of the Government of Burma to send a delegation to Burma.

Sir Girja Shanker Bajpai, the leader of delegation which left for Burma on June 12, in the course of a Press interview, said that the present negotiations were more or less of an exploratory nature and it was their aim to secure as complete an exchange of views as possible on the many complicated questions connected with Indian immigration into Burma. He was not in a position to say whether the present negotiations would result in an immediate agreement between the two countries. That would purely depend on the questions raised, the terms offered by Burma, and the spirit of accommodation and understanding displayed by the Burma Government.

North Africa

INDIAN VICTIMS IN AFRICA

Indian troops used machine-guns with devastating effect when, during the last stages of the battle of Amba Alagi, they attacked Italian Blackshirts high up a 12,000-foot mountain. Finally, a white flag appeared. The Indians ceased fire and had approached within 30 yards of the enemy when the Blackshirts flung a shower of grenades. The troops withdrew from a difficult position suffering some casualties.

Abyssinia

THE NEGUS AND INDIAN TROOPS

Emperor Haile Selassie has sent a special personal message of thanks, says a Press Note, to the Indian divisions which have so greatly helped to overthrow Italian rule in Abyssinia:

"I am well aware," runs the message, "of the sympathy which the Indian public and the Press of India have shown for my people throughout the years of their misfortune and oppression.

I am grateful for it, and I am even grateful for the magnificent part which Indian troops have recently played in the liberation of my country.

Their training in mountain warfare enabled them at Cheren and afterwards at Amba Alagi to scale precipitous heights and to capture positions which seemed impregnable. Their courage in the face of an enemy superior in numbers and armed with the most modern weapons, has excited the admiration of all who know what they have done."

Syria

INDIAN TROOPS IN SYRIA

A Press Note states that Indian troops, along with their British and Free French comrades are playing a prominent part in Syria. Already Indian troops have effectively participated in the advance on Damascus. They have shown great dash and resourcefulness in capturing important positions on the way, and by a particularly daring raid they prevented the demolition of a vital railway bridge though opposed and counter-attacked by superior Vichy forces.

On the morning of 15th June a brilliant attack was executed and resulted in the capture of the village of Kiswe and an important hill beyond called Tel Kissowe. This action helped materially to clear the main road to Damascus.



TOPICS From PERIODICALS



THE BATTLE FOR OIL

Modern mechanised warfare depends mainly on a plentiful supply of oil. It is, indeed, the key-note of this war. Without it, says Mr. Wentworth Day in the *World Review*, Hitler's victories are empty, his aeroplanes cannot fly, his ships cannot sail and his submarines cannot swim.

Germany cannot produce even enough for her own peace-time requirements. Italy produces less than nine per cent. of her normal needs. Japan, worst off of all three, has only one-tenth of her civil needs to call her own. All three rely on outside sources which are at the mercy of the Seas and the British Navy.

Hence the march into Rumania, the prelude to a mighty land war in the Near East, now lowering like a thunder cloud upon the horizons of Palestine and Persia. For, the Near East is the only part of the world within striking distance of Germany which can provide all the oil which she and her allies require.

Germany produces relatively little oil. In spite of her expensive ingenuity, her synthetic processes and hydrogenation plants, she cannot produce more than five million tons a year—two millions less than her normal peace-time requirements and many more millions less than her needs for full-scale war on land, air and sea.

The stocks captured in Belgium, France, Holland, Denmark and Norway have been badly damaged by the doings of the R. A. F. Russia absorbs practically all her own oil. At the most she cannot spare more than half a million tons for export. Polish oil is limited and diminishing. Rumania's output of six and a quarter million tons is steadily declining and is hardly enough to feed Greece and Bulgaria which depend on it for their supply.

The maximum oil potentiality of all these countries put together are no more than ten and a quarter million tons. Even in peace time these countries, excluding Russia, used twenty-three million tons. They cannot run on much

less today when the demands have multiplied tremendously.

So Hitler is up against the inescapable fact that Europe as a whole is short of oil, that his mechanised forces cannot be put to their fullest uses until oil is obtained from outside sources. They counted on a lightning victory in a lightning war. For that their production and reserves were probably sufficient. But the lightning war has flickered out.

The Near East offers the solution to Hitler's difficulties. Between them the countries of the Near East are capable of producing at least twenty million tons of oil a year. Hitler is already faced with the problem of finding that missing nine million tons a year.

Hitler is trying to use the conquered regions of the Balkans as a jumping-off ground for the rich oil-fields of the Near East.

For Iran has an output of ten million tons a year; Iraq has a capacity of four million tons a year; Bahrein now produces nine hundred thousand tons, but capable of producing and dealing with one and a half million tons; Saudi Arabia has an output of six hundred thousand tons (the mere fringe of its possibilities); Egypt produces six hundred thousand tons and prospecting for more.

There is oil in the tiny kingdom of Kuwait at the head of the Persian Gulf, and at Abadan are the biggest oil refineries in the world. At Port Suez are oil storage tanks capable of bunkering half the British Navy. Haifa, in Palestine, with its pipe line to the Mosul oil fields receives and refines two million tons a year. Meanwhile, Great Britain can feed herself, her armies, navy and air force with all the oil she requires from America and the Dutch West Indies. The world's biggest tanker fleet, controlled by Britain, (six million tons of shipping) brings it through the Suez Canal. That is why "Egypt is the vital link in this vast game of strategy about to be played in the Near East for the ultimate prize of oil."

Thus, from every point of view, the Axis is forced to go South-East, to the kingdoms of the desert for the oil which is the life-blood of its war machines.

THE BEGINNINGS OF GREAT MEN

The *Parade*, extracting from a London contemporary, gives instances of men who have risen to greatness from obscurity. It is an interesting revelation of unsuspected greatness.

First rate ability, it says, often lies fallow because no one has turned the sod to reveal the bursting seed of power and imagination beneath. With encouragement and opportunity, most lives will develop rapidly into fruition.

When a childish brain is sluggish, the school-master should not brand the unfortunate as an idiot and make him the laughing-stock of his schoolmates. A different technique is necessary, for the dolt of today may be the genius of tomorrow. History teems with examples. James Watt was the butt of Mr. McAdam's school, and G. Bismarck, co-discoverer of radium, was considered so stupid that his parents took him from school.

In Napoleon's class were forty-two children, and his position was forty-one; but he changed the map of Europe and is regarded today as a military genius. Sir Isaac Newton too was lowest but one in his Form and failed in geometry because he did not do his problem as the master wanted them done, but he and Gauss are reckoned the two greatest mathematicians since the time of Archimedes.

Failing in examinations also signifies nothing. Some get panic stricken.

Einstein, our greatest mathematician, failed in mathematics in his entrance examination in Zurich University and Anatole France could not pass his B. A. Emerson, too, used to get horribly boggled when confronted with figures.

The mass of accumulated data at our disposal leads us to suspect that the 'infant prodigy' type of brain is not the finest, and that slow maturing brains are better for hard, long work.

Alexander von Humboldt, for instance, was regarded as subnormal at school, and George Eliot only learned to read with the very greatest difficulty.

Any list of famous men who were dunces at school in youth will include William Shakespeare, the late Lord Reading, Keats who was expelled because he was a dunce, Lord Clive, Mr. Baldwin, Thomas Carlyle and Sir Ralph Harwood, financial secretary to King Edward VIII. When he was at school, the master used to say 'Harwood, I am going to promote you to the peerage,' and with that he'd write on the blackboard in large letters for all the class to read 'Barren Harwood.'

THE SUEZ CANAL

"The Suez Maritime Canal shall always be free and open in time of war as in time of peace to every vessel of commerce or of war without distinction of flag. Consequently, the High Contracting Parties agree not in any way to interfere with the free use of the Canal in time of war as in time of peace. The Canal shall never be subjected to the exercise of the right of blockade," says the Article 1 of the Convention signed by the Great Powers which met at Constantinople in 1888. But during the Great War of 1914-1918, as a result of the intensive German submarine activity in Mediterranean, much of the Eastern traffic was diverted along the Cape route.

Writing on the same analogous position created by the present war, Mr. C. K. Srinivasan observes in the *Federated India*:

"The Kaiser's dream of a *Drang Nach Osten* has caught the imagination of the Nazis and the battles that are now fought in Egypt and the Near East may well eventually develop into the battle of Suez. The defence of the Suez Canal Zone is virtually in the hands of England, and she is determined to keep the Canal free from enemy action. The total length of the Canal is 101 miles, and it has shortened the voyage from Europe to India by about 5,000 miles. Out of the 6,171 vessels which passed through the Suez Canal in 1938, 3,000 ships belonged to Britain and they accounted for 50.48 per cent. of the total tonnage. The Suez may well be regarded as the Western outpost of India's defence and on its safety depends the line of communication between Britain and India, the Far East and Australia."

THE CONFLICT IN IRAQ

Prof. Lajpat Rai Nair, writing in the *Tribune*, observes that the present trouble in Iraq was not unexpected. For, ever since Sayid Rashid El Gilani staged the April *coup d'état* with the help of the military junta, most people anticipated some sort of trouble on account of his flagrant pro-Nazi attitude. It was on account of this reason that both Turkey and Great Britain refused to recognise the administration, in spite of Sayid Rashid Ali's open declaration to respect the Anglo-Iraqi Treaty of Alliance and his assurance to carry out the terms of the Treaty in a spirit of friendship and cordiality.

The history of modern Iraq is briefly told:

Iraq is the first graduate of the League of Nations' tutorial school for backward peoples. For over seven centuries, before the last Great War, it formed a part of the vast but inefficient Turkish Empire, but during the war the British troops drove the Turks completely out of the country and many people thought that Iraq would be annexed to the British Empire, either as a colony or as a protectorate. At the end of the war, Great Britain found it difficult to retain Iraq as a colony on account of the Allied rivalries, American opposition and the growth of Arab political consciousness. Ultimately it was decided to entrust Iraq to Great Britain as a mandate.

The history of Iraq upto 1932, when she was freed from this tutelage, was the story of the working to its consummation of General Smuts' plan of mandate.

It was due to British intercession that Iraq got the coveted territory of Mosul, but as soon as the acquisition was complete, she tried to get rid of the very regime which had won her that prize. The nascent Arab Nationalism, in all its fury, came into conflict with the Mandate Administration; British control was gradually withdrawn and Iraqi officials steadily replaced the British, who remained in the country only as advisers. The Anglo-Iraqi relations practically came to a breaking-point in 1929, and the political crisis resulted in the well-known treaty of 1930. In September 1932, the mandate was terminated and on October 3, 1932, Iraq was admitted to the League of Nations as an independent State.

At the outbreak of the war in 1939, the Premier, Nuri Said, gave three days'

notice to 162 Germans in the country to quit, but the Italian agents remained to carry on Axis propaganda and exploited the situation.

On Italy's entry into the war, Rashid Ali refused to break relations with that country and his *coup* last March was to a great extent supported by their machinations.

Iraq for ages has formed the great high-road between the East and the West, Iraq occupies an important position in the British imperial communications; Baghdad is an important station on the main British air route to India and the East. Iraq is also a vital stage in Germany's dream of *drang nach Osten*. The Berlin-Baghdad Railway, first visualized by the Kaiser, 40 years ago, still remains the main weapon in the Teutonic mind to dominate the Middle East. Moreover, Iraq occupies a strategic position in the Middle Eastern countries, and if Hitler can once capture it, it would be easy for him to control Turkey, Palestine and threaten Suez, Iran and even India.

The present trouble in Iraq is a part of the German drive in the Middle East aiming to seize the rich Mosul oil fields, and to use Iraq as a base for an attack on the Suez.

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N. GOPALA IYER,

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EGYPT'S TREATY WITH BRITAIN

"Egypt has a treaty with Britain and she will stick to it," said Hussain Sevey Pasha, Egypt's new Premier, on assuming office in November last. Egypt's determination to abide by the terms of the Anglo-Egyptian alliance is being fulfilled in letter and in spirit. A writer in the *Illustrated War News* explains the implications of that alliance.

Britain's treaty with Egypt was concluded in 1936, but since 1883, when Britain established a virtual protectorate over the country, the relations between Britain and Egypt have been peculiarly close. From 1883 to 1907 the real ruler of Egypt was Lord Cromer, though his nominal position was merely that of British Agent and Consul-General. Cromer's brilliant administration produced order out of chaos, and in particular he re-established the finances, developed agriculture, improved irrigation and raised the standard of living of the peasants, who now as always make up the majority of the population. Up to 1914, Egypt was still, at least in name, a part of the Turkish dominions, but on Turkey's entry into the war a British protectorate was declared in December of that year. The Khedive was deposed and succeeded by a nominee of the British as Sultan. Following the war a strong Nationalist movement developed, and in 1922, Sultan Fuad was acknowledged as King. Then on August 26, 1936, Egypt and Britain signed a treaty of mutual alliance, and Egyptian independence was fully recognised.

By the terms of this treaty, Britain withdrew the British troops from Cairo and Egypt with the exception of the Suez Canal Zone. She was also permitted to use Alexandria and Port Said as naval bases for the time being, while the Egyptian Government undertook to construct a number of roads, bridges and railways so as to afford easy communication between the Canal zone, Cairo, Alexandria and Mersa Matruh on the edge of the western Desert. The Sudan was recognized as an Anglo-Egyptian condominium (joint control of one state by two other states). Britain further undertook the defence of Egypt, while Egypt for her part gave an undertaking to give Britain all the help in her power in the case of war.

That help, particularly in the way of providing bases for Britain's military, naval, and air effort against Italy has been readily afforded, and on the outbreak of war, Egypt at once severed diplomatic relations with Germany and in due course with Italy. As yet, however, Egypt is not at war with the Axis Powers although since September 13, an Italian army of invasion has been operating on Egyptian soil in the extreme west.

In a recent interview with *Reuter*, the Egyptian Prime Minister declared after referring to his talks with Mr. Eden, the British Foreign Minister, that Egypt has fulfilled all her obligations under the Anglo-Egyptian treaty.

With the mutual goodwill, which prevails between the two countries who are so closely linked together, no difference will arise. We shall march on together towards ultimate victory.

INDIAN SHIPPING INDUSTRY

"It was only in the course of a century and a half that not only did India lose her naval supremacy but she degenerated into the most backward maritime nation in the world," says Mr. Samarendranath Sen in the June issue of the *Modern Review*. India is now at the mercy of the foreign shipping companies for almost the whole of her export and import trade. Here and there one or two Indian Companies like the Scindia Steam Navigation Company are working; but they cannot cope up with the large demands on the industry.

Not to speak of our overseas trade whose volume is dwindling every day like anything, even it has profoundly affected our coastal trade since many ships engaged in the coastal traffic have been withdrawn to meet the immediate demands of military operation. Large cargoes of rice are awaiting shipment in Burma for want of proper tonnage. What strikes us most is the discovery of the fact that the lessons of the last war have been completely lost upon us. On the other hand, the development of shipping in Canada, Australia and other countries in recent years bears a striking contrast to what obtains in India. The war impetus has already accelerated their pace beyond all expectation. Canada already possesses 16 shipbuilding yards where larger ships are being built. Besides, there are 18 other shipyards to build smaller trading vessels. Australia has recently drawn up a scheme to build 13 patrol vessels. And with vast resources and raw materials necessary for such enterprise, India does not possess a single shipbuilding yard today.

This in a nutshell is the history of the Indian shipping industry.

From what little has been said, it will not be difficult to follow the present pitiable plight of such a potential industry in India. This offers an instance of those industries which cannot thrive without a favourable Government intervention and we cannot follow why the Government supposed to cater to the needs of this country should insist on pursuing such a reluctant policy with regard to Indian shipping industry.

WAR-TIME SOCIALISM

A war of the magnitude in which Britain is engaged today has naturally had its reaction on the political and social life of England and the Empire. Faced with the emergency and intent upon a victory both for Britain and for the British way of life, Conservatives, Liberals and Labour men, says the *Spectator*, have got together at the practical job of running the war and the country without any sense of conflicting party purposes or incompatible ideals.

In the common task of administration, they are finding that to an unexpected extent they think the same thoughts and talk the same language. Not merely do they appear to be at one in the desire to make the country efficient for war but they are at one in recognising that this depends on efforts to promote equality of sacrifice and the reduction of privilege. The differences which were magnified in party politics assume their truer proportions and the things which a nation fundamentally liberal in character desired have come to the fore.

Under these circumstances and under the stress of war, it ought to be recognised that a social revolution has actually been accomplished, more complete and more sudden than anything dreamed of by Sir Stafford Cripps in his most revolutionary moments. For the purpose of conducting the War, Britain has been turned temporarily into a Socialistic State, in which private capitalistic enterprise on a vast scale has been suspended or controlled.

The railways, shipping and shipbuilding are under State control. Productive concerns have been taken over by the State, or their production immediately controlled. Factories manufacturing for civilian consumption are to be thinned out by compulsory rationalisation. Excess profits in business are confiscated. Workers in the docks in the great shipping centres are to become the direct employees of the State. The trades unions for their part have sacrificed hard-won and treasured privileges and the transference of power is subject to control. In every sphere of industrial, commercial and social life, continues the Journal,

the State has stepped in to plan and organise the whole life of the community with a view to maximum efficiency in producing equipment for war, in providing and distributing essential commodities

for the people and ensuring their safety, comfort and even, in certain cases, means of recreation. In these tremendous feats of war-time socialism, individuals of all parties and classes have co-operated, not because they wanted socialism, but because they agreed about certain measures that were necessary and took the shortest means under war-time conditions for getting them adopted.

In this unexampled effort, there is no doubt in any reasonable person's mind about what we are fighting for. Nor is there much doubt about the kind of things that should be done to promote the welfare of the people whilst the struggle is on, or to make them equal to it.

This unanimity, the sign that there is behind all the normal disagreements a fundamental agreement about essentials is something that should be guarded as long as there is danger, and through all the critical period of reconstruction. At such a moment as this, nothing could be more wrong-headed and egotistical than attempts to exploit pre-war prejudice or out-of-date party cries, endangering the hope of quick and far-reaching reform by insisting on strife rather than co-operation. Still more mischievous are attempts to obscure the nation's war aims by identifying them with peculiarly party aims, or with aims which may be legitimately advocated for this country alone, but are not the concerns of the rest of the world.

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April '42.

THE NAZI NEW ORDER

The National Socialist Movement in Germany is steadily realising most of its Pan-German visions. Thanks to Hitler's method, he has achieved, says the *New Review*, much of his Pan-German programme:

he has given Germany a power and a unity she had never known; he has brushed aside the Versailles Treaty, has overthrown France and he is pushing south-eastwards. He might soon take in hand the establishment of his 'New Order' on the Continent.

What this 'New Order' means was outlined by Dr. Funk, the Minister of Economics; its fundamental postulate assumes that Europe's economic life will centre round Germany.

Not that a Customs Union or free-trade regime is dreamed of, but rather a system of economic regions so distributed and organised as to serve the requirements and especially the supremacy of German economics. In predominantly agricultural countries, more particularly in the east and south-east of Europe, industry would be discouraged and even discontinued; at most, industries complementary to German industries would be permitted. Nazis do not aim at impoverishing these countries; they may permit them to turn out goods they are best fitted to produce, since a certain standard of prosperity would improve these markets for Nazi goods and a scientific localisation of industries could only favour Germany in the long run. Even political contentment would greatly facilitate the overlord's task. Like Manchesterian capitalists or African slave-owners, Nazidom is righteously prepared to throw bread crumbs and sops to the underdog States. But the military supremacy and security of the Reich must be the overriding consideration of economic policy; the continental bloc must crystallize round the Reich.

As to the unemployment problem, it would be solved according to proved Nazi methods: advances of money to employers and to State enterprises; creation of credit up to the limit of inflation.

These methods have succeeded in the Reich during the period of war preparations; but would they be a success in a disarmed Germany and a demilitarized Europe? How to demobilize a nation without provoking an economic crisis? And even if a victorious Germany could dump her output on her satellite-States, what about these? Possibly this is a minor consideration of Nazism.

As far as trade is concerned, the 'New Order' would make Germany the Clearing

House for Europe. The *mark* would be the leading but not the sole currency; national money with a fixed ratio to the *mark* would facilitate the little internal transactions of the satellites.

But in national or international dealings, currency would be permanently divorced from gold and work as a thoroughly managed money; it would rest solidly on the rigid dogma of Knapp: 'The currency does not depend for its value on its gold cover but on the value which the State gives it.'

Already the Nazi plan is being pushed with vigour in the conquered countries of Europe. Scandinavia, Holland and Belgium are having a taste of it, while the Nazi order is being thrust into south-eastern Europe at the price of the Balkans.

THE HINDU VIEW OF ART

In an article in the *Hindustan Review*, Gayanacharya A. C. Pandey observes that every nation tinges its art with a colour peculiar to itself.

It has its own art notions, conventions, traditions, literature and ideals and form of representation—mystical, meaningful or meaningless. The ancient art of India is meaningful but mystical to the present Indian generation.

Two grave accusations levied against the Indian art are: first, it is unreal; and second, it is unfaithful to nature, i.e., unnatural.

Art is limitless; it knows no barrier. Any attempt, therefore, to confine art within the four walls of nature and reality as perceived by human senses definitely shows the narrowness of one's understanding and mind.

A painting is an image of the painter's thought. He puts the ideal of his thought in a real form. That is art. Art is real.

Nature remains to the Hindu artist a veil, not a revelation, and it is the business of the Pandits and Artists to see what lies behind the veil.

Hin'u metaphysics considers three spheres of existence, viz., first, Kamaloka, the sphere of sensuous appearances; second, Rupa-loka, the sphere of ideologies; and third, Arupa-loka, the sphere beyond form (or, of cosmic birth). The Hindu artist portrays the ideal by representing the Rupa-loka with the help of Kama-loka,

SYRIA: THE LAND AND ITS PEOPLE

Syria, the present scene of conflict in Asia, is the subject of an interesting article by Major G. M. Coombs in the *Manchester Guardian*. The Major gives a detailed physical and ethnological description of the country.

Syria Proper is about as large as England and Wales. An important part of it is a coastal plain, which is as narrow as five miles in the north widening to twenty in the south.

In its general relief, Syria presents four sections each parallel with the coast—a coastal plain, a limestone ride varying from 7,000 to 10,000 feet over sea-level, then an upland reaching 4,000 feet in the centre and, finally, another limestone ridge.

Both rail and road communications are good.

Syria has over 4,000 miles of railway along strategic routes and with important connections in the north Aleppo has lines going to the west coast of Turkish-controlled Alexandretta, Ankara and Istanbul; in the east to Mosul, Baghdad and Basra; in the south through Homs, Baalbeck and Damascus before it traverses Transjordan to end in Arabia at Medina, where there is a road to Mecca on the pilgrim route but now of considerable military importance. Tripoli is the Syrian Mediterranean port and one of the termini of the oil pipe line from Iraq connected with Homs and Beirut, another gateway to the sea with Damascus. The Palestinian ports of Haifa (the other terminus of the oil pipe line) and Jaffa have also lines going eastwards inland north and south.

Three French Companies normally operate the motor route along 1,500 miles from Beirut to Baghdad. While the Syrian desert is used by Imperial Airways and other Companies, the desert routes are by no means ideal for air traffic as the intensity of the heat and the rapid changes in temperature experienced create dangerous atmospheric conditions, while there are sudden descents from the snow-covered mountains near the coast to a high plateau and low desert levels.

The climate of Syria is of the Mediterranean type, with mild wet winters and hot, dry summers. Syria is mainly an agricultural country with large areas occupied by sheep and cattle rearing on

the steppe land, 10 per cent. of which is under crops. Wheat, maize, wine and citrus fruits are cultivated.

The population of 3,000,000 show a very large number of groups differing in race, religion, politics and occupation.

Semitic features preponderate with an admixture of Arab blood. There are Kurds on the highlands, Greeks on the coast and Arabs on the steppes. Besides these, Turks, Turkomans, Circassians, Persians, Armenians, Jews and various European races are represented. Most of the 300,000 Christians live in Lebanon.

Inland cities have developed from their positions on the old Caravan routes and as markets. Thus Damascus was essentially a desert market.

Today it is surrounded by sixty miles of irrigated fruit gardens, and its people work in silk, gold and silver. Its trade now passes through the port of Beirut instead of through the desert.

Aleppo in the north is the market for the steppes. Its craftsmen make cotton and silk textiles and the famous gold and silver thread. Beirut is by far the most important port. The Mediterranean off the Syrian coast is not very stormy and the harbours usually have good roads.

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WAR INDUSTRIES

The June issue of *The Times' Trade and Engineering* number contains an Empire section which has been a feature for many years. Referring to India, the writer goes on to answer the complaint that more use is not being made of her great potential resources for the purposes of war.

It is urged that an immense army might be raised and equipped there. No one acquainted with the history of India has ever doubted the splendid fighting qualities of her martial races, and even the less well-informed need no further demonstration in view of the universal tribute that has been publicly paid to the prowess, courage and endurance shown by Indian troops in recent months.

The real issue is one of expediency: for in the present emergency time is a crucial factor. Can men be raised and equipped as quickly in India as elsewhere? It is not a question of sentiment but of manufacturing capacity.

Surely there can be but one answer and that is that the raising of men should proceed just as quickly as it is possible to equip them.

To send Indian troops to battle less well equipped than those they will have to meet would be not only unfair but futile, and the matter resolves itself into one of economic possibilities of manufacture.

There must be universal regret that neglect of armaments before the war makes great efforts necessary now. But it is too late to deplore what is past, and the urgent need is to make the best possible use of whatever resources can be made available quickly.

New works in India for making such things as aeroplanes, tanks and warships would entail long delay in training personnel and equipping factories.

Therefore it is better to make air frames now than a roplanes at a further date.

That is the principle that has been adopted and the work is proceeding. Similarly hulls of ships will shortly be built while armed vehicles are already being constructed from imported chassis.

These are not aspirations but accomplished facts of great importance.

It is too often forgotten, says the writer in conclusion, that the war effort is not confined to aeroplanes, tanks and warships.

An immense range of production, equally necessary though of less spectacular character, is already in hand in India. Our columns have shown that not only is the industrialisation of India proceeding rapidly, but it is receiving a great stimulus from the war effort.

ENDING THE DEADLOCK

Writing in the *New Statesman*, Sir John Maynard, ex-Governor of the Punjab, pleads for the transformation of the present Executive Council of India into a responsible ministry.

He also says that an Indian, and not a military officer, should be appointed for defence, in addition to the Commander-in-Chief.

To mark India's importance in the present struggle, an Indian public man should be appointed the Secretary of State for India. He should either be (1) the Premier of a province whose soldier sons have carried flag to score victories—Sir Sikandar Hyat Khan (sic.); (2) a Rajput Maharaja who has maintained the glory of his immemorial ancestry by a long record of good government at home and good service abroad—the Maharaja of Bikaner (sic.); or (3) a public man of liberal sympathies, who has served alike the Crown and the Indian people and recently gave renewed evidence of his continuing search for a way of peace—Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru.

INDIA IN PERIODICALS

THE VITALITY AND RESISTANCE OF INDIAN CULTURE. By Sukumar Chatterjee. [*The Modern Review*, June 1941.]

ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND CROP PLANNING IN INDIA. By K. C. Sen and S. C. Ray. [*Science and Culture*, June 1941.]

THE INDIAN SITUATION. By Mirza Hamidullah Beg. [*The Twentieth Century*, June 1941.]

TRADE AND COMMERCE IN MALABAR. By Rao Bahadur C. Gopala Menon. [*The Federated India*, June 1941.]

CATTLE IN COCHIN. By Sankara Menon. [*The Indian Farming*, June 1941.]

THE CHARACTER OF INDIA'S ECONOMIC PLANNING. By Prof. Premchand Malhotra, M.A. [*The Literary Annual*, 1941.]

THE INTER-COMMUNAL CONFLICT IN INDIA. By Dr. E. Asirvadam. [*The Indian Journal of Social Work*, Vol. No. 4.]

MULTUM IN PARVO

NEWS * DEPARTMENTAL * NOTES

Questions of Importance

DR. TAGORE'S REJOINDER TO MISS RATHBONE

Dr. Rabindranath Tagore has issued the following statement in reply to Miss Rathbone's open letter to Indians:—

"The lady has ill served the cause of her people by addressing so indiscreet, indeed impertinent, a challenge to our conscience. She is scandalised at our ingratitude—that having 'drunk deeply at the wells of English thought' we should still have some thought left for our poor country's interests. . . .

Have all the other peoples in the world waited for the British to bring them enlightenment? It is sheer insolent self-complacency on the part of our so-called English friends to assume that had they not 'taught' us we could still have remained in the dark ages. . . .

But even more necessary than the so-called culture are the bare elementary needs of existence, on which alone can any superstructure of enlightenment rest. And what have the British who have held tight the purse-strings of our nation for more than two centuries and exploited its resources done for our poor people? I have seen women in villages dig up mud for a few drops of drinking water; for wells are even more scarce in Indian villages than schools. I know that the population of England itself is to-day in danger of starvation and I sympathise with them, but when I see how the whole might of the British navy is engaged in convoying food vessels to the English shores and when I recollect that I have seen our people perish of hunger and not even a cartload of rice brought to their door from the neighbouring district, I cannot help contrasting the British at home with the British in India.

Shall we then be grateful to the British, if not for keeping us fed, at least for preserving law and order? I look around and see riots raging all over the country. When scores of Indian lives are lost, our property looted, our women

dishonoured, the mighty British arms stir not in action, only the British voice is raised from overseas to chide us for our unfitness to put our house in order. Examples are not wanting in history when even fully armed warriors have shrunk before superior might and contingencies have arisen in the present war when even the bravest among the British, French and Greek soldiers have had to evacuate the battle-field in Europe, because they were overwhelmed by superior armaments,—but when our poor, unarmed and helpless peasants, encumbered with crying babes, flee from homes unable to protect them from armed *goondas*, the British officials perhaps smile in contempt at our cowardice.

Every British civilian in England is armed today for protecting his hearth and home against the enemy, but in India even lathi-training was forbidden by decree. Our people have been deliberately disarmed and emasculated in order to keep them perpetually cowed and at the mercy of their armed masters.

The British hate the Nazis for challenging their world-mastery, and Miss Rathbone expects us to kiss the hand of her people in servility for having rivetted chains on ours. A Government must be judged not by the pretensions of its spokesmen but by its actual and effective contribution to the well-being of the people. It is not so much because the British are foreigners that they are unwelcome to us and have found no place in our hearts as because while pretending to be trustees of our welfare they have betrayed the great trust and have sacrificed the happiness of millions in India to bloat the pockets of a few capitalists at home. I should have thought that the decent Britisher would at least keep silent at these wrongs and be grateful to us for our inaction, but that he should add insult to injury and pour salt over our wounds passes all bounds of decency."

SIR ZAFRULLAH ON THE NEW WORLD ORDER

Six principles, for guidance in the foundation of a new world order after the war, were laid down by Sir Mahomed Zafrullah Khan, Law Member with the Government of India, in a talk broadcast on May 26, from Simla.

The principles were the abolition of the system of interest bearing loans, discouragement of the hoarding of money and capital, abolition of the law of primogeniture, the giving up of racial or national privilege or superiority, provision of minimum necessities of life for every citizen and establishment of a system of trade by barter.

If these six principles are accepted and put into operation, it might be hoped that, as a result, the human mind will be freed from greed and cupidity, and nations might be enabled to live together in peace, amity and concord.

A further safeguard will be necessary to provide security and permanence for the new order and this safeguard is that all governments and nations should abjure the present policy of each for himself and should all join in a covenant, that even in the case of the weakest and most distant of them being made the victim of aggression, all the others will first try to bring about a settlement by peaceful means and that, failing this, they will all combine and utilise the whole of their military strength to put an end to the aggression.

Without adopting these principles, the idea of a new world in which peace will be secure is no more than a dreamer's fantasy.

DUKE OF DEVONSHIRE ON INDIAN POLICY

In the course of his speech at Leeds, the Duke of Devonshire, Under-Secretary of State for India, said:

It was disappointing to the Government of India that the efforts made last August to bring about a closer association of Indians of all parties with the government of their country met with no greater success, but these efforts are not going to be discontinued.

I can say, speaking with the full authority of the Government that it is not our intention after the war to continue the Government of India from Whitehall. It is our firm intention to do the utmost. We possibly can to secure such a state of affairs in India that the Government of India can be carried on by India for India and in India. That may take time to achieve but the object remains unaltered.

SIR MIRZA ON THE UNITY OF INDIA

Sir Mirza Ismail, Dewan of Mysore, laid the foundation-stone of the Jamia Mosque near the Narasimharaja Road in the heart of Bangalore City on May 30.

In the course of his speech, Sir Mirza stressed the essential unity of all religions, and added:

I am convinced that the differences that are stressed today as reasons for the making of a drastic cleavage between the Muslim population of India and the much older and larger Hindu population of India are negligible beside the bonds that unite them as children of one universal Creator and citizens by ancient ancestry of a common country.

At the centre of Islam is the teaching and practice of brotherhood. Our differences are transient, even trivial, in comparison with the spiritual reality which these differences tend to obscure and weaken. I say this although I am fully aware not only of the differences within Islam but also of the differences between Islam and other Faiths. I shall not venture on the dangerous ground of theological disputation but I will say this, that I am convinced that the differences that are stressed today as reasons for the making of a drastic cleavage between the Muslim population of India and the much older and larger Hindu population are negligible beside the bonds that unite them as children of one universal Creator and citizens by ancient ancestry of a common country.

"INDIA WAITS FOR THE WORD"

Sir Jogendra Singh, ex-Minister, Punjab Government, in the course of a talk on "Solidarity in this Critical Hour" before the Rotary Club of Delhi (Simla Branch), said:

It seems as if the moral madness of war and its profound irrationality have dried up the spring of right discrimination. The war must be won. But India must know that she is fighting for her own freedom and the freedom of mankind. India would be a hundred times as strong. If faith in the final purpose of the British policy is restored and if the vivifying spirit of solidarity moves the minds of men, Providence has placed our rulers and leaders face to face with great possibilities of service. The future of India depends on their binding the people together and preparing them to defend their hearths and homes.

Mr. Churchill has given the right word to his people to protect their freedom through blood and tears. The people of Britain have responded to his call with unfailing faith in final victory. India too waits for the word to redouble her efforts. Victory will come when all the people of the world are assured that it will herald a new world order in which the weak and the strong, the East and the West, forge new links of union.

ANTI-SEPARATION CONFERENCE

"The only means of building up a strong India is through the establishment of relations based on esteem and affection between the communities. All else is secondary," declared Mr. Mahomed Yusuff Shareef, presiding over the South Indian Anti-Separation Conference which met at Kumbakonam on June 8. A number of resolutions were passed by the Conference.

The main resolution which was unanimously carried stated: "It is the considered view of the Mussalmans from all parts of South India assembled at the Conference that the two-nation scheme of Pakistan envisaged in the resolution of the Muslim League would not serve the interests of Muslim community in India for which purpose it is avowedly declared and would also be definitely detrimental to its growth, expansion and solidarity and further result in disintegration of the whole country which has all along been geographically and politically an integral unit and has been treated as such and that it would eventually lead to internal strife thereby exposing the country to foreign exploitation."

AGE LIMIT FOR GOVERNMENT JOBS

It is understood the Government of India with the approval of the Provincial Governments have decided to waive age restrictions in the matter of appointments to Government posts in favour of candidates joining war services. It is understood that candidates possessing records of war service will be given preference in appointments to civil posts under the Central and Provincial Governments.

The term of war service includes both field service and services as technicians and mechanics to be employed both in India and outside.

DEFENCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The decision to establish a Departmental Committee to advise on Defence matters is announced. The Committee will consist of 10 non-official members, of whom six will belong to the Central Legislative Assembly and four to the Council of State. The Commander-in-Chief will be the President of the Committee.

It is learnt that Sir M. Zafrullah Khan, Leader of the Central Legislative Assembly, and Sir G. S. Bajpai, Leader of the Council of State, have been requested to get into touch with the leaders of the parties in both the Houses of the Central Legislature to secure nomination of party representatives.

The Committee will meet whenever it is called by His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, but it is laid down that ordinarily it shall meet at intervals of not less than three months.

MR. MUSA SAIT'S PLEA

"Unless India was given full control over Finance, Defence and Foreign Affairs, a solution of the political deadlock would not be possible; at least a promise could be made that it would be given within a stipulated time," said Khan Bahadur Mahomed Musa Sait, President of the Muslim Chamber of Commerce, at the annual meeting of the Chamber in Madras.

Mr. Musa Sait made a fervent appeal to the Hindu and Muslim communities to compose their differences and urged the Viceroy should hold out the olive branch and save the country from further disaster.

Reviewing the conditions of trade and commerce in the country, Mr. Musa Sait emphasised the importance of reserving the coastal shipping to Indian concerns and the need for securing adequate shipping facilities for Indian trade and commerce.

GRANT TO VISVA-BHARATI

The Government of India have decided to make a grant of Rs. 25,000 to *Visva-Bharati* in 1911-12 in recognition of the contribution it is making to Indian culture.

The Bengal Government have released the grant of a similar sum to the institution. The grant was sanctioned and provided for in their last year's budget.

VOCATIONAL SCHOOLS IN BOMBAY

The Government of Bombay has sanctioned the conversion of some of its high schools into agricultural, technical and commercial high schools, with a view to providing vocational education for boys who have no aptitude for higher literary studies but have a bent for vocational education and are not able to proceed to the University after passing the Matriculation examination.

GIFT TO BENARES UNIVERSITY

The Council of the Benares Hindu University, presided over by Sir S. Radhakrishnan, Vice-Chancellor, has gratefully accepted the offer of His Highness the Maharaja of Mayurbhanj for giving an annuity of Rs. 18,000 for a Chair of Sanskrit Learning and Languages at the University.

50,000 LITERATES IN ONE YEAR

Over fifty thousand persons were made literate in the Punjab in one year as a result of the campaign launched by the Punjab Government to liquidate mass illiteracy from the Province.

It is stated that 1,06,473 adults were enrolled for instruction and 50,779 succeeded in attaining the literacy standard.

ASSAM UNIVERSITY BILL

The text of the Assam University Bill, 1941, which will be introduced during the next session of the Assembly has been published. The Statement of Objects and Reasons of the Bill says: The Bill provides for the establishment of a University in Assam as it has become necessary on account of the anomalous position of the Province in having its schools and colleges under the University of Calcutta, which is now within the jurisdiction of the Government of Bengal and is subject to legislation by the Bengal Provincial Legislature, not bound by either the opinions or sentiments of Assam.

Besides, the need of a separate University for Assam has long been felt, not only by the people of the Province, but by scholars and students outside the Province, as Assam offers great opportunities for study in many fields: linguistic, literary, historical, ethnological, archaeological, economic and geological and as the results of such study may reflect on similar studies in other parts of India and elsewhere.

Further opportunities of advancement and progress created by the introduction of Provincial Autonomy and responsible Government can be fully utilised as far as higher education is concerned only by establishing a separate University for Assam, capable of dealing with special requirements and problems of the Province.

SCIENTIFIC EXHIBITION

Under the auspices of the Madras Science Club and with the co-operation of the various Colleges, University departments, the King Institute and other Scientific institutions and departments an Exhibition in all branches of science is being organised at the Medical College, Madras.

INTER-CASTE MARRIAGES

The Madras High Court has held that *Anuloma* (inter-caste) marriages, though permitted at the time of the Smritis, have become obsolete in the present age and hence cannot be considered legal under Hindu Law. While from the strictly legal point of view, the Madras High Court may be right, it seems a pity, observes the *Hindustan Times*, that their Lordships did not take a more exalted view of their responsibilities. In the liberalisation of Hindu Law, High Courts in India can play a large part if only they will interpret it liberally wherever past precedent or present practice justifies such interpretation. But to do this they must break with the tradition, which they themselves have set up, of extreme rigidity in interpretation. The Madras judgment, moreover, conflicts with a much earlier verdict on the same subject by the late Sir Lallubhai Shah, the Chief Justice of Bombay.

ACQUITTAL OF MR. RUIKAR

The Nagpur High Court has dismissed the appeal of the Provincial Government against the acquittal of Mr. R. S. Ruikar by the Sessions Judge of Nagpur. Mr. Ruikar was originally prosecuted for a speech delivered by him in December last at Nagpur, to a gathering of mill-workers under the Defence of India Rules and convicted. On appeal, the Sessions Judge, Mr. Wickeden, acquitted Mr. Ruikar and in doing so delivered a remarkable judgment which attracted country-wide attention. The Provincial Government then filed an appeal against the order of acquittal to the Nagpur High Court, which has now upheld the acquittal and dismissed the appeal of the C. P. Government.

ATTACHING OF SALARIES

That the salary below Rs. 100 per month of an employee, whether working under Government or under a private concern, could not be attached by civil court and any order for the attachment of the whole or a part thereof would be illegal was the decision given by the Chief Justice and Mr. Justice Meredith at the Patna High Court, while allowing the appeal of an employee of the *Indian Nation*.

MR. JUSTICE F. W. GENTLE

His Majesty the King has been pleased to approve the appointment of Mr. Justice F. W. Gentle, at present a Judge of the Madras High Court, to be a Judge of the High Court of Judicature at Calcutta in the vacancy that will occur on the retirement of Mr. Justice Lort-Williams in September.

KHAKSARS BANNED

A Government of India *communiqué* states that steps have been taken to declare the Khaksars to be an unlawful association wherever necessary, and Provincial Governments will take all the action that they consider necessary to dispel the menace, which the action of these misguided people has brought into existence.

MR. JUSTICE HAPPELL

His Majesty the King has been pleased to approve the appointment of Mr. Arthur Comyn Happell, I.C.S., as a Puisne Judge of the High Court of Judicature at Madras in the vacancy caused by the retirement of Mr. Justice V. Pandurang Rao.

THE CENTRAL ASSEMBLY

The present indications are that the life of the Central Legislative Assembly will be extended by another year. The extension announced last year is up to September 30, 1941.

CO-OPERATIVE INSURANCE

The report on the working of Co-operative Insurance Societies in India for the year 1938-39 has been published. This is the latest period for which such report is available. This is justly, criticised as one more instance of tardiness shown in the publication of such valuable statistics in India.

In the year 1938-39, the number of societies rose from 9 in 1937-38 to 11 and the total number of persons insured also increased from 6,334 to 8,390. The total amount of risk insured by these societies rose from Rs. 1,80,82,951 to Rs. 1,76,79,600 and the amount of premiums also improved from Rs. 7,08,869 to Rs. 9,55,752. The progress is satisfactory, but this is counter-vailed by increased claims and increased management expenses. The total claims paid increased from Rs. 1,07,362 in 1937-38 to Rs. 1,23,516 in 1938-39 and also the cost of management showed an increase from Rs. 2,88,661 to Rs. 4,03,784, which is not justified by improvement in business. Funds in hand with these societies at the end of 1938-39 improved from Rs. 5,77,577 to Rs. 7,71,823.

In 1938-39, as regards non-agricultural insurance societies, Madras and U. P. led with two each while Bengal, Bombay, Indore, Hyderabad and Baroda had one each. Madras covered the largest amount of risk at Rs. 1,20,19,138 with Bombay and Hyderabad following at Rs. 27,53,000 and Rs. 19,39,372 respectively.

GOLD MEDAL FOR MR. RAM KISHORE

The Directors of the General Assurance Society, Ltd., have awarded a gold medal to Mr. Ram Kishore, Chief Superintendent at the Head Office of the Society in appreciation of the special efforts made by him in connection with revival work.

WAR INJURIES COMPENSATION

The non-contributory compensation scheme introduced by the British Government on December 24th, extends the benefits of the Personal Injuries (Civilians) scheme to all adults and not merely to civil defence workers or persons gainfully employed. Persons of these two classes now receive compensation of 35s. a week for married men or single men not in hospital; single men in hospital get 21s. 6d. per week; women receive 28s. per week if in hospital, or otherwise 17s. 6d. weekly. Men who are not gainfully occupied now receive 21s. per week when not in hospital and 10s. 6d. per week when in hospital. Women of the same class get 11s. and 7s. respectively. Pensions of 50s. are also payable to the widows of civilian workers or civil defence volunteers, thus placing them on the same footing as widows of serving soldiers.

RECONSTRUCTION OF ASIA MUTUAL

The scheme of reconstruction of the Asia Mutual Insurance Company, Limited, of Calcutta, as modified and approved by its shareholders, policyholders and creditors has received the approval of the Calcutta High Court.

On the suggestion of Professor K. B. Madhava, Actuary, certain of the existing policies of the Company have been altered, so that the sum assured is reduced to half its amount and the premium actually paid is also reduced to one-half.

WAR RISKS INSURANCE

The Government of India have enforced from 23rd April measures for ensuring that goods exported from India to destinations outside the Empire are not insured against marine and war risks with enemy companies.

WAR AND INDIAN TRADE

Presiding over the quarterly meeting of the Indian Chamber of Commerce at Calcutta, Sir Badridas Goenka dealt at length with the economic conditions in other Empire countries, for example, Canada and Australia and contrasted these with the situation in India. The overseas trade of the country in 1940-41 declined both as regards imports as well as exports as compared to the previous year. Wholesale prices of agricultural commodities also suffered a set back. It was the absence of any systematic and planned economic policy on the part of the Government of India which, according to Sir Badridas, was responsible for this state of affairs. Sir Badridas made some constructive suggestions as to how the Government could help to promote industrialisation. He stated that Government should be prompt and liberal in giving an assurance of legitimate and reasonable protection whenever they were approached by any industry etc.

Referring to export trade, Sir Badridas pointed out that it was a wrong policy for a country like India with its vast agricultural population to be dependant upon foreign markets over which obviously she could have no control. He pointed out to the unmistakable evidence of under-consumption in India with regard to the various necessities of life like food-grains, cereals, salt, sugar, kerosene and cloth, etc. and stated that India's exports were not the surplus exports of a prosperous nation but more or less forced exports at the cost of the primary needs of the masses. The development of industries would not only enable most of India's raw produce to be utilised within the country but also make available increased quantities of food-stuffs for consumption and what was more important also enhance the purchasing power of the people.

BENGAL SHARE DEALERS

The stock and shares are very important factors in the business world and our businessmen and general public have had so long very shallow knowledge in this line. The Bengal Share Dealers' Syndicate Ltd., under the guidance of Mr. Chatterji, has been making an extensive propaganda and has been able to draw the attention of the general public to this line. The authorised capital of the Syndicate is Rs. 25,00,000 and within the short period under review shares worth Rs. 4,19,450 have been sold, out of which Rs. 1,48,585 has been paid-up, and upto the date shares worth about Rs. 4,65,000 are sold, out of which Rs. 1,57,000 are said to have been paid. This rapid progress in sale of shares shows the popularity of the Syndicate.

The Syndicate has made a network of Branches and Agencies throughout the country. For proper propaganda it has been publishing a Market Report with the report of share markets not only of India but also of countries outside.

We wish the Syndicate and its Managing-Director every success.

NEWSPRINT CONTROL

The Government of India have issued a newsprint control order. According to this no person shall, after June 15, 1941, sell newsprint otherwise than to a newspaper press. No proprietor of a newspaper press shall use newsprint for any purpose other than printing newspapers (including supplements and annuals thereof) except with the special permission of the Government. Returns of consumption shall be made by all newspapers and returns of stocks by dealers.

BRITISH WOMEN'S APPEAL

The letter addressed to Indian women by a number of prominent Englishwomen exhorts them "to be warned in time and to join in the united effort to preserve the safety of your country".

You have seen for yourselves one country after another enslaved. After Europe, Asia is now becoming involved. We beg of you to be warned in time and to join in the united effort to preserve the safety of your country.

We are told that some of you say that this is a war of British imperialism and that therefore Indian nationalists can have no part in it. We do not think that many of you can really believe this in your hearts. In his broadcast on May 27, President Roosevelt said: "The whole world is divided between human slavery and human freedom. On which side does India stand? Without victory for democracies there can be no Indian freedom and we assure you in all sincerity, that never was there so much goodwill to India, so much sympathy with Indian aspirations as is to be found in Britain to-day. Britain wants India to be a free and equal partner in the Commonwealth. We realise of the present difficulties and are doing our best to help on a solution but the supreme need of the movement is union for victory. May it not be with you as with us that differences between political parties can be laid aside for the time to face the common danger? And when victory comes none will be found who wish to dispute India's claim to her place among free nations, freely co-operating to plan a wiser world."

In reply to this, a statement issued over the signatures of Mrs. Sarojini Naidu, Mrs. Rameshwari Nehru, Mrs. Vijayalakshmi Pandit and other prominent Indian women, points out:

It is scarcely necessary to tell you that we appreciate the sincerity of your appeal but we are amazed at the ignorance betrayed in it of realities. Indeed, your Prime Minister by contrast shows a grasp of realities which is refreshing. However painful it may be, he has no misgiving about the status that India occupies in the British mind. It is a dependency which can and is being utilised at the British will. He knows that he does not need the consent or co-operation of India's thinking sons and daughters in anything that Britain wants for fighting her war. He takes care to pay tribute to the valour of Indian soldiers who are part of the army of occupation in India. These soldiers, you should know, are wholly unconnected with the national life and activities. They may not freely see any nationalist without incurring heavy penalties. Nor has your Prime Minister any difficulty in raising, either by taxation or so-called voluntary contributions, the money he

wants. We cannot complain of this helplessness, but we must not be blind to facts. How can there be association in such a situation of India that is impatient of the foreign yoke? . . .

The fact is that you are wholly wrong in your estimate of things. We are surprised at your quoting an untruth contained in President Roosevelt's pronouncement. You quote to-day that the whole world is divided between human slavery and human freedom. The fact is that there is no such thing as human freedom for the Asiatic races, certainly not for India; nor is there for the virile Africans. The result, whatever it may be, of the war will not alter their condition for the better, save through their own efforts. As we see realities it is this: It is a war between the British Empire and the Nazis and Fascists for world domination, meaning in effect exploitation of the non-European races. We cannot be in love with Nazism and Fascism but we may not be expected to be in love with British Imperialism.

Lastly, let us point out the anomaly of British women asking India, though a slave nation, to help a slave owner in distress instead of asking the slave owner to undo the wrong and cure himself of the initial sin and thus ensure the moral justness of his position.

MISS GANGABAI

Miss Gangabai, a student of the Lady Keane Girls' College, Shillong (hailing from Madras), has occupied the highest place among all the female candidates in the recent I. A. Examination of the Calcutta University, occupying the 12th place in order of merit, and the first place among all the students (male and female) in Assam. It is gratifying to note that 14 out of 16 candidates sent up this year have passed (an average of 87.5 per cent. against the University average of 52 per cent.). It is learnt that this College is staffed entirely by ladies and this is only the second year of its obtaining the University affiliation. The result is most creditable.

MISS V. A. MADHAVIKUTTI, M.LITT.

The Syndicate of the University of Madras has, on the recommendation of the Board of Examiners, appointed to adjudicate on the thesis "A survey of the conditions of poverty in an area in the City of Madras (Purasawalkam)" submitted by Miss V. A. Madhavikutti for the M.Litt. Degree, declared her qualified for the Degree of Master of Letters.

THOMAS HARDY

In a recent address, Dr. C. E. M. Joad presented a view of Thomas Hardy which is worthy of reproduction:

"There are four elements in Hardy's greatness which appeal to me. The first is his capacity for creating fools and rustics, no writer since Shakespeare has ever created such delicious fools; the second is the succession of outstanding and unique scenes that you will find in every one of his novels: Gabriel Keys letting the poison gas out of the ship by means of holes for instance; the third is his Englishness, in that he perpetuates a way of life that is now extinct and that he catches a kind of lyric note of bird-like enjoyment of life in his poems; and, finally, he tells such a frightfully good story. To my mind he is one of the best story tellers who has ever written a book, and for me the most important thing about a novel is the story."

WORDS, WORDS

Shakespeare, who had the richest vocabulary used by any Englishman, employed only 16,000 words. The average man rarely has a vocabulary of more than 3,000 or 4,000 words. The ordinary person can get along very comfortably with 500 words, and in the rural districts a knowledge of 200 words is sufficient to carry a man through his life. This, of course, relates to the needs of conversation. If a man wants to read newspapers and well-written books, he must know at least 2,000 words.

OXFORD PAMPHLETS ESSAYS

The Oxford University Press has issued an invitation to under-graduate and post-graduate students of Indian Universities to submit essays on given subjects for their "Oxford Pamphlets on World Affairs—Essay Competition." The closing date for receipt of the essays is September 30, 1941. There is no entrance fee and each candidate is to submit only one essay.

EDITORS' COMMITTEE

The Standing Committee of the Newspaper Editors' Conference met at Simla and considered the press-advising of Gandhiji's recent statements. It agreed to address a letter to the Government setting forth its views in the matter.

ALBERT MEDAL FOR ROOSEVELT

The Council of the Royal Society of Arts, with the approval of their President, the Duke of Connaught, have decided to confer on President Roosevelt the Albert Gold Medal of the Society in recognition of his pre-eminent services to humanity as a fearless and resolute champion of the ideals of national freedom and individual liberty.

The Albert Medal of the R. S. A. was struck in 1864 to commemorate the Presidency of the Society which was held by Prince Albert from 1843 to 1861.

Among previous recipients are: Queen Victoria, King Edward VII, King George V., Thomas Edison, Orville Wright, Louis Pasteur, Guglielmo Marconi and Madame Curie.

BIRTHDAY GIFT TO GENERAL SMUTS

General Smuts has been informed that the nation is presenting him with a birthday gift of over £140,000 which will be given by General Smuts to the national air fund for the benefit of forces of which he is the Commander-in-Chief and their dependents. The total is believed to represent the biggest gift by any nation to its leader, and cheques are still streaming in. The final total is expected to be well over £150,000.

CHURCHILL AND BEAVERBROOK

Close collaboration between Mr. Churchill and Lord Beaverbrook was emphasised by the fact revealed by Lord Beaverbrook in his broadcast to Canada that Lord Beaverbrook is carrying on his work as Minister of State at No. 12, Downing Street, which is linked by a corridor with No. 10, the Prime Minister's official residence.

PETAIN AND DARLAN

Pétain whose feebleness and pessimism have both increased lately, seems to have lost control altogether, says *The Times'* Diplomatic correspondent, and Darlan is doing everything Laval meant to do when the Marshal dismissed him.

SIR G. N. BEWOOR

The tenure of office of Sir Guru Nath Bewoor, Director-General of Posts and Telegraphs, has been extended upto March 31, 1942.

BOMBS TO CURE BOMB SHOCK

Bomb-shocked patients including some Dunkirk survivors in a British military hospital are being cured with the aid of bombs or to be more specific, with the noise of falling bombs recorded on gramophone records.

The idea is by continually playing the records to accustom the patients to the sounds of a blitz (sounds sub-consciously, if not consciously associated with danger and fear) so that familiarity will breed indifference if not contempt.

Civilians suffering from nervous collapse after air-raid experiences may also be treated to a course of bombing, on records, which were made during raids and not without personal risk by members of the B B C staff.

TREATMENT OF TUBERCULOSIS

The question of laying down a definite policy and procedure for bringing their tuberculous employees within the range of proper treatment is, it is learnt, engaging the attention of the Government of Bengal.

The Government have, after a careful consideration of the question, accorded sanction to some rules prescribing that all suspected cases of tuberculosis in their employ should be sent for examination and opinion to the Presidency or Civil Surgeon concerned. The rules also provide that, if after a careful examination by the medical officer in charge, the case is reported to be a "closed" one and the person is considered to be fit to carry on his duties, he should be allowed to continue in his appointment under some medical conditions.

FLOATING DISPENSARIES

Floating dispensaries for use in low-lying areas during the monsoon are the Public Health Authorities' latest measure to overcome handicaps of floods in Bihar.

These dispensaries constructed on boats would carry medical supplies and staff to villages which are isolated by flood and will be tried this season in the Supaul sub-division in North Bihar.

WAYS OF WOOLING SLEEP

There are many physical aids to sound sleep. Deep breathing is one. When you get into bed stretch every limb, then relax completely every limb and muscle. Do this two or three times, then take a dozen or more deep breaths slowly and naturally. Sleep should come soon after this unless you are in pain or very worried. Be sure there is plenty of fresh air coming into the room, that your bed is comfortable, that the bed clothes are not too heavy, and that you are neither too hot nor too cold. A heavy meal late at night causes indigestion, but any one of nervous temperament requires a nourishing meal in the evening. Too little food is as bad as too much. A walk before retiring to bed, a warm bath and a hot drink at bed-time induce sleep. Women need a rest during the day as well as sound sleep at night, and if it can possibly be managed a daily rest of half an hour should be indulged in.

FOR PURE MILK

When milk streams frothily from udder to bucket, it contains much dissolved oxygen. In raw milk, bacteria consumes most of the oxygen. But pasteurization removes most of the bacteria, so the oxygen content of pasteurized milk remains high. Oxidation of the fat content may then cause papery, oily, metallic or tallowy flavors; worse, it may diminish the natural proportion of vitamin C. Obvious answer, proposed by scientists at Cornell University take the air out of the milk.

FASTING FOR HEALTH

Dr. Carson, Physiologist at the University of Chicago, is of the opinion that occasional periods of starvation, once or twice a year in the case of a healthy adult, may not only add to the joy of living but also to the length of life. Experimenting himself, the Doctor says, his mind became very clear after a fast, and he did more work without fatigue.

SOUR DRINK FOR THIRST

Always remember that a sour drink quenches the thirst more than a very sweet one. So avoid the use of too much syrup when making your favourite beverage.

THE CONVERSION LOANS

The 4½ per cent. 1950-55, 1958-68 loans have been open for conversion into the 3 per cent. 1951-54, 1963-65 loans. The present conversion scheme has the great merit of making the investor realise that 3 per cent. on gilt-edged is the most he can expect hereafter and the concentration of the rupee debt in 3 per cent. issues is a signal success for cheap money. As an additional bull point for the conversion scheme must be mentioned the fact that the conversion prices of Rs. 110½ and Rs. 113½ for the 4½ per cent. 1950-55 and 1958-68 loans, respectively, are exactly one rupee per cent. higher than the prices at which they were taken over when the sterling stocks were repatriated.

GILT-EDGED SECURITIES

British gilt-edged securities have reached a new peak level, says the *Mail*. The 3½ per cent. War Loan has climbed to 104½, 3 per cent. War Loan to 100½, and Consols to 89½. Clearly investors and shrewd judges of financial prospects have no doubts about the ultimate victory of the Allies. They are so confident of it that they are willing to pay high prices for British securities, though those of other countries giving a higher return on the money invested are obtainable.

NEW ONE-RUPEE NOTE

A Press *communiqué* says that new Government of India one rupee notes bearing the portrait of King George VI and printed at the Nasik Security Press will shortly be issued through the Reserve Bank of India.

The new notes are slightly larger than the existing issue and measure 4 inches by 2½ inches. They are printed on mould-made paper.

A BANKING RECORD

The Imperial Bank of India has made banking history by being able to report total deposits at over Rs. 100 crores. It was only a year ago that the Imperial brought its Reserve Fund up to the level of its paid-up capital and the extent of the reserve liability of its shareholders. Now the record Deposits of Rs. 100 crores constitute another landmark.

RAILWAY ARRANGEMENTS

Traffic arrangements to cope with the rush of nearly five million pilgrims, from all over the country expected for the Kumba Mela, which comes off in January-February next after twelve years, have already been taken up by the railway authorities.

The Allahabad division authorities of the East India Railway are now busy planning the arrangements to be made. As in 1930 when the last Kumba Mela was held, a Sangam Ghat Station near the Mela grounds is proposed to be erected. It is proposed to make it bigger this time to accommodate a larger number of special trains. Nearly 20 extra booking offices for the Mela will be put up at the Sangam Ghat Station, the Allahabad Station and two neighbouring stations. Additional platforms will also be provided at the Allahabad Station to cope with the heavy traffic. The G. I. P. Railway authorities are co-operating with the East Indian Railway in the matter.

RAILWAY WITHOUT DRIVERS

At Zurich in Switzerland is an underground electric railway along which trucks are constantly running, but no truck has a driver. The railway has been constructed to convey letters and express packets from the branch post office at the main railway station to a post office three-quarters of a mile away.

An official at one end sets a truck in motion by pressing a push-button; the vehicle runs non-stop to its destination where, still without human aid, it enters a lift which automatically raises it to the level of the post office.

WORLD'S LONGEST RAILWAY TUNNELS

Britain's longest railway tunnel is the Severn (G. W. Rly.), 1 miles 642 yds., of which 2½ miles are under the river. The longest tunnel in which daylight is visible from entry to exit is the Albula Tunnel of the Rhaetian Railway (Swiss), 8¼ miles in length.

A.R.P. TRAINING FOR RAILWAY STAFF

The South Indian and M. and S. M. Railway Companies have taken necessary steps to train their staff in A. R. P. work.

HAND GESTURES IN INDIAN DANCING

The hand gestures (Mudras) form the essential part of expression in Indian dancing. Its artistic appeal is so very great, says a writer in the *Hindustan Standard*, that coupled with music and proper swings of limbs, it produces a divinely sensuous atmosphere. Mudras can portray with rich vividness all different phases of joy and sorrow. Deviations are dangerous in the sense that the Mudras are true in texture to what they originally supposed to be. They have also withstood the test of time. So in the absence of anything which would have challenged the use of Mudras in Indian dancing, we better give them closer thought which they really need. Indeed without this technical element, Indian dancing would not have attained the present world-wide fame and recognition.

MUSICAL SANDS

Many of the British soldiers in Libya had the unique experience of hearing that country's "musical sands". This is a phenomenon that occurs in certain parts of the Libyan Desert when the sands are being fanned by a wind of one particular strength and direction. They give forth eerie but beautiful notes sounding for all the world like the pipes of Pan.

NOTHING OCCULT ABOUT ART

Art is not a separate chamber of life or the exclusive property of cultivated people, says a writer. It goes down through the whole structure of life. It is in the words we speak, the clothes we wear, and the friendships we cultivate.

The raw materials of art are the commonest property we have at our disposal: mind and heart and hands. There is nothing occult about art.

ART FOR ALL

It would be extravagant to declare that every man is an artist, says Brooks Atkinson. Many men are blunderers. But many other men are genuine artists despite the fact that they do not think of themselves in that role. Taking the raw materials of mind emotions and body, they have created characters that have form and radiance.

WORLD HEAVYWEIGHT CHAMPIONSHIP

Joe Louis retained the World Heavyweight Championship knocking out Billy Conn (Pittsburg) in the thirteenth round.

The fight ended with dramatic suddenness. Conn had been going extremely well, punishing Louis, and winning round after round until a right hook to the jaw staggered and hurt him.

Joe Louis snatched the Championship from the brink of disaster. Conn, who boxed beautifully throughout, had only to keep off from trouble for the remainder of the fight. Instead, he made the mistake of "mixing it" against such a devastating puncher as Louis and paid the penalty. This was the 18th time that Louis defended his title.

THE FATE OF THE POLISH CHAMPION

Jansuz Kuscocinski, the famous Polish long-distance runner, who won the ten thousand metres championship in the Olympic Games at Los Angeles in 1932, has been tortured to death by the Gestapo, according to news reaching Polish circles. Kuscocinski, like hundreds of other prominent citizens, was charged by the Germans with being connected with anti-German underground activities.

Kuscocinski's name has been added to the long list of martyred Polish patriots. Throughout the ordeal, Kuscocinski refused to utter a word of value to the enemy.

TWO WORLD RECORDS

Two world athletic records have been created. Les Steers cleared 6 feet 11 inches in the high jump, while the quarter mile runners from the University of California covered the mile in 3 minutes, 9.4 seconds.

H. S. LOVE RETIRES

After 30 years of cricket, H. S. ("Hammy") Love, the Australian Test wicket-keeper has decided to retire. He would have been regular wicket-keeper for Australia but for Oldfield. He was a batsman of ability.

D. F. A. SHIELD FINALISTS

In the semi-final of the D. F. A. Shield Tournament, the Union Football Club, the Delhi League Champions, defeated the Bangalore Crescent Club by five goals to two.

UNBURSTABLE BOTTLE

For dropping petrol and water supplies from aeroplanes with or without the aid of parachutes, an unburstable container has been evolved by Sir S. S. Bhatnagar, Director of Scientific and Industrial Research. The container has been tested by dropping it from heights of 75 to 100 ft. and has satisfactorily withstood the impact of the fall.

The container is made of canvas-cum-plastic compositions and as large as two-gallon containers have been made, which have satisfactorily withstood the impact when thrown from the roofs of the second storey of the Alipore Test House and of the Secretariat Buildings, New Delhi. The Army Headquarters are making further experiments with the container by dropping it from low-flying aeroplanes.

This unburstable bottle has the necessary property of resilience and is petrol and oil proof. It is stated that, apart from its enormous advantage in war time, it can be used as a container for oil paints, oils, etc., even after the war. It is lighter and less liable to damage by impact than a tin can. Large orders are, therefore, expected to be placed for these containers.

NIGHT PHOTOGRAPHY

A device which enables military plane pilots to take photographs of ground objectives at night at altitudes upto 5,000 ft. has been invented in America. The airman drops a powerful magnesium-powder flash bulb equipped with a time fuse which explodes it near the ground. The flash actuates a photo-electric cell in the plane, which instantly trips the camera shutter.

DETECTING NIGHT BOMBERS

The British Government has released the news of the existence of a secret weapon, an instrument for the detection of enemy aircraft by radio, which is being used by the British to counteract night bombers.

BLUE AND VIOLET IN SUNLIGHT

Sunlight is relatively richer in blue and violet in summer than it is in winter, says Dr. E. S. Johnston of the Smithsonian Institution.

CHAPLIN REFUSES AWARD

Charles Chaplin has refused to accept the award of the New York film critics for the best screen actor of 1940. In a telegram he explains:

"In accepting, I feel I would be acknowledging the fact that the actors are competing with each other and such an approach to one's work is not very inspiring. In doing my work I aim only to please the public, which I believe is the true aim of all actors."

Chaplin also takes exception to the system of balloting by which critics arrive at their decisions in these matters, says the *Daily Telegraph*.

Chaplin was selected as the best film actor on the strength of his performance in "The Great Dictator", one of the most sensational and historic films of the times.

MADRAS FILM BALLOT

The following pictures and artistes have been voted the most popular in 1940, in order of merit in the Madras Film Ballot recently concluded.

ENGLISH PICTURES

1. *Gone with the Wind*. 2. *Hunchback of Notre Dame*. 3. *Ninotchka and Rebecca*. Foreign Male Artistes.—1. Clarke Gable. 2. Charles Laughton. 3. Errol Flynn. Foreign Female Artistes.—1. Greta Garbo. 2. Bette Davis. 3. Norma Shearer.

NORTH INDIAN PICTURES

1. *Bandhan*. 2. *Woman*. 3. *Zindagi*. N. Indian Male Artistes.—1. Motilal. 2. Ashok Kumar. 3. Saigal. N. Indian Female Artistes.—1. Leela Chitnis. 2. Sardar Akhtar. 3. Kanan Devi.

TAMIL PICTURES

1. *Uttama Puthiran*. 2. *Sakunthalai*. 3. *Mani Mekhalai*. Tamil Male Artistes.—1. P. U. Chinappa. 2. M. K. Thyagaraja Bhagavathar. 3. Serukulathur Sama. Tamil Female Artistes.—1. M. S. Subbulakshmi. 2. K. B. Sundarambal. 3. T. R. Rajakumari.

TELGU PICTURES

1. *Sumangali*. 2. *Ilalu*. 3. *Viswa Mohini*. Telugu Male Artistes.—1. Nagiah. 2. Y. V. Rao. 3. Giri. Telugu Female Artistes.—1. Kanchanamala. 2. Kumari. 3. Kannamba.

GUARDING AGAINST PUNCTURES

There is no minor trouble more annoying than a puncture and although all motorists are in the hands of the gods in this matter, there is a type of puncture which can often be avoided, that is, the flint puncture. Careful owner-drivers regularly test the pressures of their tyres; at the same time, the cover should be examined for small sharp stones which have become embedded in the tread. These should be removed with a screw-driver or a similar tool. Some people use a penknife for this operation but this is scarcely advisable, as there is a danger of further cutting the cover and damaging the air tube.

PETROL RATIONING IN INDIA

It is practically certain that the Commerce Department of the Government of India will seriously consider the advisability of introducing petrol rationing in India. The appointment of Mr. C. H. Reynolds in the Commerce Department indicates that the scheme to ration petrol is taking a definite shape.

U. S. MOTOR INDUSTRY

The American automobile industry has agreed to a 20 per cent. reduction of output for the 'model car' beginning from August 1, according to an announcement by Mr. Knudsen, the United States Defence Chief. The reduction will amount to approximately a million motor cars.

EXPORT OF MOTOR VEHICLES

It is announced in a *Gazette of India Extraordinary* that the permission to export motor cars, motor cycles and motor omnibuses, vans and lorries and parts thereof, excluding rubber tyres and tubes, has been deleted from the open general licence issued under the export control scheme in respect of Burma.

LOUIS CHEVROLET

Louis Chevrolet, the pioneer motor car designer, after whom the Chevrolet car is named, has died at the age of 62. Born in Switzerland, Chevrolet was an outstanding racing tourist.

BARON AUSTIN

Baron Austin of Longbridge, a leading figure in the British motor car industry and pioneer of the baby car is dead at the age of 75.

TECHNIQUE OF AIR INVASION

Crete is the latest country against which Germany has used its new technique of air-invasion. An invading regiment of 1,000 men requires about 125 planes. First come some 30 dive bombers followed by 10 transports of parachute troops. Behind them are 50 transports each carrying 20 regular infantry men. Five freighters fly their heavy equipment—150,000 rounds of ammunition, 70 radio sets, 30 motor cycles, 367 machine guns, six anti-tank guns. Thirty or more fighter planes guard the expedition against air-attack.

Arriving at their objective, the dive-bombers lay down a holocaust of bombs and machine-gun fire around the fringes of the field to disrupt resistance. Then two or three hundred parachute troops are released, dropping from each plane at three-second intervals. Every fifth man carries a sub-machine-gun, the others pistols.

RAID-PROOF FACTORIES

Aircraft factories which would disappear into the mountain-side in the event of a bombing raid and re-appear when the danger had passed, are reported to have been erected in Switzerland, near Lake Lucerne.

The inventor, M. Antone Gazda, revealed recently that the raid-proof factories consisted of sheds 250 by 32 feet built to roll backwards and forwards on iron rails. At the first sign of hostile aircraft, the sheds by means of an electric engine would be rolled into caverns cut out of the mountain-side. Armour-plating on the ends of the sheds facing outwards provide additional protection.

AVIATION TRAINING AT KARACHI

The flying and ground training of the candidates for the second batch under the Civil Aviation Training Scheme posted at the Karachi Aero-club is proceeding at scheduled pace and the progress is satisfactory, according to the report of the monthly activities of the Club for May. The total flying time for the month amounted to 296 hours and 25 minutes which included three hours five minutes' night flying. Besides, 37 hours 35 minutes were "flown" on the link trainers.

LARGE AND SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES

Mr. T. E. Gregory broadcasting from Delhi urged the importance of small scale industries. At present, he said, there is a rather old-fashioned thing, somehow or other destined to disappear, and the best thing to be done is to ease the transition of a new order of things by a little state assistance.

For my own part, whilst I recognise that the margin between large-scale and small-scale industry is constantly shifting, so that in particular cases it may be better to allow large-scale industry to take over production formerly carried on by smaller units, I would also urge that our determination to do something effective will be strengthened if we bear in mind the intrinsic value of the small industry to a community.

The small business should not be regarded as the "poor-relation" of economic life, but it should be regarded as a valuable element of stability, the disappearance of which should be regretted by every lover of his country.

FACTORIES IN INDIA

Factories working in India during 1939 increased from 10,782 in 1938 to 11,630. The number of operatives rose from 1,737,755 to 1,751,137. Workmen in the cotton textile industry decreased, while those in jute mills rose by 3,000. Fewer women worked in factories, the number representing 13.7 per cent. of the total factory population. Children workers represented 5.4 per cent.

EXHIBITION OF INDIAN GOODS

The Indian Chamber of Commerce of Singapore has requested the Government of India to support and co-operate with it to establish there a permanent exhibition of goods produced and manufactured in India at a nominal fee for the expansion of Indian export trade in that part of the world.

GLUCOSE IN INDIA

A sugar factory in India is investigating the possibility of producing liquid glucose on a large scale. A sample of their product has been tested by the Director-General, Indian Medical Service and found satisfactory except for the presence of certain impurities which the firm is now endeavouring to eliminate.

MARKETING OF MILK

Re-organisation of milk marketing and the creation of a monopoly marketing organisation to be responsible for the purchase of milk from rural areas, its transport, processing and distribution and the control of quality from the stage of production to that of actual sales is the most important recommendation of the Agricultural Marketing Adviser to the Government of India in his Report on the Marketing of Milk in India and Burma.

He stresses the vital importance of milk to the Indian population, whose diet is deficient in first-class proteins which are easily obtained from milk. Both from the public health and the economic points of view, the annual value of India's milk production is estimated at over Rs. 175 crores.

Urging the need for complete control over the distribution of milk in an urban area and thereby on the production of milk in the rural area concerned, the Report says special legislation of a provincial nature will be necessary as although there is an element of compulsion in the suggested monopolising of the milk business, this appears to be the only way in which both producers and consumers can be protected.

STIPENDS FOR STUDENTS

The Government of Bengal have decided to grant stipends of Rs. 10 each to five poor students of the Bengal Agricultural School during 1941-42 and to 10 students during each subsequent year.

It is stated that the existing disproportion of Moslems, scheduled castes and non-Moslems, excluding scheduled castes, in the Agricultural Service is largely due to the dearth of Moslem and scheduled caste candidates with requisite technical qualifications. In order to reduce this disproportion, it is considered that agricultural education should be encouraged among these communities. It is accordingly proposed to grant stipends of Rs. 10 each, which will be distributed among the various communities in the following proportion:—Moslems 6; scheduled castes 2; and non-Moslems excluding scheduled castes, 2.

WORKING OF MILLS ON HOLIDAY

"In working the mills on Ramzan Id on November 2, 1940, the authorities of the National Mills, Ahmedabad, acted contrary to usage and custom and this action amounted to an illegal change in an industrial matter."

This was the opinion expressed by the Industrial Court on an application filed by the Textile Labour Association against the National Mills. The Mill authorities pointed out that, as there was no Muslim working in the Mills, it was not thought necessary to observe that day as a holiday and the workers being present on that day had waived their right to observe it as a holiday.

The Industrial Court held that the importance of a holiday to an employee consisted not always in the opportunity it provided in performing religious rites but in the compulsory rest that he got by reason of that holiday. Willingness or unwillingness of workers had no bearing. Even though workers considered themselves entitled to a holiday, they had to attend the Mills on the Ramzan Day being afraid that, if they did not do so they might lose their wages for that day.

INTER-TRADE UNION UNITY

A plea for bringing about solidarity and unity on the part of workers belonging to different Trade Unions at the same time as they increased their unity and organisation within their respective Unions was made at Madras on May 9 by Miss Shanta Bale Rao, Assistant Secretary, All-India Trade Union Congress, at a meeting of the Madras Kerosene Oil Workers' Union.

Miss Bale Rao expressed her pleasure at the fact that the Union had already succeeded in securing a dearness allowance and characterised their demand for definite scales of pay with periodical increments as a just and reasonable one.

TEXTILE DISPUTE AND C. P. GOVERNMENT

In a lengthy statement issued to the Press, Mr. R. S. Ruikar, President of the Nagpur Textile Union, suggests that the Provincial Government should immediately amend the Trades Disputes Act so as to arm itself with the necessary legislative powers to enforce the decisions of a conciliation or an arbitration board.

ALL-INDIA ORIENTAL CONFERENCE

The Report of the 9th All-India Oriental Conference is a full and comprehensive one and gives information regarding all the phases of activity of the Conference in its Trivandrum Session. The Chairman of the Reception Committee, in his opening address, claimed that the culture of Travancore has been predominantly Hindu and Brahmanic, the great World Religions and Cultures, Hebrew, Buddhist, Christian and Islamic have met and mingled.

His Highness the Maharajah expressed, in his address to the Conference, that the policy of his State has always been one of comprehension, hospitality and amity and that his Temple Entry Proclamation was the logical outcome of these traditional ideals of Travancore.

Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar, the Dewan and Patron of the Conference, declared in his closing speech that what was most necessary was a combination in the work of Orientalists of technical equipment and scientific approach with that humanity which deals with religions and cultures as "moving in dim worlds half realised".

RECONSTRUCTION AFTER WAR

It is understood that the Government of India have come to a final decision to appoint a Reconstruction Committee under the Chairmanship of Sir A. Ramaswami Mudaliar, the Commerce Member, which will be composed of the Economic Adviser to the Government of India and representatives of the Finance, Commerce, Defence, Education, Health and Lands, Supply and Railway Departments of the Government of India. The main Committee will direct the work which will be carried out by a Sub-Committee with which will be associated non-official businessmen.

A SUB-FEDERATION

Some leaders of the Nayar Community in the West Coast meet periodically in conference. Their conference met for the eleventh session at Pandalam in Central Travancore a few days ago. Among its resolutions was one which pressed for the grouping of Travancore, Cochin and British Malabar into a sub-Federation after the war.

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THE WAR SPREADS

BY MR. G. A. JOHNSON

IN one of the indelicate works of the French Renaissance period (is it the *Dames Galantes*?) there is the story of a Great Lady who, having been several times ravished by brutal and licentious soldiery, confessed to liking it. The Government at Vichy display a very similar attitude. They seem to enjoy the role of victim of aggression. There can be little doubt that if they had wanted to defend Indo-China against the Japanese, they could have done so. Naval and military reinforcements might have been sent from Europe with Britain's blessing. But the only Power against whom Marshal Petain is prepared to keep his pledge to defend the French Empire is evidently Britain. No action that any other Power takes is considered aggression; whereas every British action or even, as in the present example, inaction, is labelled aggressive.

A pretty little story has been worked up to excuse French policy in Indo-China. It is that Britain had aggressive intentions and Japan has been invited in to protect French sovereignty. The supporting evidence is, presumably, the offer unofficially reported to have been made to Indo-China some time ago, that she should join in mutual defence with the Powers which support the *status quo* in the Far East and are opposed to Japan's New Order or, as it is now called "Greater East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere". Vichy may also find an analogy for her compliance in the attitude of Iceland towards her British and American protectors. Even so, it seems very doubtful whether many Frenchmen will accept the story that France has invited Japan

to protect her against Britain. It sounds like an extract from a comic journal. It will no doubt be felt by the French that Germany is once more using their puppet Government for German ends. But it may still be asked whether this latest example of subservience was really necessary. The continued betrayals by Vichy of French interests are bound before long to reinforce the de-Gaullists and the important pro-British and pro-Russian elements, especially if Russia continues to hold the Germans and fight back. This latest treason may end in the overthrow of the Petain administration.

In the meanwhile, however, Vichy's action has undoubtedly encouraged the spread of the war. Perhaps this was done deliberately and not only at German dictation. It may be the intention to spread the conflagration in order that, either France may appreciate her good fortune in an early escape from it, or the end may be accelerated and peace signed. At the time of writing, the full consequences of Vichy's surrender are not apparent. The Empire and the United States have taken action against Japan; but it has not prevented Japanese troops from moving into bases in Indo-China, perhaps in anticipation of the agreement which Vichy does not yet officially admit to have signed (it may be suggested that no fresh agreement is necessary since, for all practical purposes, Vichy signed away her sovereign rights in September 1940, when she allowed Japanese forces to establish themselves in Tonkin and Haiphong).

This is, one imagines, by no means the end of the story. The British and

American sanctions are strongly reminiscent of the ineffective action taken against Italy in 1935. That they will damage Japanese trade and seriously affect her war effort in the long run is fairly plain; but the immediate effect may be to intensify Japan's aggressive intentions (there is already talk of demands on Thailand—one step nearer Burma and Malaya), to dispose her to replace lost oil supplies (if an oil embargo is imposed) through the conquest of the Netherlands East Indies and, in any case, to do as much damage as possible to British and American trade in the Far East, perhaps by imposing a blockade and intercepting American supplies of war material to Malaya and the Dutch islands. Such action could hardly fail to lead to war. It may, therefore, be asked whether Britain and America would not do better to take decisive action now, before Japan has had time to establish herself in the more favourable position which her acquisition of bases in Southern Indo-China will give her. The new American command in the Philippines shows that the United States are preparing. But will they be content to await an attack—if not on their own possessions, on Burma and Malaya.

Even if Japan contents herself with seizing British and American assets, including the vast investments and establishments in China, and with preventing British and American trade with Shanghai, it will be bad enough. It will mean that what was intended as a salutary warning to Japan has been turned into a Japanese "score", which is bound to have a bad effect on the prestige of the western democracies and may make it more difficult to secure the co-operation of China, Thailand and even the Netherlands East Indies in any future programme of active resistance to aggression.

On the Russo-German front, the situation is confused. Much propaganda is being issued on both sides and commentaries innumerable are broadcast. It is said with persistence that the Germans have fallen behind their time-table. Perhaps they have, although, since, unlike a railway guide, it is not published, one is sometimes led to wonder how those who speak so

confidently about it have acquired their knowledge. Of one thing, however, there can be no doubt. The Russians are putting up a very stout resistance which must be the admiration of any unprejudiced observer and is of the greatest possible assistance to their allies. Whatever may be one's private opinion of Communism the Russian example shows that it is extremely good for morale.

The question arises whether Britain is doing enough to help Russia? True, she is hammering away at Germany's war industries. This is work of the utmost importance; but it would be carried on in any case, although, perhaps, not on the same scale. It may have distracted part of the Luftwaffe's effort from the Russian front—fighters, at any rate, have to be kept in the West; also anti-aircraft guns; bombing raids on Britain have recently been of little consequence, with few exceptions. It is widely suggested that a more important diversion would be a landing in Europe. That is easily envisaged from a long chair in India; but the preparations involved in the despatch and supply of a modern expeditionary force are not so easily envisaged. Nor is it easy to judge of the relative value of different opportunities and objectives. It seems not unlikely, however, that a new offensive will be launched in the Mediterranean zone. The attack on and safe arrival of a convoy of men and material at an unannounced destination indicates that reinforcements are being sent by the quickest possible route and that the Axis forces in the Mediterranean appreciate the importance of these movements. Developments in this area may be looked for. The attacks on Malta suggest that the Italians are seeking to forestall them.

The bombing of Berlin is, perhaps, likely to help the Russians more quickly than any other form of diversion. The mild Lord Halifax (Lord Irwin as he is better known in this country) has become strangely transformed since he was appointed Ambassador to the United States. But his reference in a recent speech to the forthcoming harrowing of Berlin appears to reflect widespread feeling in Britain. Operational difficulties rather

than humanitarian scruples may be said to have played the most important part in recent months in restraining attacks on the German capital. It has been well pointed out that the quick reaction of the Germans to previous attacks on Berlin indicates that these attacks hit them more vitally than do attacks on their war production machine. Perhaps Nazi morale is less resistant to punishment than Communist. In that case, the bombing of Berlin becomes something very like a military objective. By their indiscriminate attacks on British towns, the Germans have killed pity.

Gen. Franco's recent speech about Spain's "restlessness for her destiny" deserves notice. In it, he expressed sympathy for the Axis Powers and said they would win the war. That was bad enough. But he also bit the hand that fed him. Britain and the United States have been supplying Spain with food and credits on the condition (explicit or implicit) that Spain should remain strictly neutral and at peace. Gen. Franco resents this condition, which he represents as a limitation on Spanish sovereignty. However, both Mr. Sumner Welles and Mr. Eden have since made it plain that if Spain prefers co-operation with the Axis to a full belly, American and British help will cease. Mr. Eden was very outspoken. British help seems to have ceased already. It will be restored if Franco asks for it. He has now to decide whether it is more profitable to pursue Spanish reconstruction in peace or to fulfil Spain's "destiny" at Gibraltar, in Portugal or in what was formerly Spanish America, with, of course, German assistance and as Germany's subordinate. But although opinion in the

United States continues to be gravely concerned over the possibility of Dakar falling into German hands—it is 1,800 miles from Natal, the nearest point in South America—and proofs continue to accumulate of Nazi conspiracies in the Latin American countries, it seems extremely doubtful whether Germany has the forces and the energy to spare to undertake a campaign of this sort. Moreover, if Spain has, as she claims, sent 90,000 volunteers to help Germany in her "crusade" against Russia, it seems rather doubtful whether she has enough active Fascists left both to run an aggressive campaign and to maintain peace at home, with the majority of the population hungry and still resentful of Civil War defeats.

Spain is, of course, not the only European country that is hungry. In the occupied countries and satellite States hostility to German domination appears to be increasing as food supplies diminish. There has been open revolt in Yugoslavia and, perhaps, also behind the lines in Rumania. In Norway, Holland, France and Poland sabotage continues. It is to be hoped that the "V" campaign, useful as it probably is in producing a sense of unity, will not be the cause of dissipating energies which might be employed in organising more detrimental conspiracies.

Although statistics are now no longer published, statements by Americans and Canadians suggest that British losses in the Battle of the Atlantic are declining. With the diversion of more American ships to the Atlantic route, with American naval patrols and with an increase in the rate of American shipbuilding, the Germans appear to have lost their chance of winning the war by starving Britain of food and war materials.

RESURRECTION OF DEMOCRACY

BY PROF. DIP CHAND VERMA, M.A.

THIS war is being fought for an elusive World Order, the contours of which are obvious to no one. Things are on the move, but the peace and direction of that movement are haphazard and uncontrolled. This does not mean that the two sets of power, that are engaged

in this demonic struggle have no definite plans. Plans there are on both sides, but neither of them would result in a happier and better post-war world.

The crux of the matter is that the democratic principle which inspired the thinkers and statesmen of the 18th and

19th centuries and thereby became the foundation of the modern Western Civilisation has gone down. New forces have arisen as a pragmatic revolt against the effete and *laissez-faire* doctrine of mercantilism and Bourgeois capitalism. Democracy, which arose as a progressive and revolutionary doctrine against medieval feudalism and an outlived monarchism, has lost all its glamour and appeal, because of its association with vested interests. These vested interests which have dominated the world in the form of Capitalism and Imperialism have refused to divest themselves in spite of their obvious incompatibility and impracticability in the context of the new social and economic problems. These problems repeatedly presented themselves for solution, but the vested interests that held the strings of political power firmly in their hands continued glossing over things and were content to patch up matters whenever difficulty arose. A climax was obviously reached during the closing years of the last century, when a mutual conflict between the European financiers and capitalists, who controlled the governments in every country, precipitated a crisis in world Imperialism. Another difficulty arose from colonies in Africa and Asia where nationalist movements came to be organized, as a challenge against the western exploitation. The last great war arose in the background of this financial and territorial rivalry between the western nations.

Democracy had by this time exhausted its progressive character and the political issues failed to make headway, because of financial bulwark of vested interests. If only these interests could be liquidated democracy would have become a revolutionary force and instead of failing miserably, would have triumphed over the reactionary movements of Fascism and Nazism.

II

The war of 1914-18 was a turning-point in world History. It was a critical period for the future of Democracy. Democracy had made a triumphant march on the political side and its ideals made a powerful appeal to every nation. On the economic and financial side, however,

the whole structure remained undemocratic. A few financiers in London, Paris, and New York, in association with the newly arisen Bourgeois class in those countries, monopolised all the fruits and prizes of the Industrial Revolution. The masses of peasants and labourers and the lower middle classes everywhere were reduced to great economic straits. The political power was transferred to the masses, which took the form of adult franchise in the more advanced western countries, but everywhere the economic power continued to be the monopoly of the newly arisen Bourgeoisie. The Democracy that resulted from this maladjustment of the political and economic authority was a hybrid product that failed absolutely to cure the social maladies of the age.

III

In the post-Versailles world, these contradictions and conflicts reached their climax. Political Scientists, Historians, Economists and Statesmen all came forward with their diagnoses. Some of them were content to offer a scapegoat and considered the Treaty of Versailles as the root of the whole trouble. This Treaty of Versailles was no doubt extremely defective and unjust but the malady was deeper. If the terms of that Treaty had been more liberal to the defeated powers, the trouble would have been possibly postponed for a few more years, but it could not have been avoided.

What was really required was a "New World" for the "Old" a complete revolution in the thoughts of men so that the basic principles of Democracy, Liberty, Equality and Fraternity could be embodied in effective institutional forms.

This implied a complete overhauling of the nation: from within as well as from without. From within it would have meant the liquidation of all vested interests in finance and industry: the abolition of the class-structure that rigidly divided the society into the 'Haves' and the 'Haves-Not'. Even more fundamental changes were required to adjust the international relations. The doctrine of 'National Sovereignty' had outlived the objective conditions governing it and required to be scrapped. Nations, however,

continued to stick to it like an old superstition and if anything guarded their sovereign rights with greater firmness and rigidity. Under these circumstances the efforts that were made, by well-meaning persons to usher in the new international order were foredoomed to failure. The League of Nations had a most defective constitution for an international organization, but even more fatal was the atmosphere in which it had to work out its programme.

The conferences and the frequent gatherings of the statesmen and politicians led us nowhere, for whenever the central issue of the curtailment of national sovereignty was posed, every nation was adamant on its rights. There were some well-directed efforts, as the Locarno Pact, the Briand-Kellogg Pact and the like in the twenties, but they all broke down finally on the hard rock of bellicose nationalism that refused to compromise.

IV

Nationalism remains undoubtedly the central problem of our time and behind this hallowed name lurk all the vested interests in every country. It may take various political and social forms, Fascism or Nazism as in Italy or Germany, Democracy as in England and France or Socialism or Communism as in Soviet Russia—everywhere the national idea is supreme, no less in Russia than elsewhere, despite the international professions of communism. The government in every nation is held in tight reins by formidable financiers and industrial chiefs, who also control the press, the radio, and all other avenues of publicity. The same financial interests have created world-wide imperial systems, which help to prop up an otherwise decaying capitalism.

At times other issues arise and the problem is raised to the plane of basic principles. The war in Europe is a case in point. That the present war has resulted from the social and economic maladjustment is obvious. Between communism, Nazism, Fascism and capitalist Democracy, the alignment and the line of demarcation is by no means easy. The foreign policies of all the countries were so muddled up, that the distinction of the friend and the foe was vague and unrecognizable. Every country was driving

towards something, but as to what exactly, nobody knew. Only one man in Europe was clear in his objective. That man was Adolf Hitler. The clearness of his objective consisted only in this, that he considered a war inevitable for the establishment of the German race. That war could be fought on the East against Soviet Russia or in the West against France and England. It is the vagary of European diplomacy rather than any preconceived plan of Hitler that decided towards the end of August 1939 that the war was to be fought against the Capitalist democracies first. Hitler felt no innate antagonism towards England or France. To the former he promised full support in her Imperial projects, only if she would not get into his path in Europe. England finding her most vital interests, in fact her very national existence jeopardised, rejected Hitler's offer.

England now insists that she is fighting this war to safeguard democracy and world freedom against the dictatorship of one country. So far as democracy is concerned, Poland, which precipitated this war, was not a democratic country. During this period of now nearly two years when the war has been on, John Bull has done nothing in its Imperial policy, which would convince the world at large that these professions about democracy are genuine. British policy in India continues to be as unimaginative as ever. The steel frame refuses to believe that India can take care of her self and the London financiers have if anything grown more enthusiastic about the "White Man's Burden". To the Indian nationalist, this whole jargon about democracy appears rather plausible when it is necessary to put a convinced social-democrat like Nehru behind bars, to make the world safe for democracy. Something is utterly rotten somewhere and things would not straighten up, unless the diplomats and politicians are subjected to a more strict moral code, such as governs the relations of ordinary individuals in society.

The talk about Freedom is hardly more convincing. Neither England nor France raised their little finger when China, Abyssinia, Spain, Austria, and finally

Czechoslovakia fell victims to ruthless aggression. It is impossible to believe that the people who could see unperturbed the end of freedom in those countries, have overnight become converts to democracy and freedom and would now earnestly fight for their resurrection. We have to look to the future of democracy in the perspective of past happenings and keep clear from all confusing shibboleths.

V

The present war can be made a crusade for the resurrection of democracy but this would not happen unless England the chief champion of the democratic cause lays down all her cards on the table, gives up for good, the opportunist diplomacy for the defence of vested interests in finance and Empire and takes up the cudgel for the establishment of a world order based on the genuine principles of world freedom and fraternity.

If that were the objective in view, England would have to radically change her method of the prosecution of the war. Let it not be forgotten that this is a revolutionary war in the sense that each party is fighting for ideas and ideologies that would determine the character and structure of the post-war world. There is a quest for a New World Order. On the German side, the new order would mean the domination of Europe and the world by the German race, which, according to the Nazi gospel, is the only fit people to rule. This may take the form of some sort of a European Federation, controlled centrally by the Reich, with Italy assigned a subordinate role. Russia has now been roped in and the Nazi steam-roller has turned to the East to liquidate the potential danger in the rear. Japan would be encouraged to establish a new order in the Far East. With British navy in Hitler's hands, the task of the subordination of the western Hemisphere would be taken in hand. That, however, is a question of long-term strategy. For some time to come the American nations would be left to themselves. The continents of Asia and Africa would have passed into the sphere of influence of one or the other of the Axis powers. That would roughly be the structure of

the German new order, if Hitler should successfully tackle, first the Soviet Colossus in the East and finally the British Empire the last but the most stubborn of his foes.

On the British side, the question is more intricate. British statesmen have so far refused to refer in any concrete terms to the new order which they are fighting to usher. They have broadly taken their stand on democracy. But democracy we have known so far, lost us the peace and is not likely to win us this war. If this war is to be won for democracy, it must be for a new, revitalised and revolutionised creed. It must be the democracy, in which the idea of exploitation has been removed for good.

CONCLUSION

The reactions of Britain and America to the Nazi-Soviet war and the declarations made by the leaders of the two democracies reveal that these countries are still thinking in terms of expediency. The Prime Minister, Mr. Winston Churchill, the Foreign Secretary Mr. Eden, and the Under-Secretary of State, Mr. Sumner Wells have all been careful to point out their dislike of Communism and Bolshevism, but consider it expedient to utilize the Nazi digression to the East to hit their real target, which is Hitlerism. This to say the least is a negative programme. Destruction of Hitlerism would mean very little, unless the reconstruction of the world is planned ahead, on thorough democratic principles, with a world federation as the declared ideal.

A joint declaration by Mr. Roosevelt and Mr. Churchill for the complete renunciation of all Imperialism, whether economic or political, abolition of all vested interests in finance and industry and application of full democracy to all the states of the world that would be the clarion-call for the triumph of democracy. The declaration must pointedly refer to India and China, which between them contain more than one-third of the world population and guarantee these two countries, full national status in the new world. Tampering with the problem is futile. Evasion of the real issue would make the democratic case still more precarious. Unless a revolutionary leadership is forthcoming on the democratic side, the wildest thoughts of the Mein Kampf would be realized to the very hilt.

The United States in India's Trade

BY MR. V. G. RAMAKRISHNAN

IN view of the increasing interest that is being taken in the trade between India and the U. S. A., it would be interesting and helpful to know the unique features of the Indian market with which the American manufacturer or exporter is concerned. There is no easy road to commercial achievement for American business enterprise in India as the competition from other countries is too keen though interrupted by the present war, and the advantage enjoyed by British business is too well entrenched. But the U. S. A. has a useful and increasing place in its trade with India.

Prior to 1914, the U. S. A. was but little known as a source of import trade. Petroleum and its products, tobacco for the manufacture of cigarettes, certain well known American specialities such as flashlights and fountain-pens, a few machine tools and appliances of common use and the beginnings of a trade in automobiles constituted almost the whole lot of American trade. Direct import of American goods in 1914 constituted but 2.6 per cent. of the value of India's total imports in contrast with the United Kingdom's mighty share of 64 per cent. and Germany's 6.8 per cent. The lack of direct shipping lines from the U. S. A. was one important reason for the slight participation of U. S. A.'s trade in the Indian market and the ability of the European competitors to undersell the Americans in most manufactured lines. But since the war of 1914, all industrial nations have been pushing a campaign of vigorous attention to the Indian market. New advertising methods, the prevalence of motion pictures which reach a large share of the population, the ubiquity of the American motor car with its service stations have been slowly breaking down the barriers in the Indian mind against non-British goods. Prior to 1914, the trade between U. S. A. and India was primarily an exchange of raw materials and semi-manufactured goods—raw cotton, petroleum and tobacco products, jute, hides and skins, etc. At the beginning of the War of 1914, the U. S. A. held a slight advantage over Japan in the Indian market which continued until 1916. In that year, however, the

needs of the belligerents in Europe drew the products of the U. S. A. more to that field, leaving India and the Far East generally open to greater exploitation by Japan's expanding industries. Both the U. S. A. and Japan expected to hold a strong position they had gained in the Indian market during the War period.

Though the United Kingdom has been the principal sufferer from Japanese inroads upon its trade with India in manufactured goods particularly in textiles, the trade of the U. S. A. has not escaped from such competition. In automobile parts and accessories, canned fruits and fish, optical goods, lightings and fittings, electrical bulbs, certain types of hardware, stationery, Japan has almost wholly replaced the U. S. A. in the Indian market. India is a price market, and the cheap price of most Japanese goods has driven the quality goods of European countries in respect of many commodities. But from 1937, the U. S. A. has been able to retain a considerable share in India's trade. In 1937, the increased value of Indian exports to the U. S. A. was Rs. 4,30,00,000 and U. S. A.'s total takings that year were valued at Rs. 19,40,00,000 or 10.3 per cent. of total Indian exports. The U. S. A. is normally the market for more of India's manufactures of gunny cloth than all other countries of the world combined and is an important customer for India's jute products. The participation of the U. S. A. is mainly in the trade in fents, but American voiles are sold on the market just as produced in the U. S. A. As regards machinery over a period of many years, one of India's principal imports from the U. S. A. has been machinery. In 1919-20, imports of American machinery amounted to as much as Rs. 2,80,00,000 and supplied 30 per cent. of the total demand. In recent years the value of the American share has fallen to as little as Rs. 80,00,000 although since 1933-34 the trade has shown steady improvement. In 1938, imports of American machinery amounted to Rs. 1,35,85,000 or 7.4 per cent. of India's total machinery

imports. American machinery has earned an excellent reputation in India. Textile machinery has long been the principal type of machinery imported into India and formed about 40 per cent., but with the more diversified industrial development which has taken place in India since the last war, textile machinery now accounts for from 20 to 25 per cent. and electrical machinery from about 15 to 18 per cent. As regards electrical apparatus and appliances, the U. S. A. has held a fairly constant share. In the past five years, the U. S. A. has averaged about Rs. 33,00,000 in value or from 10 to 12 per cent. Probably no product of American electrical or allied industries has become better known in India than the flashlight and battery cells. Imports from the U. S. A. account for 65 or 70 per cent. of the whole trade and the U. S. A. has also taken 40 per cent. of the Indian market in supplying wireless apparatus. In the case of automobiles, American trucks and busses still dominate the market. Cars are run longer in India than in most places and the sale of parts has always been of substantial volume.

As regards India's exports, jute has figured as the most important. In the pre-war period the five leading markets for Indian raw jute were the U. K., Germany, U. S. A. and France, but the U. S. A. has ever been by far India's leading market for manufactures of gunny cloth. Before the War, the American market consistently took 65 per cent. of India's export of hessians and gunny sacks and since then has held to well over 50 per cent. of the trade. As regards Indian cotton exports, the interest of the U. S. A. has been negligible; U. S. A. takes one or two per cent. of Indian cotton exports and confines purchases to two varieties of very rough white, short-staple cotton used for mixing with wool in the manufacture of blankets. As regards tea which is the third most important export following jute and cotton products, tea drinkers of the U. S. A. have taken kindly to Indian teas, which are the outstanding favourite of British palate. American taste appear to prefer the teas of Ceylon to those of India.

The large sums spent in U. S. A. by the Tea Market Expansion Board have done little to stimulate demand and U. S. A. takes only about 2 per cent. of India's exports. India is the largest producer of oil seeds (2,50,00,000 acres). American purchases are mainly of linseed and castor bean oils. India is the world's largest supplier of goat skins and the leading source of supply for American makers of ladies' fine shoes and gloves. The U. S. A. is India's leading customer for hides and skins, but mostly in goat skins. In the case of lac, which is India's monopoly, the U. S. A. is normally the market for approximately half the production of India and in the case of mica, the U. S. A. is the second big market for Indian mica.

So far as the trade with U. S. A. is concerned, direct and regular liners services connect the shipping ports of the U. S. A. with those of India in normal times. The extended use of American goods in India is not likely to reach its full development unless or until the practice of developing branch houses or American business organizations in the country to handle American goods becomes more general. The best known and most widely used goods made by the U. S. A. are sold in India through the few American organizations domiciled in this country. In these days of exigent searching for new markets, the mofussil districts of India are of increasing importance in the planning of a sales campaign. In the words of the managing-director of one of the most prominent American firms in India: "The manufacturer who wishes to do business in India, and to obtain any sort of volume sales must assure himself that the agent he selects to represent him is 'up-country minded' and has done the necessary investigation and preliminary work, while the manufacturer himself must in addition be prepared to spend money for up-country development work of this nature". India has to adopt a similar plan for pushing Indian goods in the U. S. A. market. The selection of a proper agency organization is the keystone to increased participation in the trade between U. S. A. and India.

WHAT CAN EDUCATION DO ?

BY PROF. DIWAN CHAND SHARMA, M.A.

AT the new Education Fellowship Conference held in Australia in 1937, Mr. Zilliacus drew a very dismal picture of the world. He tried to show how a large-scale conflict was impending between the democracies and the totalitarian states. Alas! his prognostications have proved to be too true. Today we find practically the whole of the world plunged in war in one way or another. The peace of the world has been very gravely disturbed, and all that men have built up with so much care is threatened with destruction. When one says this, one does not think merely that the territorial integrity of some countries is violated, that the economic life of the world is dislocated, that the cause of freedom is seriously jeopardised, and that ordered social intercourse between the nations of the world is grossly injured. All these are grave risks which the world is running at this time. But the gravest danger is to what may be generally described as civilization. This view has been voiced by many statesmen and other sensitive spirits of the world. H. G. Wells has said somewhere that there is one thing very curious in the history of mankind, and it is that man goes on building up civilization for hundreds of years, and then suddenly a passion for destruction seizes on him, and he indulges in an orgy of man's slaughter with the result that he lapses into a state of barbarism.

This is the situation that faces us today. On the battle-fields of Europe and even in some parts of Asia, the battle between barbarism and civilization is being fought. The totalitarian states with their new techniques of mass slaughter,

mass propaganda and espionage are out to crush the democratic spirit in the world, and to some extent and for the time being at least they seem to have succeeded. But for Britain which has taken the field against them on behalf of democracy, civilization and humanity, they would have had an easy victory. Yet it is worth enquiring why the democracies of Europe, excepting that of Britain, have not been able to put up a decisive fight against the totalitarian states.

To answer this question one need not go into the political, economic and diplomatic causes of the conflict. One can say only this much that democracy which should have been a way of living has become merely a political concept. Instead of being a moral cause and a vital gospel, which democrats should have propagated, it became a kind of constitutional device; instead of becoming a fiery creed which should have commanded the allegiance of the whole world, it became merely a political catchword. It ceased to appeal to the imagination, the heart and the conscience of mankind, because its advocates and practitioners were not very energetic in making people conversant with the good that it could do to the world. As it failed sometimes in the diplomatic field on account of faintness of heart, as some one has put it, so in the larger spheres of life, it failed on account of lack of moral fervour.

Yet no one will deny that with democracy is bound up the cause of humanity and that of civilization. This is what Lord Gort said: "Were the Nazi creed to triumph," said he, "the four

characteristics of the soul of Britain—our religious faith, our love of freedom, our sense of tolerance and our respect for individual rights would all perish. Our goal is to ensure that these ideals shall survive." These ideas are not merely the soul of Britain, they are the soul of humanity, of democracy and of civilization. To save them, every individual should strain himself to the utmost.

But more than any other individual it is the duty of the educationist to cherish, to preserve and to propagate these ideals; for it is the function of education to keep alive this spirit of idealism. It is, however, a pity that educationists all the world over have been more concerned with the immediate ends than with the distant goal. They have been interested in giving education one bias or another, but they have never tried to formulate the underlying philosophy of education. They have sacrificed the essentials of education, though some think that it is for something practical and utilitarian. In India, the cry has been for more of vocational education. To say this is not to minimise the utility of this type of education, but at the same time one cannot forget that even vocational education should serve some higher ends. Even in England, an attempt was made before the war to reorganise the system of secondary education, and as an English observer put it, it was not a very great attempt; for it was rooted in the Middle Ages and was in some ways class-conscious. Society was divided into three classes: those who ruled, those who prayed, and those who worked, and different educational systems were devised for these different classes. The Public School system was meant for those who ruled and

the Secondary School system was for those who were to seek administrative and educational jobs, and the Elementary School was meant for those who had to work. No one will deny that an educational system like this cannot further the cause of democracy. It is, therefore, no wonder that the real ends of education have been sacrificed even in some of the democratic countries of the world. America is, perhaps, the only country which has placed democracy at the heart of its educational system. It is recognised there that every child has a right to educate itself and that no handicap of any kind can stand in its way. A child cannot be debarred from receiving the highest education on account of its poverty or class or religion or any other consideration. It is also recognised that the aim of education is to fit a student for citizenship in a democratic country. Further, it is attempted that though the final goal will ever be unalterable, there may be curricular adjustments to suit the varying conditions and requirements of different localities. Thus in America, there has been the oneness of end and the flexibility of means.

It is, however, not only in the democratic countries that the true ends of education have been neglected. In the totalitarian states the condition has been worse than any one can imagine. There the schools and universities have been more or less military colleges, where the students have been trained to wave flags, to shout slogans and to develop the will to war. Militant nationalism has been the objective of these educational institutions, and the students have been taught to repress all finer feelings so that the glory of their country may be enhanced.

From all this one cannot but conclude that education has had something to do in bringing about the present catastrophe. This should be a warning for us for the future, and we should so overhaul our educational systems now that the world does not relapse into a state of barbarism and savagery. To do so, we should formulate the main ends of education and should work for their general acceptance all the world over.

The main ends of education may be three: democracy, humanity, and civilization, and we should so organise our schools and universities that these are not lost sight of in the conflict of syllabuses and of the rival educational methods. The aim of a particular educational system may be to produce a gentleman, a ruler, an administrator, a priest, a worker or a soldier, but all these persons should be such as are wedded to this threefold cause. Only if we do this, we can re-make the world after our heart's desire.

We should now see what obligations this ideal involves. In order that the ends of democracy may be served, we should try to enlarge the knowledge of people—the knowledge that is worth while and life-giving. It should be such as can bring about better understanding between nations and as can qualify each individual for practical citizenship. It is not merely enough to tell students what democracy in the abstract means, but one should place before them a glowing picture of the world which is run on democratic lines. It will not do merely to acquaint them with principles of democracy, but we should try to show to them democracy in action. Every school should be run on democratic principles, and a student should

have a foretaste of democratic control and practice. This should not, however, be done in a half-hearted and stereotyped manner. On the other hand, it should be attempted to imbue students with zeal for democratic practice. Says an eminent educationist:

The school should not only give practical ability and knowledge, it should foster the will to citizenship. It should not only charge the mind, it should touch the mind—the heart—of the growing generation. This task is partly intellectual and partly emotional. The intellectual task is to clarify the concept of democracy, to stimulate thought and discussion about its meaning, to trace its roots in love of freedom and justice and a sense of oneness with our fellows, to develop the habit of confronting theory with practice and different components of our theory with each other, so that they may modify each other and be brought to harmony.

If democracy is understood rightly, the ends of humanity will be automatically served. It is, however, necessary in the present state of affairs to emphasise this thing also. If the word humanity is felt to be too high sounding, one could have the word 'humaneness' in its place. Education should really aim at this noble quality, this quality which is proper to a human being. We see all around us how men are becoming dehumanised and mechanised. There are some thinkers who believe that the time is not far off when machine nature will supersede human nature, and there are not a few who think that on account of the forces operative in the world today man may be reduced to the level of a brute. It is, therefore, necessary to emphasise through our educational institutions those virtues which distinguish a human being from the other species that inhabit this globe. These virtues are love of peace, love of justice, fellow-feeling, kindness and love of co-operation. It is the negation of all that savours of ruthless competition and heartless

exploitation. It is, in fact, this which makes for the elevation of the human being.

Education should also aim at the finer ends of civilization, that is, the elevation of the spirit of man and the fostering of moral idealism. Civilization in the real sense of the term is something that appeals to man's imagination and spirit. It is the sum-total of the finer things of life. It represents the conquest of the matter by the mind and of the mind by the soul. It is not as people imagine in these days something soulless and mechanical. Moreover, nothing can make so much for the oneness of humanity as civilization; for all civilizations in the ultimate analysis point to the deepest and the noblest in man. It should, therefore, be our aim to make humanity work for the cultivation of the mind and the spirit. Instead of tearing each other to

pieces, in place of exploiting and destroying each other, they should all become co-partners in an intellectual and spiritual adventure. They should enrich each other by the gifts of the mind and by the fruits of their spirit. They should add to the sum-total of knowledge and kindle the fires of idealism. Only by doing so can they subserve the higher ends of their nature.

Education can, therefore, do something for the world that is in distress now, but it can do so only if we clearly enunciate the philosophy of education and the goals of our educational institutions. This should not, however, be done in a narrow and selfish spirit, but in a spirit that is conducive to good of the peoples of this world. Let the motto of schools, colleges and universities be democracy, humanity, and civilization. If this is done in the right manner, the world will be saved.

THE NEW RUSSIA

BY PROF. K. A. NILAKANTA SASTRI, M.A.

EMPLOYED as a temporary typist in the Russian Trade Delegation in England (1920), Violet Lansbury* with her Labour traditions easily took to the Russians, went over to Russia in 1925, married in 1926 a Lecturer in Eastern History at the Sun Yat Sen University in Moscow, lived with him till 1938 and returned to England in that year leaving two sons behind. "Last year," she says, "my sons returned (from a Boarding School near Moscow) to their father's home in Moscow, and I am convinced that with him they are happier there in

the Soviet Union than anywhere else in the world." "The Soviet Union I left," she says, "was a country years in advance of any other country in the world." Then why did she leave it? She asks the question herself and here is her answer:

It is not easy to explain. For one thing, I am conscious that many who pick up this book and turn its pages will shrug their shoulders and say that if I left the Soviet Union, there must be something wrong with it. I would prefer them to indulge in the shrug, if they must, and seek the wrong, if wrong there has to be, not in the Soviet Union or the system of government there, but rather in me, myself.

I first went to the Soviet Union to see and try to understand. In 1935, years before I finally made the break, I had decided not to stay. My intentions were no secret to those who knew me

there. If I remained so long after that, it was because I wanted to 'see it through', to see the complete change over to Socialism, the triumph of Socialist industry and agriculture. But I felt that my real work could only be in England (p. 324).

The book is a record written in faith of the experiences of the author in Russia, of the persons, the institutions and the situations she came across and her reactions to them. Her outlook is best gathered from the affectionate criticism she offers of her father.

It has always been a very sad thing to me that my father could not see that financiers and rich industrialists will never relinquish their hold on the good things of life, will never agree to work for salaries, like the majority of the people, so long as they can live lives of luxury and take the lion's share of the good things of the world (p. 131).

Elsewhere she says:

The lies against the Soviet Union have been so consistent and so foul that it is no easy matter to disillusion the minds of ordinary people and to make them see the real truth.

The truth has, fortunately, repeatedly been told to the people of Britain; but it has been offered by people who have no big bank accounts to subsidise their efforts at producing newspapers, journals and propaganda literature. Moreover, these people, because they speak the truth about the Soviet Union and working conditions both there and here in England, are deprived by the dictatorship of the rich, of the industrial magnates and millionaire newspaper owners, of any opportunity of printing the truth in the big newspapers, or of speaking the truth through the medium of the British Broadcasting Company (p. 223).

Even in the periodical execution of "traitors" indulged in by the Soviet Union, the author sees nothing wrong.

Today it is not so difficult to understand these things, when the name of Quisling has become a byword for treachery. But the people inside the Soviet Union were never thrown into confusion by the firm steps taken by the Soviet authorities on their behalf against all traitors inside the country (p. 225).

The burden of the book is that while conditions were bad soon after the Revolution and even as late as 1925, there has been a tremendous improvement since, and the new social values

prevailing in Russia today are such as to command the respect of honest thinking men who are truly interested in the well-being of the people. Naturally there is much in the book that will be received either as a revelation or passed over with contemptuous sneer according to the outlook of the reader. Thus, for instance, about the freedom of discussion in the Soviet Union:

There was always much to talk about in the Soviet Union. The changes which took place all the time were always the subject of discussion far and wide. To talk of that country as being run by dictatorship of one man has always amused and often thoroughly annoyed me. Anybody who has lived there for any length of time is forced to admit that the interest shown in the events inside and outside the country is enormous. There are very few totally apathetic people there; and it is not surprising. Great events had happened, stirring up the life to such an extent that there was hardly a home that had not been affected. Once awakened to events, these people had never fallen asleep again; they retained their interest, they put forward their criticisms frankly, as such people will; they put forward their proposals. In trains, dining-rooms, cafes, in factories, offices, homes, the changes were always under discussion.

The whole training of the people, ever since the October Revolution, has been in the direction of making them feel a sense of responsibility for everything that takes place in the country. They have been imbued with the truth that the country is their own to make or mar; the law is made by them, and can be changed by them, through their representatives (p. 79).

Or this on the course of study at a Communist University:

And so, in the first year, the students were taught the more elementary subjects such as mathematics, elementary economics, the Russian language, simple mechanics, the early history of the working-class movement in Russia. In the second year, roughly speaking, there was some higher mathematics, philosophy, beginning with the earlier philosophers and proceeding right through to Hegel, and Marx's criticism of Hegel; a little Russian literature, Western European history, Marxian economics. The third year was continuation of the second. The fourth, culminating year, brought the student right up against problems of the working-class movement and working class conditions abroad and problems before their own country (p. 89).

It is admitted that this course was not easy to work in the absence of a good background of schooling for the children.

* AN ENGLISHWOMAN IN THE U. S. S. R. by Violet Lansbury. (Putnam.) Price 12s. 6d. net.

This is what a Russian Doctor once told the author about religion in the Soviet Union:

Here in the Soviet Union we are taught comparative religions at our universities. We learn philosophy as part of our education. We believe, here in the Soviet Union, that the people must know the truth about religion and decide for themselves. After they have studied comparative religions, if they choose to believe one of the religious doctrines, they have every right to. We consider that the evil of religion only begins when it is forced upon people against their wills, when people are frightened into believing in God, when people are forced to help pay for the upkeep of churches whether they are religious-minded or not. That is why here in the Soviet Union the church has been separated from the state. The church lives on in so far as there are people, whether of the Greek Orthodox, the Mohammedan, the Tolstoyan or any other religious leanings,

who are ready to support it, including the provision of material support for its upkeep and the upkeep of the servants of the church. That is the difference between religion in the Soviet Union and in other countries of Europe (pp. 146-7).

The author's comment is "I knew that, but was interested to hear it put so simply". There is no need to multiply extracts. Enough has been given to show that the book is well worth reading. And after reading it, one will lay down the book wondering if the author still continues to believe what she says in the very last paragraph of the book: "There is more safety in the Soviet Union against wars than anywhere else in the worlds."

POETRY AND WAR

By Mr. OWEN SNELL

THE last Great War, which changed the whole matrix of civilisation and necessitated a new orientation in the outlook of men, was accompanied by an amount of collective human suffering, hardship and pain which is rightly claimed to be unprecedented in human history. Millions of men and women, combatants and non-combatants, immolated themselves at the altar of the insatiable war god in defence of ideals which they held to be indispensable to humane and civilised life, though the only palpable result of the holocaust was to profoundly affect the minds of men and engender a hatred of war with all its concomitant evils. If such was the effect on the minds of the great majority of ordinary men, what must it have been on the sensitive soul of the poet? Possessing, as he does, the capacity to see below the surface of things and, what is more important, to be able to express himself in sublime and unmatchable

language, his reactions to a great cataclysm like a war must possess lasting significance for us all as being the profoundest expression of the very soul of mankind.

The commencement of the war saw the dead hand of history asserting itself and men marched, singing, into the battlefields intent only on vindicating the cause for which they fought as their ancestors had done before them. Laurence Binyon, writing in 1914, expresses this attitude simply and beautifully in a verse from his poem "For the Fallen".

They went with songs to the battle, they were young,
Straight of limb, true of eye, steady and aglow.
They were staunch to the end against odds
uncounted,
They fell with their faces to the foe.

Almost the same psychology is manifest in all the poems of Rupert Brooke written during the early stages of the war. There is not the least trace of what we today

would call defeatism. There is evident in every line a calmness, a serenity in the face of death on the battlefield the full horrors of which are completely realised and which makes for true courage. He is a poet after Mr. Churchill's own intrepid heart. As he writes in his famous poem "The Soldier":

If I should die think only this of me:
That there's some corner of a foreign field
That is forever England.

Writing in the same year, 1914, he gives expression to the same admirable self-abnegation with even greater sincerity and beauty as in his poem "The Dead".

These laid the world away; poured out the red
Sweet wine of youth; gave up the years to be
Of work and joy, and that unhopèd serene
That men call age; and those who would have been,
Their sons, they gave, their immortality.

These are brave words that spring from the fountain-head of a pure and refined patriotism. There is no bitterness behind them and the humble and inevitable joys of which youth has been deprived by death and mutilation on the battlefield are presented to us without the misgivings that we may reasonably expect. They are rendered the more poignant when it is remembered that Brooke himself "gave up the years to be of work and joy" and that later "unhopèd serene that men call age" having met a premature death in the Middle East where he now lies buried in a "corner of a foreign field that is forever England".

There is in the poetry of Julian Grenfell, and particularly in his famous "Into Battle", written in 1915, a disconcerting fatalism which, though it might impress us, does not excite our sympathy and play on our altruism as in the case of Brooke's poetry. It is more virile and sweeps us into a breath-taking realism which makes the horrors of war [as

inevitable as the more awful phenomena of nature.

And when the burning moment breaks,
And all things else are out of mind,
And only Joy of Battle takes
Him by the throat and makes him blind.

Through joy and blindness he shall know
Not caring much to know, that still
Nor lead nor steel shall reach him, so
That it be not the Destined Will.

However, as the carnage continued, and it came to be realised that the war, far from being an event of a few months' duration, was to be a long protracted struggle, a change took place in the psychology of the people which is particularly manifest in the poetry of later writers. The first suggestion of this almost inevitable change is to be found in a poem by Maurice Baring written in memory of an obviously cherished friend who had been killed in action.

The last last time. We never more should meet
In France or London street,
Or fields of home. The desolated space
Of life shall never more
Be what it was before.
No one shall take your place.
No other face
Can fill that empty frame.
There is no answer when we call your name.

A general disgust, an intellectual nausea, becomes apparent and the complacent fortitude of the earlier poets gives place, if not to wild despair of any kind, at least to a patient, ominous and, one must admit, futile questioning into the necessity of it all. A few lines from Wilfred Owen's poem "Strange Meeting" will exemplify this:

For by my glee might many men have laughed,
And of my weeping something has been left
Which must die now. I mean the truth untold,
The pity of war, the pity war distilled.
Now men will go content with what we spoiled,
Or, discontent, boil bloody, and be spilled.
They will be swift with swiftness of the tigress,
None will break ranks, though nations trek from progress.

"None will break ranks, though nations trek from progress." How significant those words are for us to-day who again

witness the sad spectacle of nations convulsed in the throes of a world war which threatens to annihilate all that we cherish and civilisation itself! How pregnant with the patent comprehension of the limitations of men! Today with the spread of internationalism war is no longer regarded as the inevitable concomitant of progress but as an accident to be avoided with all the skill at our disposal. Such a scene as Siegfried Sassoon describes in his poem "The Death-Bed" with the harsh realism of one who is profoundly stirred is universally admitted to be unnecessary and avoidable.

Some one was holding water to his mouth,
He swallowed, unresisting; moaned and dropped
Through crimson gloom to darkness; and forgot
The opiate throb and ache that was his wound.

Speak to him; rouse him; you may save him yet.
He is young; he hated war, how should he die
When cruel old campaigners win safe through?

For all its vaunted significance the conclusion of the war of 1914-18 did not, as we are only too painfully aware today, bring with it the much desired peace and security; nor was democracy rendered free from peril. The years that followed the Treaty of Versailles were years of strained uncertainty and nervous tension with wars and rumours of wars until the world was finally engulfed in the titanic struggle which confronts us at the present moment. Men groped through them as in a London fog or an enforced black-out. And the stress and strain, the fear and disgust through which we passed are vividly portrayed by a modern poet, Philip Henderson, in a poem entitled "How Can We Live?"

How can we live on in this sick uncertainty,
Fearing the continuance of our lives, or fearing
The advent of a state that will harry solitude
And stamp down all sensitive vision in the common mud?

Is it that now we live in ever recurrent dread
Of horrible extinction from the skies,
Unimaginable death and useless agony
We shall be driven to grapple with and deal to
others

How can we citizens assert our right to live—
Offal of a system that must destroy us or decay?

These are angry words, indignant words, which the frustrated hopes and perplexities of the post-war years fully justify. They cry out against the continuance of a state of affairs which is a perpetual affront to the dignity of man. They possess too a significance which we cannot afford to miss. In them are revealed the reactions of the sensitive poet to the "total" war we witness today with all its horrible potentialities. They hint at the nature of the war poetry we may justifiably expect in the future.

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HIRE PURCHASE SYSTEM

AND ITS EFFECTS ON OUR NATIONAL ECONOMY

BY MR. NIRMAL CHANDRA MUKHERJEE, B. Com.

It is a primary dictum of economic theory that "capital is that part of wealth used for the production of more wealth". Capital, say the text-books, is obtained by setting aside wealth for a capital fund; in short, capital is acquired by saving. Some of the older schools of economics pointed out that the acquisition of capital by thrift involved the highly desirable characteristic of foregoing present spending for future pleasure.

To-day to a great extent thrift has been ousted and you can have present pleasure by future spending. Instead of saving Rs. 100 a month for two or three years and then hesitating whether to buy a motor car, the modern citizen saves his Rs. 100 for a few months only and pays the accrued capital as a deposit for the motor car, which is delivered at once. He goes on "saving" Rs. 100 a month by paying it to the seller of motor cars, and at the end of two or three years, or a little longer—because of interest—he is the owner not of his capital *plus* interest but of a second-hand motor car. This is hire-purchase.

More definitely, hire-purchase (or instalment selling as it is sometimes known) is the transfer of property upon payment by the purchaser of a deposit in cash and of fixed periodical instalments in respect of the balance. The ownership in the property remains vested in the seller until the last instalment has been paid. Subject to this right, the purchaser enjoys the full and undisturbed use of the property so long as he pays the instalments as they fall due.

Hire-purchase has been described as the mortgaging of future income for the satisfaction of present needs and for the gratification of present desires. Although in its present form it is of comparatively recent growth and development, in its essentials it is almost as old as commerce. When a tailor allows his customer six months' credit on open account, and the customer pays the account in two or three instalments, the transaction is in effect hire-purchase.

Even the purchase of land and property by instalments, through the medium of a building society, goes back beyond living memory. But hire-purchase as it is known today, in its more general application, was born not much earlier than the present century. In its infancy it was confined almost exclusively to the sale of furniture, sewing-machines and pianos, and it was availed of almost exclusively by the poorer classes who were not able to buy outright comparatively expensive capital goods of that nature.

Hire-purchase system has run faster than the times. It has outstripped the century. Without exaggeration, its growth has been phenomenal. To furniture, sewing-machines and pianos has been added an ever-increasing variety of articles, among the most predominant being electric stoves and refrigerators, wireless apparatus (or must we say "radios?"), bicycles, vacuum-cleaners, jewellery, and greatest of all—motor cars.

What is the reason for this amazing growth in the system? Has there been an enormously increased supply for which a demand had to be created? Or was there an increased but, by old standards, ineffective demand which producers have skilfully made effective? To both questions an affirmative answer can be given, and it is interesting to observe that the initial impetus arose in each case from the same cause: the War of 1914-1918. During the war, producers were kept busy in an almost vain attempt to meet demand; and consumers, despite the soaring prices which accompanied high wages and general inflation, found a new and higher standard of living. Immediately after the war, there was a boom. "Reconstruction" was the order of the day. Commerce and the social structure generally were to be rebuilt on a firm basis. Factories were hardly less active than in the feverish years of the war. Then it was realised that of the agents of production capital was lacking. Led by Germany, international currency inflation came in, and international trade went out.

With the depression of 1931, fresh in memory it is perhaps difficult to recall the great depression of 1921; yet of the two, the earlier is the more noteworthy, in this respect at least, that it saw the birth of that general and permanent inflation of trade brought about by an almost world-wide extension of hire-purchase system. Producers were anxiously seeking ways and means of selling their goods. The desire to purchase was already there; it had been engendered by the higher standard living of the war years, but desire unsupported by purchasing power is an ineffective demand. How could an effective demand be created? Slowly, said the economists, by the well-tried means of thrift on the part of the potential consumers. The producers were not prepared to wait. They began to sell their goods on the instalment system and, from being a side-line of commerce, that system took its place as an integral part of the economic structure.

So much for the cause of hire-purchase; what have been its effects? The chief and most obvious effects have been, first to increase demand by enabling the wage earning and salaried classes to purchase goods which would be beyond their means if payment had to be made outright in full; and, secondly, to increase supply by stimulating production. On the face of it these results are satisfactory; business activity is fostered, employment is increased and the desires of the consumers are met. But there are many side issues which have given rise to protracted argument on the merits and demerits of the system, between the business world (the producers and sellers) on the one hand and sociologists on the other.

Let us examine the argument and try to reach conclusions. The chief criticism of the hire-purchase system by sociologists is that poor people are induced to embark upon expenditure they cannot afford and that they are thereby encouraged to live beyond their means. If a legislation can be introduced so that purchases on the hire-purchase basis should be restricted to essential commodities, and that luxuries of all kinds be excluded, then this problem of unnecessary expenses will be lessened to some extent.

The attitude of the producers and sellers in defending the system is readily understandable; for they are defending increased production and increased sales. Nevertheless it is impossible to reach any other conclusion than that the sociologists' criticisms are justified, but it is unfair to blame the hire-purchase system generally for the unscrupulous actions of particular firms or for the weak moral fibre of particular purchasers.

The sociologist considers the welfare of the individual, the effect of a condition or a system on the community as a whole is the affair of the economist, and it is in the wider economic sphere that the most useful observations may be made. When the economist approaches the subject of hire-purchase he does not look for a definition. He enquires: "What in economic theory and in practical effect, is hire-purchase." The answer is: Consumer credit (or, as it is also named, Consumption credit). In the past, bankers, the chief suppliers of credit, have frowned upon any suggestion that they should provide consumer credit. Production credit, that is credit provided for productive purchases, will show positive results—the production of goods. Consumer credit, in the eyes of the banker and the economist, will show only negative results—the consumption of goods. The business world, defending this feature of hire-purchase, contends that hire-purchase is not purely consumption credit. It is submitted that a "motor car is frequently a necessity, and credit granted for its purchase is productive credit; sewing-machines for dress-makers, musical instruments for professional players, bicycles for messengers represent productive capital assets". The argument is sound but thin; for even in the unfortunate absence of statistics it is safe to say that the vast bulk of hire-purchase sales represents not only consumers' goods but luxury articles. A more appropriate contention would be that hire-purchase credit stimulates production and is, therefore, in effect if not in fact, production credit. Prof. E. R. A. Seligman, in his exhaustive study of hire-purchase, makes the following pronouncement: "To object to instalment selling on the ground that it is consumption credit with the further

implication that consumption credit is in some way or other less legitimate than production credit is essentially invalid. It rests upon a woeful poverty of economic analysis." He prefaces this conclusion with the comparison of a man shovelling coal into the boiler of a locomotive (an act of production) and a man shovelling coal into his own fire (an act of consumption), and says that in reality there is little difference between the two activities. The argument is not lacking in logic, but it leads to a refinement of thought somewhat beyond the compass of this discussion. He concedes, however, that we produce in order to consume; we do not consume in order to produce.

Having decided that hire-purchase represents consumer credit, the economist asks: "Who pays for this credit and what is the cost?" Obviously the consumer pays and at a rate far in excess of the ruling rates for loans. The current rate to the instalment purchaser is generally stated to be 8 per cent. to 10 per cent.; but the practice is to add the interest to the capital sum for the period of credit, and to ignore the fact that the capital sum is reduced by instalments. No doubt the high interest charge is justified on the ground that an unusual risk is involved, yet it is claimed by the protagonists of the system that the percentage of bad debts is remarkably low. Whatever may be the justification for the high rates, it is clear that the purchaser pays dearly for his accommodation.

The next question is: "What is the effect of the hire-purchase system on the economic structure?" The high interest cost has the effect of increasing the cost of living and the stimulus which hire-purchase gives to production enables manufacturers to produce more cheaply by mass production and thus reduce the cost of living, but this is doubtful. Improved methods of production are comparatively slow in coming into operation and when they do take effect the reduction is not immediately, or fully, passed on to the consumer. It follows, therefore, that the cost of hire-purchase credit does increase the cost of living, and although it may be argued

that an increase in the cost of living is followed by an increase in wages, it is an economic fact that higher wages lag behind an increase in the cost of living. These factors will cause a falling off in demand, to be followed by a reduced production. The result is an economic depression. This forces us to the unavoidable conclusion that hire-purchase system precipitates business crises and thus shortens the circumference of the trade cycle.

Those who hold that hire-purchase reduces the cost of living put forward the theory that to reduce prices without lessening trade activity is tantamount to enjoying all the advantages of deflation without losing any of the advantages of inflation. This is plausible, but when it is remembered that the only tangible backing of hire-purchase trade consists of depreciating assets, with which the seller may be saddled if the purchaser defaults, and that this tangible backing is supported by problematical future income, it will be seen that the increased trade brought about by the hire-purchase system possesses many of the disadvantages of inflation.

Another effect is the discouragement of thrift. As we have seen sellers refute this argument. In the first place, they say that savings are mostly used to purchase articles which are bought under the hire-purchase system, the only difference being the time of possession (and, we might add, the cost). In the second place, it is boldly stated that hire-purchase constitutes thrift.

Only a few out of every million people in the world are so constituted that they can save money without some stimulant to save. Therefore, if it were not for the instalment system, all these people would be deprived of many things which add to their enjoyment of life merely because of this very human shortcoming. The instalment system makes people save, sometimes even against their wish and so enables them to raise their standard of living.

Although it is true that when durable goods are purchased the system promotes saving in kind, as distinct from money saving, such saving is "consumption saving" and unproductive. It represents

"investment" in wasting assets. On the other hand, it is true that those who over-purchase on the instalment system are probably the ones who in any case, without hire-purchase, would be thriftless. It must be conceded, too, that the possession of durable goods and the necessity for providing regular instalments in payment, may stimulate the purchaser to increased exertion. In the final analysis, however, it must be accepted that the hire-purchase system does in fact discourage thrift, but this does not mean that the system stands condemned on that ground. However valuable thrift may be to the individual by providing for future contingencies, and however important it may be to moral character, its final value in the wider economic sense depends on the extent to which it is balanced by thriftlessness. This must not be taken as implying that thrift is valueless in itself. On the contrary thrift is essential. It is the initial source of the supply of capital used in production. But it should be remembered that every person—be he thrifty or extravagant—is a capitaliser. Indeed, it is difficult to determine which is the more important; he who saves or he who squanders. The spendthrift dissipates his earnings in the saloon, the cinema or in paying instalments for a motor car. The money which he spends in the gratification of his desires goes, of course, to those who have met his demands. In the long run, by a series of exchanges, his thoughtless expenditure goes to provide a salary for the thrifty, whose investments may help to keep the spendthrift employed. Each is, therefore, dependent upon the other. The effects of thrift are twofold: It allows capital to accumulate but it also lessens the demand for capital. Conversely thriftlessness also allows capital to accumulate (by letting it drift to the thrifty) but it strengthens the demand for capital, because the demands of the thriftless for their follies become calls on capital for the provision of satisfaction. There, unless it can be proved that the hire-purchase system discourages thrift to the extent that thriftlessness will predominate, this criticism may not be as serious as it seems at first sight; although in a young and developing

country like India, it is more important than elsewhere.

Before coming to a summary of the position, a few general observations must be made.

Life insurance, a type of instalment transaction, has been intentionally omitted from this review. Although premiums on a life insurance policy are, by the very nature of the business, paid periodically, it is obviously incorrect to classify insurance as hire-purchase. Primarily insurance premiums represent payment to the insurance company for the assumption of a risk, and with the exception of isolated instances it would be as ridiculous to pay a lump sum for a continuing risk as for an insurance company to pay an annuity in such a manner. Secondly, insurance premiums represent ordinary saving. Those who defend the hire-purchase system point out that life insurance has never been condemned, but their analogy is imperfect.

Special mention must also be made of fixed property purchased on the instalment system. Although the sale of land and houses by hire-purchase differs in certain respects from the main branch of the system it cannot be excluded, and it is here that hire-purchase receives its greatest commendation. On account of the relatively high cost of fixed property, only the more responsible type of purchaser is attracted. House-ownership, too, encourages that stability which makes for good citizenship. Moreover, of all commodities fixed property probably depreciates the least.

In concluding a review which has on the whole been unfavourable, it would not be fair to omit a very feasible contention by one who is strongly in favour of the system. On the subject of consumer credit, Professor Seligman says: "Each successive form (of credit) was at first deprecated, then coldly welcomed, and in the end cordially accepted. Instalment credit represents the latest stage of credit."

The learned Professor may be right. It would, perhaps, be presumptuous to doubt it. But there will be no cordial acceptance of the hire-purchase system until it has been established on a sound basis and within safe limits.

THE MONSOON IN INDIA

By MR. KESHAVA SHARAN AGARWALA, M.Sc., LL.B.

THE monsoon is the most remarkable feature of the weather in India and its importance to the country cannot be over-emphasised. Hardly the month of May comes to a close that one's thoughts begin to turn to the approach of the monsoon and the welcome rains that it brings.

The word "monsoon" is derived from the Arabic name for a season and was originally used by the Arabs to name the winds of the Arabian Sea, which blow for about six months from the North-East and for six months from the South-West. In India, however, the term "the monsoon" is popularly used to denote the rains which are associated with the south-west monsoon winds and occur during the period from June to September. Thus we talk of a good or a bad monsoon according to whether the amount of rainfall is excessive or deficient. But the word "monsoon" should really be applied to the rain-bearing winds which blow in the Indian region.

The south-west monsoon generally sets in early in June and extends into the interior of the country by the end of the month. The monsoon winds from the Arabian Sea—the Arabian Sea branch—strike the west coast of India almost at right angles, but in the north of the Peninsula they are deflected slightly towards the north. Another branch of the south-west monsoon is the Bay of Bengal current, which impinges on the South Burma coast almost at right angles and travels nearly parallel to the North Burma coast; it crosses the Bengal coast in a steady current from the south and is then deflected westwards over the gangetic plain, extending along the foot of the Himalayas right into the Punjab. In any discussion of the monsoon, the first question for which everybody would wish to have an answer is: What is the cause of the monsoon? The monsoon is produced by a combination of circumstances, involving consideration of air temperature, pressure, humidity, geographical relationship between land and sea, distribution of mountain ranges; etc. The primary cause of the monsoon is the

difference of temperature over land and sea, which tends to lower the pressure over the land during summer. As the pressure falls over the land, air motion results. This air motion is from the south-west and from the ocean to the land. As the air which reaches the Indian area travels for a few thousand miles over the ocean, it gets highly charged with aqueous vapour. The south-west air current over the north of the Indian ocean is directed towards the high mountains of India, so that there is no escape for the air except by rising. This forced rising of the air causes the rain, the actual distribution of which is determined by the mountain ranges in and around India. The sides of mountains which directly meet the air currents get heavy rainfall, while the areas behind the mountains are relatively dry. It has also been established that where a mountain range lies directly across the path of the prevailing rain-bearing winds, the rainfall increases as one approaches the mountain on the windward side and that the zone of maximum precipitation is found on the higher slopes of the mountain. Thus on the west coast of India where the monsoon current strikes the ghats at right angles, the rainfall increases from the coast as one approaches the ghats and attains a maximum value near the crest of the ghats such as at Mahabaleshwar which is situated at a height of 4,500 ft. above sea-level.

Before setting in on the west coast of the Peninsula, the monsoon first "bursts" near Ceylon; it then advances into Malabar and moves up to Bombay some ten days later. The exact date of the "burst" of the monsoon on the west coast, say at Bombay, varies from year to year. In some years it arrives earlier while in others it is belated. The weather at Ceylon and Travancore during the later part of May is regarded as a good gauge for predicting the probable date for the arrival of the monsoon on the west coast of the Peninsula. The cause for an early or late monsoon is to be sought in the combination of circumstances which result in the monsoon itself, i.e., in the weather

conditions such as the pressure distribution, winds, etc., over the Indian Ocean actually prevailing during May and June in a particular year. Why the conditions should so vary from year to year remains a baffling problem.

After its advent in the country early in June, the south-west monsoon fully establishes itself during the subsequent months of July and August. It begins to retreat from North-west and Central India by the end of September although continues active in North-east India even then. In connection with the onset of the monsoon in June, a question which one may naturally ask is as to why the monsoon does not set in during the month of May although the temperature during that month is very much higher. The answer to this question is afforded by actual observations which show that the air flowing into the Indian area during May is less in amount and also appreciably drier than that in June or July; this air is warmed up by the high temperature prevailing at the time and there is, therefore, little formation. It is only in the later months when enough damp air reaches India to cause sufficient cloud and rain to lower the temperature that the monsoon gets established.

The most remarkable feature about the Indian monsoon rainfall is its great diversity. On the one hand, there are regions of exceptionally heavy rainfall such as the west coast of the Peninsula, the Burma coast, and the Khasi hills; on the other hand, there are areas of very scanty rainfall, e.g., the dry regions in North-west India, South of the Peninsula and Upper Burma. While Cherrapunji in the Khasi hills gets an annual rainfall of more than 400 inches—the highest recorded rainfall on the face of the earth—the average annual rainfall of Jacobabad in Sind is about 1 inches only. On the one hand, there are stations where falls of 20 inches and over have occurred in a single day; a recent example of this is a fall of 21.6 inches which occurred at Bombay during the 24 hours ending at 8 A.M. on the 10th September 1930. But the heaviest fall of over 40 inches in 24 hours has occurred at Cherrapunji. On the other hand, there are also

stations where the highest fall in 24 hours never exceeds even an inch.

Who can deny the great importance of the south-west monsoon rains to India? The monsoon brings to vast tracts of the country abundance of rainfall so very necessary for agriculture and is a great favour bestowed upon us by Nature.

While the monsoon is undoubtedly of great benefit to India, it also has its sad side its vagaries, sometimes very eccentric indeed—which not infrequently result in floods and droughts. During floods standing crops always suffer and also there is loss of life and property. Floods are caused by the unusually heavy and wide-spread rainfall as a result of which the rivers overflow and cause damage and distress. On the other hand, there are droughts which occur in years of weak monsoon. Droughts very often lead to the failure of crops in vast areas of cultivated lands in the country and thus cause acute distress among the poor rural population in the affected areas. Severe droughts occurred in India in the years 1877, 1899, 1918 and 1920. In connection with the incidence of the monsoon rains in India, it is pleasing to note that the Government of India Meteorological Department issues daily weather reports and forecasts and also gives timely warnings of heavy rainfall by means of special telegrams to districts, railway and irrigation officers, etc., as well as by including such warnings in the daily reports. These daily weather forecasts and warnings are issued on the basis of synoptic weather charts prepared twice a day. Besides these daily forecasts, the Meteorological Department also issues seasonal forecasts of the monsoon rains in India. It has been found that an estimate of the south-west monsoon rainfall in India can be formed on the basis of previous weather conditions over certain parts of the world. The known conditions or factors likely to have any influence on the monsoon rainfall are analysed every year, and inferences drawn from them are made use of for the prediction of the probable amount of the monsoon rainfall.

Medical Men in Modern Indian History

By Mr. V. SRINIVASAN, M.A., A.I.L.B.

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THE European trading companies, which contended for dominion in Hindustan during the two centuries preceding the Sepoy Mutiny, adopted distinct methods of gaining their ends. While some made headway solely by means of arms, a few utilised the services of the missionary and the medical man, two familiar agencies in the colonial enterprises of European nations in the East. The Portuguese, for the most part, utilised the priests and sent many Jesuit missions to the Moghul court, the days of their hegemony in India synchronising with the period of the Counter-Reformation movement and the Inquisition. The French depended, more or less, on 'native' forces trained on Western lines, while the British East India Company's men trusted to force of arms as well as to resourceful diplomacy. And we come across several medical men during the course of their history.

SHAHJAHAN'S DAUGHTER FALLS ILL

Mention is made in Orme's history of the story of an English surgeon in the court of the Emperor Shahjahan. In March 1644, the Emperor's favourite daughter, Jahanara, was dangerously burnt as her skirt caught fire in the palace at Agra, and she was ill for over three months during which time she 'hovered between life and death'. Orme has left on record that she was cured by Dr. Gabriel Boughton, a 'chirurgion of the *Hopewell*' as he is referred to in a contemporary account. The story of the Englishman having cured the Moghul princess is now discredited but it is interesting to learn from Orme that he was a physician to a Subadar at the imperial capital and that he refused any reward other than some trading privileges to the East India Company including permission to erect factories on the Hughli and in Balasore.

John Fryer (d. 1733) a traveller who visited India during the reign of Aurangzeb (1673) was also a medical man. He was educated in the Cambridge

University and was a M. D. He was made a Fellow of the Royal Society in 1697. The account of his travels in the East, now available as a publication of the Hakluyt Society, contains descriptions of the places visited by him while in India. Fryer was particularly well acquainted with the Dekhan and his work, first published in 1698, is an important source-book for the history of Aurangzeb's reign. He has left it on record that Bijapur was more prosperous than the territories of Sivaji and that taxation was much milder in that Kingdom.

A FRENCHMAN IN AURANGZEB'S COURT

Something must be said of Francois Bernier, the famous Frenchman in the court of Aurangzeb, who was a school fellow of the celebrated Moliere and a pupil of Ghassendi. Bernier was a skilled surgeon and arrived in India about 1655 during the reign of Shahjahan and entered the service of an eminent noble Danishmand Khan. He was a witness to the pathetic events which led to the betrayal and execution of Prince Dara Shikoh in 1609. He also accompanied the Emperor Aurangzeb during his expedition to Kashmir in 1665 and has left an interesting record of the incidents during the march. His *Travels in the Moghul Empire 1636-1668* now available in English, reveals much of the India of the seventeenth century.

DR. HAMILTON AND FARRUKSHIYAR

A notable figure in English society in the days of John Company was the Scottish Surgeon, William Hamilton, who was patronised by Emperor Farrukshiyar, the grandson of Shah Alam I. Hamilton cured the emperor of a malignant distemper on the eve of his marriage and was rewarded in 1716 by permission for his Company to establish a factory and maintain a territory of 28 towns on the banks of the Hughli. This was the beginning of the Presidency of Fort William and all that sprang therefrom.

The British having formerly suffered much from the vexatious exactions of the Moghul Governors in Bengal, the concessions obtained by Hamilton proved highly valuable, particularly because the Company, in a legal sense, now became an integral part of the Moghul Empire as was observed by Burke at that time. This event during the brief reign of Farrukshiyar (1713-1719) was, indeed, an important milestone in the progress of British dominion in India.

SURGEON IVES

Another interesting medical man whose writings form valuable sources for the early history of the East India Company was Edward Ives, who was a naval surgeon. He served on the flagship of Admiral Watson and on his return to England, which was made by the overland route, he published (1773) a vivid description of the campaigns of Admiral Watson and Colonel Clive during the years that preceded the battle of Plassey. Particularly interesting are the details of the expedition to Gheria or Vijayadrug about 150 miles south of Bombay and of the steps taken to root out sea piracy in that region. Vijayadrug was an excellent harbour but it was handed over to the Marathas in exchange for Bankot, which was the first British possession on the mainland of Western India. It was renamed Fort Victoria. The decisive battle of Biderrah, the suppression of Dutch supremacy and the notable part played by the navy between Madras and Fatta are all described with admirable fullness in the pages of Surgeon Ives.

INDIA'S FIRST DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF TELEGRAPHS

Neither ill-health nor calumny deflected Lord Dalhousie from ceaseless activity and his regime was eventful as it saw the introduction of the uniform half-anna postage and the reforms based on the celebrated Halifax dispatch on education (1854). The introduction of the electric telegraph was attended with great difficulty

and the mutineers often referred to the accursed string that strangled us. The Governor-General was ably assisted in his efforts by a medical friend called Dr. O'Shaughnessy (1809-1889), who was appointed India's first Director-General of Telegraphs. O'Shaughnessy's path was beset with numerous obstacles at every stage. He was a M. D. of Edinburgh and a Fellow of the Royal Society. He spent some years as a surgeon in the Bengal army and worked for some time as Professor of Chemistry in Calcutta. Lord Dalhousie obtained a knighthood for him in 1856 after great difficulty as he was neither a soldier nor a covenanted civil servant of the Company. Sir William Brooke O'Shaughnessy is, indeed, an important name in Indian history on account of the invention of the electric telegraph.

An early use of the invention during the Mutiny has come to us. The first disturbance was in Dumdum (January 1857) where the sepoys expressed aversion to greased cartridges. Disturbances spread rapidly throughout the North-Western province as Agra and Oudh were known then, and the officers were butchered in Meerut on May 10, 1857, and the mutineers marched to Delhi where they massacred the entire European population. General Hewitt did not pursue them from Meerut, although he had a force of over 2,000 British troops. 'Happily for the British, a gallant telegraph operator was just in time to telegraph the news to Lahore to warn authorities of the Punjab'. The mutineers had, in the meantime, secured control of Delhi, and Bahadur Shah the old titular emperor of the Moghuls, was proclaimed Emperor. But this man was deposed at the end of the period of anarchy and sent in exile to Rangoon where he died in 1862 at the advanced age of eighty-seven.

That was the end of the last of the Moghuls. Before he died, the British Parliament had sanctioned the establishment of a 'Better Government for India' in the form which it retained till the Montford Constitution.

SIR R. K. SHANMUKHAM CHETTY

By MR. G. VENKATACHALAM

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It is difficult to know Sir Shanmukham Chetty, even casually, without liking him. He has the frankest face for a politician and the friendliest smile for a public man. His smile is his armour; it disarms even his worst enemies when they meet him face to face.

There are no "airs" about this man, no duplicity of character. He is one of the few educated Indians who makes no rash promises, gives no false hopes, and who means what he says. Essentially a man of action, with him to promise is to fulfil; a man whose word is as good as gold. Sir Shanmukham is also a man of few words.

Striking as are his personal traits, his public career is still more intriguing. He has been remarkably lucky ever since he left the portals of his University for a glorious adventure in politics. He took to politics as a duck takes to water, and from the start he has kept himself in the forefront of Indian public life. Circumstances did not make him a politician; he went after it, like the Knights after the Holy Grail, and he made a stunning success of it.

To few has been given the enviable fortune of being a politician at twenty, a plenipotentiary at thirty, a president at forty and a prime minister at forty-five. He achieved all these without the least exertion, intrigue or influence.

The only other Indian who can be fitly compared to him in such an adventure is Sir C. P. Ramaswami Iyer. In fact, both these men have some common traits and a great amount of luck in their lives. Like Sir C. P., Sir R. K. was born rich; both had brilliant academic careers; both are gifted speakers; both born *rasikas*; both ambitious and capable men, and both have achieved something in life and letters. Sir C. P. is, of course, a much cleverer man, a more erudite and versatile scholar, but Sir R. K. is certainly a more understandable person.

Both have been "quick-changing" artists in politics and both have the reputation for inconsistency in principles and

disloyalty to parties. Both were ardent Congressmen in their younger days and rose to political eminence and won public esteem as such. Today, both are the sworn enemies of the Indian National Congress and its severest critics. The Congress, too, it must be confessed, did not play fair by them, and if anything, subtly and openly persecuted them for their political heresies.

Politics is such a slippery path that it is difficult to say where and when one would fall; and if both those gifted men have now arrayed themselves against the popular will, it is not because of any inordinate vanity or cussedness but because of the realisation of the simple truth that they could be more of use and less of a nuisance as leaders than as followers. One cannot lead and follow at the same time as most Indian politicians unfortunately do.

Sir Shanmukham's phenomenal political pilgrimage has no doubt caused consternation in some, irritation in others, and wonder in most. It is not surprising either, when you recall his rapid strides and amazing successes in the political field within the last twenty years.

Sir Shanmukham's political past has not been without its blemishes. Infallibility is not one of the virtues of politicians whatever other virtues they may possess. His signing of the Ottawa Pact is still a controversial subject and may or may not be a first-class political or economic blunder of his life. It all depends on how you look at it. But one thing is certain; he had the larger interests of India at heart when he signed it.

The Office of the Speaker in any Constitutional Assembly is, indeed, an exalted one, and next, perhaps, to that of the Prime Minister, the most coveted. The Speaker is often the ideal citizen, as he is above parties or politics. Oddly enough, the Speaker is one who himself speaks little and controls others from speaking much. And in a country like India, where every one is a born speaker, the job of the Speaker is rather a difficult and delicate one.

India's first Speaker, Mr. Vitalbhai Patel, was a patriarchal-looking political veteran, a doughty champion of the public rights and a good student of Constitutions and he filled this office with such conspicuous ability and established such high traditions that when youthful Shanmukham was elected to the Speaker's Chair, there were certainly misgivings in some quarters and anxious anticipations in others.

He was not only the youngest Speaker but was also a strong party man at the time. Finance was his special subject, and though a good debater and a seasoned speaker, it was doubted if he could make a successful President. But it must be confessed that he not only justified his choice but enhanced his reputation as a sound student of constitutions and a shrewd observer of human nature.

The Dewanship of Cochin, after his first big political defeat, came to him as a surprise. That office was never considered as one worthy of being offered to or accepted by a first-rank politician. It was, for long, the prize-job for senior Provincial Civil Service men or the training ground for I. C. S. administrators. And so, when Sir Shanmukham's name was mentioned for it, there was naturally a gentle flutter of surprise and speculation among friends and opponents.

The fact that Sir Shanmukham had so far no administrative experience of any kind and that the premiership of a progressive small State would be a good training ground for his future, finally decided his accepting the place with Lord Willingdon's blessings and under his advice.

What Sir Shanmukham has made of Cochin is now a matter of history. He placed Cochin on the political map of India; he gave her a workable democratic constitution which, with all its limitations and shortcomings, is a landmark in Indian Constitutional History and the envy of other sister states.

The first popular Minister of Cochin (a creation and not a creature of Shanmukham) when presenting the farewell address to the Dewan on the day he relinquished his office, and referring to Sir Shanmukham's

high administrative capacity and statesmanship and to the communal peace which his endeavours had promoted, said: "In view of all these, we sincerely feel that Cochin loses one of its greatest Dewans in your retirement a Dewan who had thrown himself heart and soul into the task of putting Cochin on the map of India and achieving for her fame second to that of no other Indian States."

It is true that, like Sir Mirza Ismail of Mysore and Sir C. P. of Travancore, he had the complete confidence of his Ruler, and like both Sir Mirza and Sir C. P., he enjoyed a certain amount of absolute power to shape and mould the State after his heart's desire, and it must be said that he never abused the trust.

He never believed in repression or suppressing public opinion by force. He welcomed criticism and acted throughout his trusteeship in the most constitutional manner. His last farewell words to the people of Cochin were truly indicative of his general policy in this respect: "Having been long in the storm and stress of public life and myself been the author of devastating criticism, I will not be so foolish as to resent criticism directed against me. I only want my critics to realise that there has been, at least, as much sincerity in my actions as I expect there has been in your criticism."

Sir Shanmukham's political complexion is rather deceptive and unconvincing. He seems a communalist and a reactionary, but really, at heart, he is a nationalist and a genuine democrat. He dislikes the political Brahmin, it is true, but neither has he any affection for the boisterous ballyhooing non-Brahmin politician.

Political intrigues and personal jealousies drove him from the Congress camp to the Justice side, and to many of his sincere admirers this was a sad thing. For, all said and done, he is cut out for better and bigger things, and his place is along with the advance guards and not with the back benchers; and it is to be hoped that, after his American sojourn, he would return to his country to take his rightful place and play his destined part in a freer, greater and a more prosperous India.

INDIAN AFFAIRS

By "AN INDIAN JOURNALIST"

The Poona Conference

THE Conference of non-party leaders which met at Poona under the presidentship of the Rt. Hon. Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru was even more representative of distinguished people than the previous Session at Bombay. Evidently the Viceregal *communique* attempting to implement the offer to associate more Indians with the prosecution of the war called for a critical examination of the situation. Sir Tej Bahadur, in his presidential address, gave a lead to the Conference as to the attitude it should adopt on the problems facing the country.

Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru referred to the expansion of the Viceroy's Executive Council and expressed dissatisfaction at the portfolios of Defence, Finance and Home not having been given to Indian members. "I am clear," he observed, "that if we go on pressing our demand, the time is not far distant even for Mr. Amery to find a suitable formula and say that 'for these reasons he is taking another step'."

The main resolution of the Conference reiterated the Bombay resolution demanding complete reconstruction of the Viceroy's Executive Council and urging a declaration specifying a time-limit after the war within which the new constitution for India will be inaugurated, according her the same status as Britain and the Dominions.

The Rt. Hon. Dr. Jayakar in commending it to the house pointed out that the present expansion "of the Executive Council was the most uneconomical system that has been devised". He advised the Conference to go on attacking the walls of Jericho (meaning the Government which is a close preserve) until we achieved our aim. Our axiom should be that of Gokhale and Tilak: "Take what you get and fight for the rest." If England could go to such an extent as to placate Russia, "the ancestral enemy of all these years", he asked, "could she not do something small to satisfy India?"

Sir S. Radhakrishnan seconding the resolution declared that the demands set

forth in it were the least that would have to be met to allay our apprehensions. On the question of defence, he referred to the 'undiluted British autocracy' during the past 150 years which had left India in the present absolutely defenceless position.

Sir Radhakrishnan discounted the value of mere promises and pledges. India was often told that she was going to be granted this or that, "But now," said, Sir Radhakrishnan

we do not accept your 'bonafides'. We have been treated to such proclamations coming out in moments of emergency or enthusiasm. Now we want you to give us a specific time limit.

Sir Mirza Ismail in further supporting the resolution urged the appointment of a Constituent Committee to draft a new constitution for India, satisfying the legitimate demands of all parties and emphasised the need for a communal settlement.

Mr. G. A. Natesan said that the speeches and the resolution marked yet another emphatic protest against the attitude of the British Government. He advised the British Government "to avoid her blundering policy and to do the right thing by India". He also urged the release of political prisoners and the restoration of constitutional government in the provinces.

The Poona Conference is thus another attempt on the part of distinguished Indian leaders to resolve the deadlock unfortunately still persisting, with a view also to associate India more wholeheartedly in the great task of winning the war. It registered an emphatic protest against Britain's attitude to India even at the present critical time. Attempts so far made by the Government have been halting and unwilling. Would the heavens have fallen if Defence were entrusted to an Indian member? It is up to the Government to take a bold and statesman-like step so as to evoke whole-hearted enthusiasm among the people for war effort. The Poona Conference has shown the way for handling the situation with sympathy and understanding. Would that Government took heed of its sagacious counsel.

The Expanded Council

As might be expected the belated expansion of the Viceroy's Executive Council has satisfied no section of public opinion in India. The Congress, of course, would not look at it. It is not acceptable to the Muslim League either, as in the words of Mr. Jinnah, "it was merely an inflation of the Executive Council and did not give a real share in the authority and power of the Government". Non-party leaders who met in Poona condemned it in no uncertain terms as the substance of their demand had not been conceded by transference of real power to the Indian members. Finance, Defence and Home portfolios still remain in British hands and only the departments already under Indian control are sub-divided. This is adding insult to injury; for it is evident that distrust of Indians still continues. It was against this distrust that Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru, the Right Honourable Jayakar, Sir S. Radhakrishnan, Mr. G. A. Natesan and others spoke with deep indignation at the Poona Conference. "The three portfolios of Finance, Defence and Home," said Sir Tej Bahadur, "are portfolios with which power is associated and with which initiation of policy is associated." The exclusion of Indians from these portfolios is, therefore, a matter of particular resentment to Indians. The Right Honourable Dr. Jayakar, in a fighting speech, quoting Mr. Amery's testimony that the new councillors are a great team of ability not rivalled "anywhere in India or elsewhere" pertinently asked: "Why, if that were so, were they not given the most important portfolios?" There could be no other reason than the "old and continued distrust of Indians". Under the so-called expansion, is it in the words of Dr. Jayakar, "mock tomfoolery with no real meaning"?

Indo-Burma Agreement

The feeling that India has been badly "let down" by Sir Girija Shankar Bajpai has been expressed in more than one discussion on the subject of the Indo-Burma Agreement. There is no doubt there are provisions in the agreement which are highly detrimental to Indian

interests and have caused considerable dissatisfaction in all circles. It cannot, indeed, be otherwise; for it is common knowledge that at every stage of the negotiations the public had been kept completely ignorant of the trend of the talks. In the first place, the Baxter Report on which the Agreement is supposed to be based was never made public until the other day. Non-official opinion was never once consulted. The delegation itself was a mere Government show, and though it was announced that the talks were merely exploratory and not conclusive, there followed the sudden announcement of the Agreement itself. Why were not the public taken into confidence at any stage of the negotiations? Was it for fear of their disapproval? The terms justify their apprehensions. Southern India in particular, which has large stakes in Burma, has just reason to be hurt by the way it has been "let down". A largely attended public meeting in Madras has rightly demanded that the operation of such an Agreement "should be stayed until it is suitably modified in the light of public opinion and that no Order-in-Council should be passed giving effect to the Agreement."

It is a reasonable request which cannot be ignored.

Sir Mahomed Zafrullah Khan

Sir Mahomed Zafrullah Khan, Law Member of the Viceroy's Executive Council, has accepted the place left vacant by the death of Sir Shah Mahomed Sulaiman, Judge of the Federal Court of India. While on merits Sir Zafrullah's appointment is not open to criticism—for the Law Member of the Viceroy's Council is reputed to be one of "the brainiest of Indian public men", it cannot be forgotten that on general principles the interchange of functionaries between judicial tribunals and Executive Councils is not desirable. For as a contemporary rightly points out:

The independence of the judiciary is the cornerstone of every Government whatever the form of the constitution may be. The mere suspicion that a Member of the Executive Council can expect a judgeship of the highest court in the land on the expiry of his term is detrimental to the executive as well as the judicial administration.

The rule should be that when a man attains the highest position in either branch of the Government of a country, he should consider his career as a public official as having reached its apex and should look forward only to be consulted by Government and the public alike in an unofficial capacity.

It is highly desirable that this wholesome rule should be maintained, especially at a time when Indian freedom at its start should be built upon a foundation of sound tradition. It is a pity that impelled by the mere formula of finding a suitable Muslim to fill the place occupied by a Muslim, Government should have had recourse to the adoption of a democratically unsound procedure.

The Indian Medical Service

In spite of promises of special benefits and attractions of enlisting in the Indian Medical Service, few have applied for emergency commissions in the army. To meet the situation created by the war, Dr. Jivaraj Mehta of Bombay urged at a recent meeting of the medical profession that all members of the I. M. S. in civil employ should revert to military. How this is being carried out in practice is revealed in an editorial in the *Journal of the Indian Medical Association*. It would appear that while the Principals of the Medical Colleges at Calcutta, Bombay, Lahore and Agra, who are all Indian I. M. S. Officers have had their reversion orders, the British Medical Officers who happen to be Principals and Professors in other Medical Colleges are retained in their posts. In some cases their strength has been increased by the replacement of the Indian Principals by their British colleagues in the Service. Hardly any British I. M. S. Officer on the Professorial Staff of the Colleges seem so far to have been reverted to the military. Evidently their services are not needed in the army! The journal says:—

We have always insisted that the organisation of the civil side of the Indian Medical Service is too wooden and too antediluvian to serve as an effective war reserve. The British section of its civil side is foisted on the country to pander to the snobbishness of the British race in India. . . . We would frankly ask the British Government to explain their attitude in regard to this question with which we are primarily concerned as a profession and also generally in regard to the political status of Indian nationals in their own country as well as abroad.

Sir C. Y. Chintamani

The death of Sir C. Y. Chintamani removes one of the two great working journalists of our day who have shed lustre on the profession alike by length of service and steadfastness of purpose. The late Sir Yegneswara was like Mr. K. Natarajan, who is happily still with us, the doyen of the Indian press. Public life in the U. P. as indeed in all India and Indian journalism in the country are the poorer for the passing of this veteran publicist.

Sir C. Y. Chintamani was a rare type of a self-made man, who from obscure beginnings rose to the top of the profession and held positions of power and responsibility with conspicuous success. Born in 1880 at Vizag, he left college without a degree and chose to pursue his political education as a devoted admirer of Dadabhai, Mehta and Gokhale and the veteran Congressmen of the time from whom he derived inspiration. He was an Editor at the age of 18, being placed in charge of a weekly paper called *Vizag Spectator*.

When the *Leader* was started in 1909 at Allahabad as the first Indian daily in the United Provinces under the auspices of Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya, Pandit Motilal Nehru, Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru and others, Mr. Chintamani was appointed Editor. He held the post of Editor till 1929 when he became Minister under the Montford Scheme of Reforms. He entered the U. P. Legislative Council as member in 1916 and continued till 1923. He resumed membership in 1927. He was Minister along with Pandit Jagat Narayan, but he resigned when he found that the Governor had made an appointment in his department without consulting him. He held the portfolio of Education and Industries. After his resignation in 1923, he resumed his duties as Editor of the *Leader* which position he held till his death.

The United Provinces showed its appreciation of his services by honouring this failed F. A. of Madras with the highest honours in the gift of her two Universities, Benares and Allahabad.

The German Offensive in Russia

AFTER five weeks of intensive warfare along the 1,500 mile front in Russia, the Soviet forces seem to have lost none of their optimism.

For the first time Hitler and his military advisers are facing the sober truth that, after the loss of 750,000 men and appalling quantities of material, they are only now entering upon the real battle for western Russia.

Hitler's panzer divisions, making a supreme effort to win the battle for Smolensk, are still firmly held by the Red Army.

A Moscow *communiqué* issued early last week announced continued stubborn fighting in the Polotsk-Nevel sector to the north-west and near the city which, according to a good authority in Moscow, remains in Russian hands despite repeated Nazi claims that it was captured a week ago.

Farther south, the battle near Zhitomir, where the Nazis are intensifying their drive against Kiev, 85 miles to the east, is still raging.

A new offensive appears to be developing on the Bessarabian front. In one sector here, a German armoured regiment was routed with the loss of 25 guns and hundreds of cars.

Meanwhile, Moscow has been raided thrice, with little damage from a military point of view.

Vichy-Japan Agreement

The following are the terms of the Vichy-Japan agreement as regards Indo-China.

1. Japan to occupy Cam-Ranh Bay.
2. Japan to occupy Saigon air base.
3. Forty thousand Japanese troops to be stationed in Indo-China to be fed by Indo-China, payment to be arranged later.

The whole American, British, Chinese and Dutch front in the Far East is elated by the news that President Roosevelt has frozen Japanese assets, particularly in view of the speed with which this action has been taken.

The Allies and Japan

Japan's move against Indo-China and her occupation of strategic positions in the peninsula is naturally regarded by U. S. A. and Britain as a direct threat to the peace in the Pacific. Evidently, Prince Konoye has followed the line of least resistance and selected Indo-China as the scene of the next attempt to extend the frontiers of the "New Order in Eastern Asia"... with the reluctant consent of the local French authorities.

U. S. A. acted quickly by freezing Japanese assets in America. The text of President Roosevelt's freezing order includes the following:—

This executive order... is designed among other things to prevent the use of financial facilities in the United States and trade between Japan and the United States in ways harmful to national defence and American interests, to prevent the liquidation in the United States of assets obtained by duress or conquest and to curb subversive activities in the United States.

Similar action has been taken by the British Empire. The following intimation has been issued by the British Government:—

Treasury directions have been given to bankers under the Defence (Finance) Regulation 2A prohibiting as from today, July 26, the carrying out of orders affecting Japanese balances, gold and securities in the United Kingdom, without licence from the Treasury. Corresponding action is being arranged in other parts of the British Empire.

Japan has retaliated by freezing British and U. S. A. assets from Monday the 28th July.

American Loan to Britain

An American loan of 425 million dollars to Britain, enabling the latter to pay for war supplies contracted for prior to the enactment of the Lease and Lend Act was announced in the House of Commons by the Chancellor of the Exchequer, Sir Kingsley Wood. The loan, he said, had been authorised by the Reconstruction Finance Corporation with the approval of President Roosevelt. The agreement was signed on July 21. The Chancellor said: "The purpose of this loan is to provide this country with exchange to be used towards paying for war supplies contracted for prior to the enactment of the Lease and Lend Act."

Russian Army Leaders

With the assumption by M. Stalin of the Chief Command of the Soviet Army, the entire Russian military machine is directed by five (a sixth has now been added) men—Stalin, Molotov, Voroshkov, Beria and Malenkov.

Beria, a Georgian like Stalin, is one of the outstanding brains of the group, observes the London correspondent of the *Manchester Guardian*. Although only 44, he has a great and varied record. His outstanding achievements were during the civil war, when he did underground work in organising Communist organisations in the Far East. He became the most intimate collaborator of Stalin. He is considered to be an expert in modern warfare and is said to be responsible for building several of the new types of Russian tanks.

Next to him in ability is Jorgi Malenkov, who has great national popularity. Malenkov, who was born in Siberia, is regarded as the chief expert on Soviet policy in the East and is a member of the Supreme Soviet Council.

Beria is directing the command with Stalin from Moscow, while Voroshkov and Malenkov are moving to and from the front.

Russia and Poland

Russia and Poland have agreed to bury the hatchet and diplomatic relations will be resumed forthwith. A general agreement between the two countries was signed on the 30th July at the British Foreign Office.

The most important feature is the agreement to set up a Polish army in Russian territory under a Polish Commander.

The two principal subjects covered by the agreement are questions of Polish prisoners and existing treaties. The Soviet grants amnesty to the Poles in Russia with complete freedom of movement.

In the Commons, Mr. Eden, announcing the Soviet-Polish agreement amid loud cheers, said that this historic event would lay a firm foundation for future Polish-Soviet collaboration in the war against the common enemy.

History of Syria

The republics of Syria and Lebanon, still often jointly described by the geographical term of Syria, are States in the Levant, covering a portion of the former Ottoman Empire. Syria includes the districts of Damascus, Aleppo, the Alawites, the Euphrates and Jezireh, and the Jebel Druz and the Hauran.

Fighting in Syria has ceased and an armistice has been signed. Syria, which was in the occupation of France, has come into the possession of Britain which has promised independence to the Syrian people. Thus Germany by her acts of commission and omission has deprived France of a valuable country. It was the presence of German military forces in Syria that compelled Britain to invade that country. But when the invasion came, Germany left France to her fate. Owing to the developments in Syria, Britain has gained an important strategical position.



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DIARY OF THE MONTH

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- July 1. Sir C. Y. Chintamani is dead.
—Defence Council formed in Moscow with Stalin as President.
- July 2. Sir Zafrullah Khan is appointed Judge of the Federal Court.
- July 3. Sir Archibald Wavell is appointed Commander-in-Chief in India.
—Stalin admits enemy occupation of Lithuania and parts of Latvia, White Russia and western Ukraine.
- July 4. Roosevelt broadcasts on Independence Day.
- July 5. Mr. Eden defines Britain's war aims.
—Soviet troops hold line of Beresina river.
- July 6. German drive on Leningrad held up.
—German columns enter Bukovina capital.
- July 7. U. S. Naval forces occupy Iceland.
—Vichy and British Government exchange views *re*: armistice in Syria.
—Sir H. P. Mody and Sir Sultan Ahmad join the Central Government.
- July 8. Conflict between Peru and Equador.
—Severe fighting on Stalin line.
- July 9. German and Rumanian troops occupy the whole of Bessarabia.
—U. S. A. sets up a Naval base in Iceland.
- July 10. The Soviet Services Mission reach London; Mr. Eden receives them.
—The Indian Commander-in-Chief takes charge of defence of Iraq.
—Big Russian success is reported in Lepel.
- July 11. Eire's intention to be neutral is reaffirmed by Mr. De Valera.
—Bulgaria is reported to be mobilising.
- July 12. Sir A. Wavell, India's new Commander-in-Chief, arrives at Simla.
- July 13. An Anglo-Soviet Agreement is concluded.
- July 14. Mr. Vinoba Bhave is arrested for the third time for offering Satyagraha.
- July 15. Mr. Churchill assures in the Commons that Russia is Britain's ally.
- July 16. The Japanese Cabinet resigns; Prince Konoye forms the new Cabinet.
- July 17. Sir Archibald Wavell, the new Commander-in-Chief, announces the personnel of the Indian Defence Committee.
- July 18. Indian Christian leaders meet Mr. Gandbi at Wardha and discuss the Minorities' question.
- July 19. Sir R. K. Shanmukham Chetti leaves Calcutta for America by Air.
- July 20. Sir G. S. Bajpai is appointed Agent-General in U. S. A.
- July 21. President Roosevelt appoints Mr. T. M. Wilson as U. S. Commissioner in India.
—General Sir Maitland Wilson places Syria under Martial Law.
—Viceroy's Executive Council is expanded and also Defence Council personnel is announced.
- July 22. Text of the Indo-Burma Agreement is published.
—White Paper on India is published.
- July 23. Japan gives ultimatum to Indo-China.
- July 24. The U. S. A. House of Representatives pass the 244-Million Dollars Bill.
- July 25. U. S. A. retaliates against Japan.
- July 26. Leaders' Conference meets at Poona; Rt. Hon. Dr. Sapru presides.
—U. S. Pacific fleet sails for unknown destination.
- July 27. Nawab of Chhatari is appointed President of H. E. H. the Nizam's Council.
- July 28. Japanese troops land in Indo-China.
- July 29. Prof. Hanshofer, the father of the theory of *Lebensraum*, commits suicide.
- July 30. Dutch East Indies withdraw their oil supplies to Japan.
- July 31. Japanese troop movements on the Siberian border are reported.



The WORLD of BOOKS



MARXISM AND THE INDIAN IDEAL. By Brajendra Kishore Roy Chowdhury. Thacker Spink & Company, Calcutta.

The sincerity and conviction behind the book is unquestionable. They are to be expected from one deeply rooted in Indian thought. In five chapters the author has tried to disillusion those countrymen of ours who have fallen under the spell of Marxism and Westernism. In the sixth and the last, he states the goal and mission of India in the language of that Illustrious Son of India, Sri Aurobindo. It will not convey to the common man a clear ideal of what he and all of us have to do to preach the mission and reach the goal.

Sir S. Radhakrishnan, in a suggestive preface, says :

"The Indian ideal has preferred the human values to the economic and political, has set freedom and equality above personal wealth and class pride, has summoned us to a life of self-denial and spiritual adventure. But the social emphasis of modern cults points out that the pure, the austere, the dedicated life is not enough. We must take the vision and the thought and the teaching of our seers and incorporate them in the pattern and the plan of Human Society. Religion must start with the individual but it must end in a fellowship."

But how that is to be done, neither the author nor Sir S. R. has told us. May be that is a long and laborious process not

capable of compendious description. Education in a wide sense must be the instrument. A hundred enlightened men of all communities, whose stature commands respect, and whose motives are beyond question, can send forth a clarion-call to all the four quarters of this our country. Such a call must have a deep and, we hope, an abiding effect on our country.

LOVE SONNETS AND OTHER POEMS. By Mr. Krishnamurti. Basil Blackwell.

THE BATTLE OF CHINA: The Lay of a Chinese Girl. By Dr. K. R. Menon. The School of Printing, Singapore.

WHISPERING STARS. By A. L. Kathib. The Author, Silversmith St., Colombo.

These are English poems of varying merit. Mr. Krishnamurti shows a mind richly stored with the images and cadences of authentic English poets, and he reveals in himself a poetic temperament; but little of much value can be expected unless he shakes himself free and finds his own true voice. As yet there is only the promise. Dr. Menon's "Lay" describes in simple, rather unambitious, lines the main events of the war now going on in China, and the entire proceeds of the sale of this work go to the China relief fund. It is a poem of great interest at the present moment. "Whispering Stars" has much raw material of poetry; but the fire of poetic creation is yet to fuse and form it all into poetry.

WHAT ENGLISH EDUCATION HAS MADE OF US. By Prof. Datta, M.A. Doaba House, Mohanlal Road, Lahore.

The book under review is a study of the evil effects of modern English education. The evils enumerated by Prof. Datta are not all entirely due to English education. Great scientific inventions, quick awakening of social consciousness and a sense of political reaction will be able to remove most of the evils characterising modern civilization.

Prof. Datta has for his background the views expressed by Mahatma Gandhi in *Hind Swaraj*. Mahatmaji attributes the many evils of modern civilization such as rural indebtedness, unemployment of the educated, the dearth of skill in the artisans, standardisation in the production of goods, appalling poverty, systematic physical deterioration and, above all, a spirit of helplessness as due to English education. There is no doubt a great deal of truth in the analysis but it is not the entire truth. English education cannot be seriously maintained as the cause of all the evils. Its greatest contribution is education in the art of freedom.

POETRY FROM THE SINHALESE. Translated into English by George Keyt. The Colombo Apothecaries Co., Ltd., Colombo.

Sinhalese poetry is little known outside the island of Ceylon. The obvious unfamiliarity of the language has precluded its proper appreciation abroad. Mr. Keyt has, therefore, done a distinct service to the cause of Sinhalese literature in presenting an anthology of folk and classical poetry with the text in the original. The metrical translation has an easy grace, which adds to the charm and simplicity of unsophisticated native life.

RATIONAL RELIGION. By Basanta Coomar Bose. Chuckervetty Chatterjee & Co., Ltd., Calcutta. Rs. 21.

Mr. B. C. Bose gives his *Credo*, which explains this book at p. 237, thus:—

"I have no faith in any of the prevalent religions. . . . Whether God exists or not I do not know. . . . God, even if He exists, does not perform any miracle. So I do not make any request to Him and, therefore, I regard prayer as useless. . . . I regard morality as independent of religion. . . . As I have no God to worship, I worship all men as my gods. They can do me good or bad, but God cannot do anything for me. I do not know whether my soul is immortal. . . .

Proceeding upon these beliefs, Mr. Bose attempts to pick holes in all the prevalent religions. He does it under the ten attractive titles: Existence of God, Personality of God, Attributes of God, Plurality of Gods, Prayer and Worship, Immortality of the Soul, Salvation and Punishment, Revelation, and the Utility of Religion. Unfortunately his discussion of all these points is lamentably superficial, revealing neither much knowledge nor any deep thought. A careful study of the book shows how inadequate his reading for the purpose is and in the short list of books he gives, it is surprising to find Boccaccio's "Decameron" and Mark Twain's "Innocents Abroad" figuring as authorities on religious questions. It is painful to see an old man of 83 bothering himself merely to repeat the exploded banalities of the utilitarian sceptics who have gone before him.

HINDU AMERICA—revealing the story of the romance of the Surya Vanshi Hindus and depicting the imprints of Hindu Culture on the two Americas. By Chaman Lal. New Book Co., Bombay.

The chief interest of this book lies in its seeking to establish what looks a novel hypothesis, that America had been known to Hindus earlier than to Europeans. By collecting numerous facts of life and civilisation pointing to similarity between the original races of America and the Hindus, the author leads us to believe that the Hindus must have colonised America in very early times. Many of the similarities may not be due actually to Hindu influence; they may be mere actual coincidences which should occur amidst human communities. Original races like the Mayas, the Incas, and the Aztecs had reared great civilisations, and these civilisations show many points of contact with the Hindu civilisation.

The greatest inspiration of the book is the suggestion that Hindus had colonised distant lands. This must stir us to action in the future again.

NALANDA YEAR-BOOK AND WHO'S WHO IN India—An Indian and International Annual of current statistics, events and personalities, 1941-1942. Edited by Mr. Tarapada Das Gupta, M.A. Nalanda Press, 204, Vivekananda Road, Calcutta.

This is an excellent reference book, which furnishes up-to-date facts, figures and statistics both Indian and International. The publication is aptly named after the ancient Indian University and is the result of the combined labours of several distinguished educationists. The Who's Who section is very informative.

ESSENTIALISM. By Pollen House, Cork Street, London, W.1. 5 Shillings.

This is to all appearance a synopsis of the writer's conception of Christianity and other world religions, which are acceptable to the New Age and capable of application to the needs of every-day life. The idea apparently is to present a modern rendering of Christian ethics in relation to present conditions. The idea is not new, and others have tried to do so. The difficulty, however, is to divest Christian ethics of Christian dogma. This has been found to be practically impossible, not only for Christianity but also for other world religions. We shall await with some interest and anticipation. This is the latest attempt to reconcile ethics and dogma in the light of modern science and thought.

BOOKS RECEIVED

THE PRESENT POSITION OF HINDU WOMEN AND THE MEANS OF AMELIORATING THEIR LOT. By R. G. Burway, B.A., LL.B. Foreword by B. G. Kher. D. B. Taraporevala Sons & Co., Bombay.

CORRESPONDENCE BETWEEN DR. RAJENDRA PRASAD AND SIR SHAFAT AHMAD KHAN. Published by Dr. Bisheshwar Prasad. The Indian History Congress, Allahabad.

KASHMIR THEN AND NOW. By Shyam Lal Sadhu, M.A. Chronicle Publishing House, Srinagar.

MEHAR BABA. Spiritual Centre, Bangalore.

CHRISTMAS 1935 AND OTHER VERSES. By D. C. Datta, M.A. Publisher: Stephen Allen 47, New Theatre Road, Calcutta.

CHINA'S PROGRESS IN 1940. By Hubert Freyn. China Information Committee, Chungking, China.

THE CONDITION OF THE WORKING CLASSES. By Pope Leo XIII. Catholic Truth Society of India, Trichinopoly.

VETERINARY RESEARCH AND THE INDIAN AGRICULTURIST. Government of India Press, Calcutta.

Hyderabad

FIFTH CITY IN INDIA

An increase of 56 per cent in the population of Hyderabad City, Secunderabad, and Bolarum, and 12.1 per cent. in the whole of Nizam's Dominions over the previous census have been registered in the census figures for 1941.

The total population of the Dominions is 16,184,313, compared to 11,436,148 in 1931. The total population of Hyderabad, Secunderabad, and Bolarum is 728,119, compared to 466,891 in 1931. The area of the city has also been increased from 63 square miles to 79 square miles. Hyderabad thus bids to the rank as the fifth city in India.

The figures for literacy in Hyderabad State have been doubled during the last 10 years and stand now at over 10 lakhs.

REVENUE CONCESSIONS

The Nizam's Government have sanctioned suspension of land revenue for Rabi totalling Rs. 4,51,460-5-2. Seven taluks belonging to the districts of Osmanabad and Raichur are to benefit from this.

It may be interesting to note that through a recent order of the Nizam, liberal revenue concessions have been allowed in view of the economic depression.

THE LONGEST BRIDGE

The construction of a road bridge across the river Krishna in Mahboobnagar has been completed. It is the longest bridge so far undertaken in the State and consists of 35 spans of 60 feet each with a road width of 20 feet. The cost of the construction is estimated at Rs. 13.5 lakhs.

Mysore

THE MAHARAJA'S EXHORTATION

His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore, Sri Jayachamaraja Wadiyar Bahadur, in inaugurating the joint session of the two Houses of Legislature under the reformed constitution of 1910 at the Jagan Mohan Palace, Mysore, on June 9, observed:

"We will do well to remember that in a State like ours, the interests of the people and those of the Government are fundamentally identical and that the differences in ideology as between different sections are for the most part superficial and transient. You will also recognise that to whatever extent you have proved yourselves worthy of closer association with the Government, your claims have been neither denied nor lost sight of."

MYSORE PUBLICITY

The Government of Mysore have passed orders placing the Publicity Office on a permanent basis as part of the General and Revenue Secretariat. The Office will be in the direct charge of a Publicity Officer. The Office will handle the Commercial publicity of the various industrial concerns owned by Government, and also help the Press by prompt supply of accurate information relating to Government activities.

PROHIBITION IN MYSORE

The Mysore Government suffered a defeat in the Legislative Council on July 4, when the non-official resolution urging the gradual introduction of total prohibition in the State and the constitution of a committee to suggest suitable measures for making good loss of income thereby was passed by 33 against 29 votes.

Baroda

AMENITIES FOR HARIJANS

The Baroda City Municipality employs the services for scavenging and other allied works of over a thousand and fifty workers of the scheduled classes. Their salaries range from Rs. 10 to Rs. 35 per month. This, together with the social amenities provided for them, is productive of ameliorative results. All rules applicable to other employees apply to them, including leave on holidays with full wages.

The Municipality, aiming at the welfare of this class, has built chawls of moderate accommodations in different parts of the city for housing the employees of this class. A regular programme, which will ultimately provide accommodation for every worker of this class, is on hand.

Supply of pure water by the erection of water-posts and bathing places for their use are provided at suitable places near their residence. Recreation grounds and a gymnasium, helped by a grant from the Municipality, provide for the betterment of physical culture.

A Co-operative Society, financed and supervised by the Municipality, protects the members of this class from money-lenders and exorbitant rates of interest. The Provident Fund benefit scheme is quite popular among the workers of this class and enjoys the whole-hearted support and co-operation of all members.

PENCIL FACTORY FOR BARODA

In pursuance of the policy of encouraging industrial enterprise in the State, the Government of Baroda have granted facilities for starting a pencil factory, including financial assistance and freedom to the extent of 75 per cent. from terminal tax.

Travancore

TRAVANCORE INDUSTRIES

Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar, Dewan and President of the Travancore Legislature, addressing the joint session of the Legislature on July 21, announced the decision of the Government to establish a Cement Factory shortly. He added that it would be of more than passing interest to Travancore and Cochin, as all the roads in both the States could be cemented. There was also the possibility of many subsidiary industries being started around. An Aluminium Factory was being established in Alwaye. The possibilities of marketing Travancore timber were equally encouraging. The Government was paying a lot of attention to rural reconstruction also.

THE PRICE OF RICE

The Travancore Government announce in a press note that it has been brought to their notice that the price of rice is being considerably increased by local merchants in all districts.

The Government state that adequate steps are being taken to check the inflation in prices and they are contemplating the fixation of rates under the Defence of Travancore Rules. The Government have stocked considerable quantity of rice, which will be available to the public at reasonable rates.

CHIEF JUSTICE OF TRAVANCORE

Justice Joseph Taliath, a Puisne Judge of the Travancore High Court, has been appointed acting Chief Justice with effect from July 22, *vice* Rajaneethi Nipuna Rao Bahadur Abraham Verghese retiring.

In a Press *Communique*, the Travancore Government record their great appreciation of the zealous and valuable services rendered by the retiring Chief Justice.

Kashmir**EDUCATION IN KASHMIR**

Education has made very great advance during the 15 years of the rule of His Highness Maharaja Hari Singh, in the State of Jammu and Kashmir.

Since 1925, the number of pupils has increased from 41,601 by about 143 per cent. to over 1,08,760 excluding the adults receiving instructions at Adult Literacy Centres. The number of educational institutions has similarly shown an increase from 706 by over 140 per cent. to over 1,700. There has been similarly an increase by about 105 per cent. in the expenditure on education, which has risen from Rs. 10.75 lakhs to 21.99 lakhs.

These figures are available in the Administration Report of the State for the year ending 15th October 1940, just published.

In the sphere of adult literacy, the State has recorded an appreciable increase since Sir N. Gopalasami Iyengar's Dewan-ship. There are at present 450 adult literacy centres and the number of adults under instruction is over 66,600.

SIKHS' POLITICAL CONFERENCE

The demand that steps should be taken for the establishment of a Government responsible to the Legislature under the aegis of His Highness the Maharaja was made in a resolution passed at the Sikh Political Conference at Baramulla.

The Conference reiterated the demand of the Sikhs for the restoration of certain Gurdwaras and Jagirs which are in possession of the Government. The Conference drew the attention of the Government to the inadequate representation of the Sikhs in the State Services and demanded a proper share for them.

Cochin**POWER FOR COCHIN**

It is understood that a final agreement has now been reached between the Travancore and Cochin Governments, whereby Cochin will purchase electric current in bulk from Pallivasal for a period of 25 years. Cochin will purchase 5,000,000 units of current from Travancore, and the current so purchased will be distributed to various agencies like the Municipalities, the Port authorities and industrial concerns like the Tatas.

The Travancore Government have agreed to erect transmission lines up to their frontier at Edappally wherefrom Cochin will have her own transmission lines.

RELIEF FOR RYOTS

Government have sanctioned Rs. 50,000 in addition to Rs. 25,000 granted recently, for loans to agriculturists affected by the cyclone. The loans are to be repaid in 30 annual instalments.

The Tata Charities, Bombay, have sent a donation of Rs. 4,500 to the District Relief Committee. The Buckingham and Carnatic Mills and certain firms in Ceylon and Malaya have sent Rs. 500 for relief.

Indore**INDUSTRIAL PROGRESS**

The Government of His Highness the Maharaja Holkar have sanctioned the formation of an Economic Development Board, to advise the Government in regard to the possibilities of establishing new industries in the State.

The Board will utilise the results of the industrial survey to be made in the State and advise the Government as to the best means of utilising the data so obtained for the starting of industries.

INDIANS OVERSEAS

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Burma**INDO-BURMA AGREEMENT**

At last the terms of the Indo-Burma Agreement, together with the Report of the Baxter Commission, have been made available to the public. The latter has been so frequently mentioned in all negotiations that the public has been at a loss to know why it should have been kept a secret so long. Demands for its publication have been insistent. It is now evident that the Agreement itself is largely based on the findings of the Baxter Commission.

The Baxter Commission suggested that while Indians already in Burma should have their rights recognised, Indian nationals coming into the country hereafter, whether for purposes of travel, residence, or employment should have their entry strictly controlled. This is embodied in the Agreement, which says:

The Government of Burma recognise that Indians who are born and bred in Burma, have made Burma their permanent home and regard their future and the future of their families as bound up with its interests, are entitled to be regarded as having established a claim, if they wish to make it, to a Burma domicile and, therefore, to the benefit of Section 144 of the Government of Burma Act.

But the conditions and regulations against new immigrants are made stricter. While the Baxter Commission was satisfied with a five year limit of residence for Indians to secure the status of privileged immigrants, the Agreement demands a period of seven years. In matters of detail too, the restrictions are too many and too complicated. Yet notwithstanding their objectionable features in detail, the spirit underlying the Agreement is one of mutual understanding and sympathy, and we look to the machinery to be set up for implementing the Agreement to carry out the intentions of the Governments concerned with equal tact and goodwill.

South Africa**INDIAN VISITORS TO S. A.**

It is learned that the South African Government have taken steps to see that the anti-Asiatic provisions of the law are not applied to Indian visitors, particularly students passing through Union territory on their way from Britain or the Continent to India during the war.

A high personage in South Africa has been detailed to look after these visitors, and he is now assisted by a Committee of European men and women.

The composition of this Committee is said to reflect the new spirit, which is now beginning to animate the South African Government in dealing with the Indian problem.

It is said that the Government keep the personnel entirely European, because the provision of hospitality to visiting Indians is entirely the European community's responsibility and in discharging that responsibility, amends may, as far as possible, be made for the harshness of the new law as it operates against resident Indians.

Ceylon**INDIAN LABOURERS FROM CEYLON**

Since the beginning of this year, there has been a noticeable increase in the number of Indian immigrant labourers who have left Ceylon every month, states the *Ceylon Observer*.

Upto the end of May, the departures numbered 9,604 while the figure for the corresponding period last year was 7,205. The number of labourers repatriated on Government account up to the end of May was 3,523 while 6,071 have left Ceylon unassisted.

As against the 9,604 departures, the total number of arrivals for this period has been only 938. Of these only 102 are new immigrants. During the corresponding period last year, the arrivals numbered 1,107.

Malaya

LIFTING OF BAN ON INDIANS

"The Colonial Office would very much like to see a lifting of the ban on immigration of Indian labour to Malaya and he himself would do anything possible during the investigations of labour problems to Malaya," said Major Orde Brown, Labour Adviser to the Colonial Office, who arrived at Singapore on the 11th of last month. He said :

"The ban concerns Malaya and Ceylon, but it is really a major political issue," he said. The ban in Ceylon was getting much more into the political aspect of things and, as far as Malaya was concerned, it was inflicting great hardship, chiefly on the labourers. I regret the existence of the ban and would certainly like to see an improvement on it."

As regards unionism, Mr. Brown opined that it was better to form representative organisations for separate industries in Malaya; for their interests were not necessarily identical and it was also not desirable for the Unions to become the tools of outsiders who do not have the interest and welfare of the workers at heart.

GANDHI CAPS IN F. M. S. ESTATES

The new Indian Agent in the F. M. S. has inaugurated his official career there with a successful intervention in a dispute regarding the wearing of Gandhi caps.

A strike at the North Hammock Estate followed the prohibition by the Management of workers wearing Gandhi caps, says the *Indian* of Penang. The strike has now been settled after the visit to the Estate of Mr. S. Dutt, Agent of the Government of India. The Management, we understand, has now conceded the workers' right to wear any cap they liked.

North Africa

INDIAN TROOPS IN ABYSSINIA

An Indian Army official, an eye-witness in Abyssinia, cables that after storming and capturing a series of important heights in the area, the Indians are consolidating their positions.

Fighting for the most part took place in a blanket of grey clouds covering the mountain tops and concealing bitter hand-to-hand struggles with bayonet and bomb and the lurking menace of barbed wire.

The courage shown by the troops fighting in this craggy wilderness is amazing, says an eye-witness.

"As I waited with one company of Indian troops before the attack was launched, I saw the look of grim determination on their faces as they stood motionless in the grey dawn.

Then at zero hour, they swept forward with bayonets fixed through a terrific din of artillery fire. With their shirts and shorts tattered from the wire of the enemy entanglements, which they had taken in their stride, they went on to penetrate and capture the enemy positions in a final hand-to-hand struggle.

A conspicuous exploit was performed by a sepoy from Jullundur, when an enemy machine-gun nest threatened to cause severe casualties on our flank.

Although under heavy fire from mortars and wounded in three places, the sepoy went on blazing away with his machine-gun until the enemy fire was completely silenced. Our aircraft and artillery kept up a continuous bombardment of the key positions, where the enemy had concentrated his main strength. Many prisoners have been taken."



TOPICS From PERIODICALS



WAR AND INDIAN INDUSTRIES

Contributing an article entitled "Equation of world economy" to the latest number of the *Calcutta Review*, Dr. Benoy Kumar Sarkar says that although neither the industrialization of India nor the promotion of economic autarchy in India belongs to the terms of reference of the Eastern Group Conference, the expansion of India's industry and commerce, technocracy and capitalism can be depended upon as one of the inevitable consequences of the projects likely to be taken in hand. For "the statistician who is interested in the economic indices and in the equations of world-economy should not, however, fail to point out at once that in point of technocracy and capitalism, both Australia and South Africa are much higher developed and rationalized than India happens to be at the present moment. In regard to the pressing problems of the war, India, generally speaking, is therefore likely to be much less efficient as an industrial and technical supplier than either Australia or South Africa. Besides, it is Australia and South Africa that may be expected in much shorter time than India to get prepared for the new technocratic and industrial developments required in the present conjuncture. India's part in the war-economy of the British Empire may not, therefore, be as spectacular or phenomenal as that of these Dominions. Her progress may likewise fail to be as rapid and as high as that of theirs. This should be taken as perfectly normal.

The amount and rate of progress or advance that an economic region can exhibit depend naturally on the actual economic condition at the moment of start. Absolutely considered, also, the rate of India's progress is perhaps likely to be low. But the industrial, technocratic and capitalistic expansion of India bids fair to be a solid economic reality all the same. The reasonable attitude for the Indian economist, businessman or economic statesman should not be to compare India's absolute or relative progress with Australia's and South Africa's during the next few years except as a theoretical study. The chief concern from the Indian side ought to be to watch from month to month or year to year, how far India has been advancing in the modernization of technique, business establishments, agriculture, working-men and other personnel in reference to the perspectives of 1938."

Dr. Sarkar concluding says that there are opportunities presenting themselves before India for enriching herself and advancing her own interests with and without British finance and technical co-operation along the entire front covered by what is known as "economic planning".

"It is hardly to be doubted that the shrewd businessmen of India will know how to utilize the *vishva-shakti* (world-forces) generated by the war-economy, in order to promote the expansion of India as an industrial power, not only at home but also in the two hemispheres, especially wherever there were markets for British goods down to 1939."

DOLTS AND GENIUS

"Since taking up his war duties, Mr. Churchill's skull has increased in diameter and most of his hats are now much too tight," says Mr. Harvey Dey in a British journal. History records, says the writer, that under the stress and strain of responsibility, men often show far greater ability than they were thought to possess and in most instances their heads grow in size, which seems to prove that they did not make the maximum use of their brains until circumstances compelled them to do so.

Quoting instances, the writer says:

History teems with examples. James Watt was the butt of Mr. McAdam's school and G. Bemont, co-discoverer of radium, was considered so stupid that his parents took him from school.

In Napoleon's class were forty-two children, and his position was forty-one; but he changed the map of Europe and is regarded to-day as a military genius. Sir Isaac Newton, too, was lowest but one in his Form and failed in geometry, because he did not do his problems as the master wanted them done. But he and Gauss are reckoned the two greatest mathematicians since the time of Archimedes.

Failing in examinations also signifies nothing. Some got panic stricken. Einstein, our greatest mathematician, failed in mathematics in his entrance examination to Zurich University and Anatole France could not pass his B. A. Emerson, too, used to get horribly boggled when confronted with figures.

The mass of accumulated data at our disposal leads us to suspect that the 'infant prodigy' type of brain is not the finest, and that slow maturing brains are better for hard, long work. Alexander von Humboldt, for instance, was regarded as subnormal at school and George Eliot only learned to read with the greatest difficulty.

Any list of famous men who were dunces at school in youth will include William Shakespeare, the late Lord Reading, Keats who was expelled because he was a dunce—Lord Clive, Mr. Baldwin, Thomas Carlyle and Sir Ralph Harwood, financial secretary to King Edward VIII. When he was at school, the master used to say: 'Harwood' I'm going to promote you to the peerage," and with that he'd write on the blackboard in large letters for all the class to read "Barren Harwood."

The writer enunciates a dictum whereby a schoolmaster should not brand a seemingly dull boy as an idiot and make him the laughing-stock of his schoolmates. That only proves that a different technique is necessary; for the dolt of to-day may be the genius of to-morrow.

LIVESTOCK INDUSTRY OF INDIA

The latest number of *Indian Farming* contains an article on the above subject by Messrs. K. C. Sen and T. S. Krishnan of the Imperial Veterinary Research Institute, Izatnagar. The writers say that it is impossible entirely to separate agriculture from the livestock industry, that is animal husbandry; yet to a certain extent it is possible to gauge their independent contributions to the national economy. Dairying, cattle-breeding, sheep and goat rearing for wool and meat production, poultry husbandry, etc., are all sections of the livestock industry as distinct from the production of cereals, pulses, oil-seeds, sugar, cotton and other products of arable agriculture.

The main object of agriculture is the production of material for human food and clothing and in this respect, the authors say, the livestock industry and arable agriculture share the honours equally.

Animals have to be looked upon as a means to an end rather than an end in themselves. It has often been stated by eminent authorities that the success of agriculture and animal husbandry in India is dependent to a great extent upon mixed farming. The cultivator should keep only the minimum number of livestock he requires or those he can feed and manage efficiently. He should try to grow on his farm as far as possible all the fodder requirements of his stock. He should be enjoined to provide some green fodder especially legumes for his milking and growing stock all the year round. He must be able to supply ample food of the right quality to his animals. Whenever possible, green fodder should be conserved as silage or hay. No manure should be burnt but it should all be returned to the soil. Stock should be bred with only approved pedigree stud animals. All domesticated animals should be inoculated against preventable diseases and, where possible, the necessary facilities for this should be provided free or at a nominal cost.

Scientific researches into all the problems concerning livestock should be widely carried out and, even more important, the results achieved in the laboratory should be passed on to the peasant in a cheap and practical form. He should be persuaded to adopt them by visual demonstrations and by systematic and sustained propaganda.

CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLIES

In a series of articles contributed to the *Twentieth Century* on "Constituent Assembly", Prof. N. Srinivasan observes that a Constituent Assembly is essential in a democratic world for the framing of a constitution. Such an Assembly possesses sovereign power and it meets after a successful revolution. In fact, the very name it derives after taking the inspiration from the French National Assembly of 1789. Dilating on the observations made by Sir Maurice Gwyer in his address to the graduates of the Benares Hindu University, that Constituent Assemblies have been a failure in the matter of achieving national unity and the making of constitutions, the writer says:

"It should be noted that the most serious objections exist to small bodies of self-chosen men arrogating to themselves a function that they can only perform on the authorisation by the people. . . On principle, it is indefensible. In practice, such agreements lack authoritative quality. For what a few men make, can with equal facility be unmade by a few others. Such agreements are certain to be repudiated by extremists on either side of the parties making the agreements. There is a further danger: such men take up the most extremist and impossible attitude and the making of an agreement is tremendously difficult if not altogether impossible. Quite an irresponsible attitude characterises such bodies. Finally, the men who make these agreements where they owe no responsibility to the people, forget the latter's interests. The history of communal pacts and attempted solutions of the problem of minorities in this country of which there have been as many as 25, according to a leading member of the Muslim League, would appear to reinforce these conclusions."

KARMA-YOGA AS AN IDEAL

"We are not to deny and destroy life, repress our desires and aspirations and abstain from all activity. What we have to do is to take a philosophic view of things and so live and act in this world as to realise our highest good which is our highest self," is the substance of the teachings of the Gita on the ideal of Karma-Yoga, writes Dr. Satish Chandra Chatterjee in the *Prabuddha Bharata*.

For ordinary men it is, perhaps, the most difficult task to act without any hope of reward, and to remain unaffected by the success or failure of any act. Who among us can view pleasure and pain, gain and loss, success and defeat in the same dispassionate spirit? Love for pleasurable objects and hate for painful ones are the ruling passions of our life. Desire for what is pleasant and aversion towards what is unpleasant are instinctive in our nature. So long as we are under the sway of these natural desires, passions and impulses, the ideal of Karma-Yoga remains an idle dream for us. To realize this noble ideal we have to illumine our intellect by the light of knowledge and purify our mind by devotion to God. Right knowledge of the self and devotion to God are recommended by the Bhagavad-Gita as the means of attaining the moral ideal of Karma-Yoga. . . .

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N. GOPALA IYER,

Secretary.

U. F.

GROWTH OF DRINK EVIL IN INDIA

"Large-scale consumption of liquor is a very recent phenomenon, a product of the early and middle nineteenth century," says Mr. D. R. Regmi writing under the caption "How drink developed in India" in the July issue of the *New Review*. The writer says that the British policy of excise administration was solely responsible for the unprecedented rise of drink in India. He observes:

It cannot be denied that the intensity of this particular evil was a result of the altered way of living in the British period and has been to some extent helped by the pre-British administration; but considering that drink in pre-British time was comparatively confined to a few, the sudden rise of the drink traffic can only be attributed to the British system of control current during the period. What Government did, was that they misread the Indian ideals and standard of life. Instead of setting up a more restrictive system with a view to check drink, the policy of the British Government removed the restriction. For what was the result of legalizing the drink traffic but to create new shops and new stills? Once assuming that the habit of drink was too deep-rooted to be eradicated, the Government felt it difficult, rather beyond their power, to follow a line of prohibition or undue restriction, on the fear that such measures would breed illegal activities. Under this assumption the Government had no alternative but to guarantee a regular supply of liquor. Their license, while effecting a closer control of stills and shops, could give them the best out of the worst situation. While liquor traffic was a natural outcome of the popular demand, it was but wise that the Government should get a share of that trade.

Ordinarily, therefore, the licensing system, whether outstill or other systems—any other system within the framework of the licensing system is as much a failure—has been supposed to appear to check the traffic by financial encroachment. Government were assured of a lucrative source of income, but as in return they were duty-bound to arrange for a requisite market for the liquor which the licenses have produced, the licenses were given for that purpose, the consequent state of affairs comes to look like an agreement between the liquor dealers and Government for sharing the spoils. The system, with a network of shops and distilleries in that period, was a step in this direction. While the system worked with minimum restriction on this industry, there was no anxiety regarding Government's share. But this was what was required for the interest of the two parties; and conducted in that spirit, the system was bound to last.

AESTHETICS: INDIAN AND CHRISTIAN

Comparing the Indian and Christian theories of Aesthetics, Shri O. C. Ganguly observes in the July number of the *Aryan Path* that some salient analogies have been noticed between the spirit and style of medieval Brahminical sculpture and the Christian icons and representatives of saints and angels in Gothic sculpture of the Middle Ages.

The pictures and images of Christian saints, virgins and angels, as also the coins, devas and devatas of Indian theology are rendered by artists in terms of prescribed lineaments, poses and proportions derived from ancient masterpieces. They adhere strictly to the types, poses, gestures and sways of recognised ancient models first formulated by a *maestro* or, in the Indian version, first visualised by a sage, a visionary competent and qualified to see visions of gods and goddesses. This slavish adherence to proscribed models and patterns explains the uniformity—almost the identity—of the forms of Christian saints represented on the facades of the Gothic cathedrals and on the pages of illuminated manuscripts. The object of thus adhering to proscribed forms and types was to ensure the integrity of a conception from the worshipper's point of view. This was secured by an elaborate system of iconometry, measurements and canons of proportion prescribed for each type of image or icon.

The Indian aesthetic codes (*Silpasastras*) likewise prescribe a system of rules and proportions and characteristic formulations, lineaments and types which Indian *Shapatis* faithfully follow in visualising in images the gods of the Indian myth-makers. The most characteristic prescriptions consist of the sways or stances (*bhanganas*) and the finger-poses or finger-plays in their conventions from the movements and gestures of the ordinary human being. For it was only by means of these departures and variations from natural poses that the non-human form could be rendered in terms of the human type.

The similarity between Indian and Christian rules of image-making can be explained only by an identity of aesthetic intention. Both the Indian and the Christian icon-maker are on the identical road "which can lead upright souls to God and make invisible things clear to them by visible".

THE USEFULNESS OF USELESS HISTORY

Prof. R. L. Schuyler of Columbia, U. S. A., writes in the *Political Science Quarterly* regarding one aspect of the value of the study of history.

"It is one thing to realize that subjective elements are inevitably involved in historical exposition and a very different thing to suppose that historical knowledge can be nothing but a series of dissolving views as successive presents fill in their respective backgrounds. Subjectivity does not necessarily mean the projection into the past of attitudes and interests and standards that happen to be widely current in the historian's present. I know that ivory towers are in disrepute, but total immersion in the affairs of the day breeds the spirit of chronological parochialism. A selection from among recorded facts made by a scholar who, having somehow become deeply interested in some past event or situation or institution has steeped himself in the sources, is aware that the ideas and customs and institutions of a past age can be apprehended only in the light of the thought of that age, will differ from one mad with the primary object of throwing light on the present or contributing to the solution of its problems.

"All signs promise a prosperous future for background history. It is assiduously cultivated in the democracies, especially in our own, and in the totalitarian countries it enjoys the immense advantage of governmental favour. In Germany, National Socialism has become the vantage-ground from which all German history is to be viewed. The question I should like to raise in conclusion is whether any

other kind of history than background history will continue to be written. The type of historical investigation for which I have been speaking is bound up with the liberal tradition. It is pre-eminently individualistic. The condition of its existence is a willingness on the part of society to let queer people do useless things (useless, that is, from the standpoint of immediate social utility) so long as they are not obviously harmful to society, construct systems of non-Euclidian geometry for example, or conduct researches in nubular astronomy. If the liberal tradition and with it social tolerance, perishes from the earth, this type of history will perish with it. In our own country it is under attack, and from more than one quarter. There are those of us who believe that if it perishes, historiography will be immeasurably impoverished."

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April '42.

ROMANCE OF PUBLISHERS

"The Romance of Famous Publishers who started Poor" is the subject of an article in the *Journalist* by Mr. A. Subba Rao. There are many romantic instances of ambitious schemes being worked out by enthusiastic youths, who did not even have the petty cash to work out their scheme. The writer gives a few instances of men who succeeded in spite of their poverty.

"Mr. H. H. Windsor, the famous publisher of 'Popular Mechanics', launched in Chicago could not even pay for nearly a year a bare \$10 which he owed to another youth for sending a list of prospective subscribers' names. The office was in a very small room with barely a table and a chair, but in less than 10 years he had become so rich that he owned a splendid residence in Chicago and a magnificent home in Florida.

Doubleday, Page & Company at Garden City, New York, had its origin in that genius, Frank N. Doubleday, who started in a small little office in an old building on Union Square, New York. It is well-known that Doubleday had very little cash to start with, but with an unusually excellent idea for a magazine, the "World's Work" held a place of honour and produced for its owner considerable profit from the very first number.

Everybody has heard of the "True Story Magazine" and of the "Physical Culture", founded by the world-famous Benarr Macfadden. But very few know what a tough struggle Macfadden had in his early days. It is authoritatively mentioned that Macfadden would personally take to the News Stand, copies of his magazine and would often collect his lunch money by calling in at the News Stand in the afternoon. His struggles lasted quite a few years. At an entertainment given at Carnegie Hall by the publisher of the "Humanitarian Magazine" which enjoyed a brief and brilliant career, Macfadden, who was still poor, appeared in a borrowed tuxedo suit lent by Harold Robinson, who was the Circulation Manager of the "Humanitarian".

Edward W. Bok, formerly Editor of the "Ladies Home Journal" and son-in-law of

the famous publisher, Cyrus H. K. Curtis, narrates the story of his father-in-law who started as a poor newsboy but with lot of faith and little money and that too borrowed, founded the great Curtis Publishing Company.

Thomas A. Edison was one of the few amateur journalists, who achieved world-wide fame. The "Grand Trunk Herald" his paper was set up, printed and sold on his rounds as he ran up and down in the train, which plied between Detroit and Grand Rapids."

CONTINENCE

The July number of the *Vedanta Kesari* contains an article on "Continence and its creative power" by Swami Jagadiswarananda. The Swamiji says that from India the ideal of perfect continence spread in olden days to the Neo-Platonists in Egypt and to the Pythagoreans in Greece and then to many other countries in Europe. But now the younger generation, especially the students, are having a very poor physique due to lack of continence. On this, the writer says:

Without continence the younger generation of our country are getting more and more physically weak and mentally imbecile. The Report of Indian Universities say that 75 per cent. of the students are more or less diseased. One of the causes of this appalling state of their health, in the opinion of our leading men, is the lack of continence. An ex-Inspector of a College of the Calcutta University, while making an appeal to prevent the progress of venereal diseases among the students, observed that for some time past he had been noticing with increasing sorrow a gradual deterioration among our students in both their physique and morals. When he inspected the Carmichael Medical College of Calcutta, he was informed on unimpeachable medical authority that 70 to 75 per cent. of the venereal cases treated in the out-door dispensaries of Calcutta are contracted by students of High School classes and Colleges.

It is not, however, too late to mend. Mahatma Gandhi declares that after 20 years of self-indulgence he has made extraordinary improvement of his body and mind only through self-control. He further holds that had he observed self-control during those two decades of self-indulgence, he cannot imagine now how much more powerful he would have been.

Even if we start now to believe in the creative power of continence, says the writer, we can, not only rebuild our individual life, but also our collective life in a manner unprecedented in the past.

DEMOCRACY AND INDIA

"Any political organisation claiming for its object democratic rule, will render its efforts futile unless its ideals are genuinely based on national interest as against Sectional or Communal," observes Mr. A. Rahim in the *Current Thought*.

"There are, of course, people who believe that as far back as three thousand years ago, India was a democratic country and furthermore did not suffer from any of the evils of the present-day civilisation. This claim, however, dies without a gasp when one comes to consider the purity of a Brahmin's birth and as a result his status in the body politic of India—a God from heaven. The devastating effects of the birth of untouchables on the so-called ancient Democracy and, finally, the entry of the Mussalman, which set every form of old Hindu Democracy flying, are other factors which change the imposing picture.

The question which faces the country today is, therefore, not the solutions or the adaptation of democratic rule, but the more serious question of political equilibrium as between the contesting parties as regards their political rights.

In so far as the political claims of the various communities are purely sectarian, it seems obvious that as a consequence the ideals of Democracy in its material form must necessarily affect the communities and not the Government. In order, therefore, to make such ideals effective without the concomitant changes in law, the Indian Mussalman, the Sikhs,

the Christians and the Untouchables, must change their ideas, customs and perhaps their manners. And this can better be done by each community setting its own house in order. Having reached this stage of harmonious grouping as between themselves, they could then push forward the elementary principles of Democracy in their social and economical sphere."

In concluding, the writer points out that:

"The momentous decisions which are being taken in this country must, therefore, raise grave apprehension as to whether democratic rule can be planned on paper in such a way that it may not in practice deteriorate and result in the absolute rule of the majority to the detriment of the minority. The tug-of-war which is going on between the various Indian politicians confirms the fear that if Democracy is to supplant Autocracy on the idea that Democracy postulates equality, it is liable to give way under the baneful influence of such political parties which have already well-nigh wrecked its foundation."

AID TO BRITAIN

"I believe we should help Britain," declares Mrs. Anne Morrow Lindbergh, wife of Col. Linbergh, in an article in the *Atlantic Monthly*.

She adds: "My heart draws me to help those I love and admire, but my mind asks me if prolongation of the war will contribute to their survival."

She agrees with her husband, however, that the United States' entry into the war would be an objective hopelessly beyond our range.

THE SVASTIKA

The *Theosophist* for the month of July contains an interesting account of the Svastika symbols contributed by Mr. E. Clements. The Nazi Svastika was originally the Christian cross well known to Hitler as the *Hakenkreuz* or hooked cross. It was a fixed sign and had not the remotest connection with the ever-spinning Svastika of the East.

The attention of Europe had been drawn to the Svastika in 1840, when Col. Sykes in the *Journal* of the Asiatic Society of Great Britain pointed out that there were two variants, the right-turning and the left-turning. It was an essential feature of the sign that it should spin round; for even "Burnof, translator of *Le Lotus Le la Bonse Foi* (Paris, American and Oriental Library, 1852), recorded a mention of the Svastika in the Great Indian epic, the *Ramayana*.

"It was said to have been painted on the sides of ships. He also found the sign at the beginning or end of all inscriptions in the Buddhist caves of western India. He took it to be a sign of good augury (*Sv plus astika*, well-being).

Sir George Birdwood, in his younger days, wrote a monograph on "Old Records of the India Office" (London, 1891). He called in some Bombay Banias (a caste of traders and money-lenders) and discussed the Svastika with them. They used the symbol instead of the more favoured Ganpati (or Elephant God) at the beginning of their yearly accounts. They connected it with the sun, but there is no reason why one should defer to their views. Among the Jains eight symbols are in use, and pride of place is given to the Svastika. Their religion is older than

Buddhism, but the two sects have many points in common. The seventh of the Jain Saints was allotted the Svastika as his device. Nowadays the Jains seem to have forgotten its meaning. One Indian writer (*Indian Antiquary*, Vol. 32) connects it with the successive lives of men. The remarks of L. A. Waddell (*The Buddhism of Tibet*, 1895) deserve to be quoted:

The svastika is a cross with the free end of each arm bent at right angles to the limb. . . . In Buddhism the ends of the arms are always bent in the respectful attitude, that is, towards the left, for the Lamas, while regarding the symbol as one of good augury, also consider it to typify the continuous moving, or the ceaseless becoming, which is commonly called life. . . . The heterodox Tibetans, the Bon, in adopting it have turned the ends in the reverse direction.

The writer says that the earliest people known to history as users of the Svastika were the Jains and Buddhists, both known for their advanced philosophy of life."

The Nazi sign is no Svastika at all. It is merely a purloined Cross. If it be called a Svastika, or more correctly a reversed Svastika, it is left-turning and stands for evil. The black in the Nazi flag is also a sign of malice and the negation of all good thoughts.

"THE TRAVANCORE INFORMATION"

This is a monthly magazine full of information about Travancore. Profusely illustrated and attractively got up, it publishes every month accounts of the various departments of the State. Especially the industrial activities of the State under the guidance of Sachivottama Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar are recorded,

MULTUM IN PARVO

NEWS * DEPARTMENTAL * NOTES

Questions of Importance

EXPANDED EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

The expansion of the Viceroy's Executive Council and the constitution of a National Defence Council were announced in a *communiqué* issued on July 21.

"As a result of the increased pressure of work in connection with the war," says the *communiqué*, "it has been decided to enlarge the Executive Council of the Governor-General of India, in order to permit the separation of portfolios of Law and Supply and Commerce and Labour; the division of the present portfolios of Education, Health and Lands into separate portfolios of Education, Health and Lands and Indians Overseas; and the creation of portfolios of Information and of Civil Defence.

His Majesty the King has approved the following appointments to the five new seats on the Council:—

Member for Supply: Sir Hormusji P. Mody, M.L.A. (Central); Member for Information: The Right Honourable Sir Akbar Hydari, P.C.; Member for Civil Defence: Mr. E. Raghavendra Rao; Member for Labour: Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon; Member for Indians Overseas: Mr. M. S. Aney, M.L.A. (Central).

For the vacancies which will occur when Sir Muhammad Zafrulla Khan and Sir Girja Shankar Bajpai take up the posts to which they have recently been appointed, His Majesty has approved the appointments of:

Sir Sultan Ahmed to be Law Member, and Mr. Nalini Ranjan Sarker, M.L.A., to be Member for Education, Health and Lands.

THE DEFENCE COUNCIL

In pursuance of the desire of His Majesty's Government to associate Indian non-official opinion as fully as possible with the prosecution of the war, approval on the recommendation of the Viceroy has also been given to the establishment of a National Defence Council.

The Council, the strength of which will be about 80 members, will include representatives of Indian States as well as of provinces and of other elements in the national life of British India in its relation to the war effort. The following will be the members for British India:—

Dr. B. R. Ambedkar, M.L.A.; Maulvi Saiyid Sir Muhammad Saadulla, Chief Minister of Assam; Mr. A. K. Fazlul Huq, Chief Minister of Bengal; Sir Muhammad Ahmad Said Khan; Nawab of Chhatari; Kumararajah Sir Muthia Chettiyar of Chettinad; the Maharajadhiraja of Darbhanga; Mr. Ram Rao Madhav Rao Deshmukh, M.L.A.; Lieut.-Colonel Sir Henry Gidney, M.L.A.; Sir Cowasjee Jehangir; Raja Bahadur of Khallikote, M.L.A.; Malik Khuda Bakhsh Khan, M.L.A.; Mr. Jampadas M. Mehta, M.L.A.; Mr. G. B. Morton; Mr. Biren Mukherjee; Lieutenant Sardar Naunihal Singh Man, M.L.A.; Begum Shah Nawaz, M.L.A. Khan Bahadur Major Sirdar Sikandar Hyat Khan, Premier of the Punjab; Rao Bahadur M. C. Rajah; Professor E. Ahmad Shah; Khan Bahadur Allah Bakhsh Muhammad Umar Soomro, Chief Minister of Sind; Sir Jwala Prasad Srivastava, M.L.A.; and Khan Bahadur Sir Muhammad Usman.

The names of the Indian States members will be announced separately.

It is claimed that the announcement implements the offer of last August substantially so far as the present attitude of the major political parties permits.

SIR TEJ ON THE EXPANDED COUNCIL

Presiding over the Non-party Political Leaders' Conference at Poona, Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru severely criticised the Secretary of State for India and the British Government in regard to their attitude towards India's demands, and particularly the announcement of the expansion of the Viceroy's Executive Council "to meet the pressure of work created by the war".

Dealing with the allocation of portfolios to the new Indian members, Sir Tej Bahadur said: "The meaning of it is obvious. The three portfolios, Defence, Home and Finance, are portfolios with which power and initiation of policy are associated.

"We resent very strongly, and I think there is hardly any Indian who will not resent it, that in regard to the distribution of portfolios Indians should have been dealt with so unfairly. We were particularly anxious that the Defence portfolio should be transferred to us."

He, however, deprecated any idea of rejection. He said: "I am not a believer in the idea that we should give up every thing. We should seize as much power as comes into our hands and ask for more."

Discussing the task ahead of the new executive councillors, he said:

"Their primary task will be to render every assistance in the prosecution of the war, but while doing so they cannot forget the internal situation in the country. They will have to bring their pressure to bear upon the holders of those portfolios of power which have been withheld from them, that peaceful conditions have got to be restored inside the country and that the time and energy of the people, which at the present moment were being wasted in fruitless slogans and cries, must be harnessed towards constructive work. They will have to advocate and press for a policy of conciliation. It can be no pleasure to any one of us that many thousands of our countrymen should be in jail. It is true that they have gone to jail because they wanted to go to jail, but I still maintain that in the existing conditions, no Government can afford

for a long time to defy or ignore the pressure of public opinion in this matter and whatever may be my views with regard to Satyagraha movement—I am a confirmed sinner in that respect—I hold very strongly that so long as thousands of men are in jail, so long will Indian mind will be diverted from constructive channels to fruitless channels.

It will be upto the members of the new Executive Council to discuss this question with their colleagues and do their best to restore normal peaceful conditions.

INDIA AND THE WAR

Sir Mahomed Zafrullah Khan, Supply Member, in a broadcast talk on July 16, gave figures illustrative of the immensity of India's war production and indicated lines along which an expansion of it was soon likely to take place. He said:

"I want you to realise that India's war effort has never been confined to the needs of troops on Indian soil and that the products of Indian industry have for many months gone in an increasing stream to serve the overseas forces of the Empire.

The road ahead of us is long and hard, and if for a moment we look back and take stock of what Indian industry has done, it must not be in any spirit of complacency.

India has no reason to be ashamed of her effort; her industry has buckled to in a manner which is not always fully appreciated, and having regard to the limitations of initial equipment and the difficulty of war conditions, has achieved results which are in many respects remarkable.

But India can and will do more; as the war goes on, she will rely less and less on help from overseas, and the stream of her industrial products will grow not only in volume but in variety. India will certainly do more on one condition, namely, that we all realize that the object in view is not immediate economic benefit or post-war industrialization but national survival. To that object: profit, comfort, health and leisure and much else that we value in peace-time be subordinate until the war is over."

DEFENCE ADVISORY COUNCIL

H. E. the Commander-in-Chief, General Sir Archibald Wavell, at a Press Conference recently, announced that the following members of the Central Legislature had agreed to be members of the Defence Advisory Committee:—

Four members from the Council of State: Lala Ramsarandas, Mr V. V. Kalikar, Sir Mahomed Yakub and Sardar Buta Singh.

Six members from the Central Assembly: Mr. Jamnadas Mehta, Sir Henry Gidney, Mr. L. C. Buss, Lieut.-Col. M. A. Rahman, Sir Cowasji Jehangir, and Capt. Dalpat Singh.

His Excellency also announced that the heavy burden of work which had fallen on the Defence Department had necessitated its expansion and that it had been decided to appoint an Additional Secretary to the Department. That appointment would be taken up, on September 1, by Sir Gurunath Bewoor, at present Director-General, Posts and Telegraphs. Sir Gurunath, His Excellency said, would be Defence Spokesman in the Assembly and Secretary to the Defence Advisory Committee.

THE CENTRAL LEGISLATURE

His Excellency the Governor-General has decided to extend the life of the existing Legislative Assembly for a further period of one year from the 1st October 1941, when the extension effected in his order dated 22nd June, 1940, will expire.

His Excellency has also decided to extend to the 1st October, 1942, the life of the existing Council of State, which in the ordinary course would expire in February, 1942.

BRITAIN'S FIRMNESS

"We are not in any circumstances prepared to negotiate with Hitler at any time on any subject." This declaration was made by Mr. Anthony Eden addressing a great open air meeting at Leeds, on July 15. Mr. Eden continued: "We shall intensify our war effort until Hitler and all he stands for is utterly destroyed. There is no room on the earth's surface for Hitler's way of life and ours. We shall do our utmost to help Russia and any one else who fights Hitler. We will continue to build up our air power until it dominates that of Germany over every battlefield. Nothing less can satisfy us.

In the war Britain has but one aim, to break the power of the tyrant Hitler, so that nations may be free to work together and build a saner and happier world in security and peace."

WAR DAMAGE COMMISSION

The general policy would be for the Commission to have local offices in the same towns as the Civil Defence Regional Commissioners, who would deal promptly with claims on the spot.

It is most important that in the regional offices there should be a Deputy Commissioner able to deal with claims in order to achieve a quick settlement. These Deputy Commissioners should be persons of standing and repute in their respective areas. While they would not be members of the Commission, they would be in close touch with it, so as to be informed on outlook and policy. It is expected that in this way agreement on most claims would ordinarily be reached. Any aggrieved person would always have the right to refer his case to the Commission itself.

LITERACY IN A THOUSAND YEARS

"At the present rate of progress, India will become literate in 1,000 years at the most optimistic computation," said Mr. B. L. Rallila Ram, addressing the members of the Lahore Rotary Club.

The number of illiterates, he added, actually increases every 10 years since the growth in population is much larger than the growth in literacy. The same will be the case in 1941.

The removal of illiteracy has not been regarded as a problem of the first magnitude. The Governments under the new constitution did not pay attention to the solution of this problem commensurate with the urgency.

This problem may not be solved until the economic structure of the administration is radically changed.

Adult literacy is a valuable adjunct, but not the normal method. This method has never been employed except as a supplementary way to liquidate illiteracy. A regular system of full and compulsory elementary education is the only sure method.

SCHOLARSHIPS FOR MALAY INDIANS

A request to the universities in this country to grant free scholarships, free education, and free board and lodging annually to deserving Indian students from Malaya is made by the President of the Central Indian Association of Malaya, a central body of Indians drawing its membership from representatives of the various Indian organisations there, in a communication to the Vice-Chancellor of the Lahore University. The request has been forwarded to the Inter-University Board, which has circulated the letter to all universities for their consideration.

DONATION TO CALCUTTA UNIVERSITY

A striking evidence of the intense affection and attachment that Bengalees have felt for the University of Calcutta since its very inception is available from the latest news of donation made to it nearly 75 years ago by the well-known Bengalee, the late Mr. Ram Gopal Ghosh in his last Will and testament.

In course of a letter asking the Syndicate of the University to have the amount, Dr. Syamaprasad Mookherjee has intimated that under the Will, the late Ram Gopal Ghosh who died nearly 75 years ago, the University is entitled to get one-fifth share of certain G. P. Notes amounting to Rs. 150,000 deposited with the Imperial Bank of India, which has become due after the death of Sreemati Golapmani Dasi, widow of the late Ram Gopal Ghosh which event occurred about a month ago. The grant, says Dr. Mookherjee, is to be made to the University for educational purposes in general and it will be for the University to decide after the money has been received how it will be spent.

MORE UNIVERSITIES FOR INDIA

India will have two more universities, one in Assam and the other in Orissa. A Bill to establish a university in Assam is pending and has not yet become law. In regard to Orissa, a Committee has reported in favour of a university which will be partly affiliating and partly teaching. In these new provinces, difficulties of finance and of conformity to adequate standards of instruction face these institutions. A mere multiplication of universities in India without attention being paid to essential requirements will result in waste and inefficiency.

AGRICULTURAL INCOME-TAX ACT

The Bihar Agricultural Income-tax Act of 1938 was declared valid and within the bounds of the Provincial Legislature by a Full Bench of the Patna High Court, consisting of the Chief Justice Sir Fazle Ali and Mr. Justice Manohar Lal.

The case arose out of a suit transferred from a subordinate court. The validity of the Act was questioned by Mr. P. R. Das and Sir Sultan Ahmad on behalf of the landlord. Mr. Baldev Sahai, Advocate-General, Bihar, replied on behalf of the Government.

Delivering judgment, their Lordships held that the Bihar Agricultural Income-tax Act did not affect the Permanent Settlement and did not go beyond the powers of the Provincial Legislature under the present constitution.

Their Lordships delivered separate but concurring judgments.

Their Lordships granted permission to the assessors to move the Federal Court for appeal if they so desired, as in the opinion of their Lordships, it involved an important point of law.

The Act was passed during the regime of the Congress Ministry and laid down that incomes of Rs. 5,000 and above accruing out of agricultural lands be assessed according to a certain percentage.

BEGGING AN OFFENCE

The Governor-General assented to the Act amending the Madras City Police Act by which begging in Madras is made punishable with a fine of Rs. 50 or a month's imprisonment. The Act provides for the establishment by the Government of a workhouse for the reception of persons fit physically,

JUDICIAL COMMITTEE OF P. C.

No fewer than 13 petitions for special leave to appeal *In Forma Pauperis*, in Indian murder cases from Lahore came before the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council and all were dismissed.

Viscount Simon (the Lord Chancellor) took the opportunity to express the Committee's regret that with one possible exception, there is no ground whatever on which a certificate could or should have been given.

Lord Simon pointed out that the Judicial Committee was not a revising Court of Criminal Appeal, and it was not prepared to or required to re-try a criminal case and did not concern itself with the weight of the evidence.

Speaking broadly, said Lord Simon, the Judicial Committee would interfere only where there had been an infringement of the essential principles of justice.

MR. JUSTICE BECKETT

The King has been pleased to approve the appointment of the Hon. Mr. Justice R. B. Beckett, I.C.S., Bar-AT-LAW, to be Puisne Judge of the Lahore High Court in the vacancy that has occurred on the retirement of the Hon. Mr. Justice F. W. Skemp, I.C.S., in July 1941.

SIR ZAFRULLAH KHAN

His Majesty the King has approved the appointment of Sir Muhammad Zafrullah Khan to be a Judge of the Federal Court in succession to the late Sir Shah Sulaiman.

INSURANCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

A recent Government notification states that with a view to ensuring the smooth working of the Insurance Act, 1938, the Government of India have decided to appoint a Committee to be called the Insurance Advisory Committee, whose function it will be to advise Government on any matters connected with the administration of the Act, which may be referred to the Committee for opinion.

The composition of the Committee will be as follows:—

- (i) a Chairman and Vice-Chairman to be nominated by Government;
- (ii) three members to be nominated as to one each by the following bodies:—
 - (a) The Indian Life Assurance Offices' Association, Bombay;
 - (b) the Indian Insurance Companies' Association, Bombay;
 - (c) the Federation of Indian Insurance Companies, New Delhi;
- (iii) one member to be nominated by the Association of Life Offices in India, Calcutta, and the Calcutta Insurance Association, Calcutta, acting together;
- (iv) one member to be nominated by the Provident Insurance Companies' Association, Bombay, and the Provident Insurance Companies' Association (Bengal), acting together;
- (v) three members to be nominated by the Government of India as representatives of interests not otherwise adequately represented on the Committee.

Members, whether nominated by Government or by the bodies to which representation has been accorded, will be appointed to serve on the Committee for a period of two years. The Chairman of the Committee will be the Hon'ble the Commerce Member, and the Superintendent of Insurance will be the Vice-Chairman. The Chairman will have power, if he considers it desirable to do so, to co-opt one or more persons for any particular meeting of the Committee. The Secretary of the Committee will be an Assistant in the Insurance Branch of the Commerce Department to be nominated by the Chairman.

INDIAN INSURANCE COMPANIES

Disabilities experienced by Indian insurance companies on account of competition from Lloyds, demands for foreign exchange from Indian insurance companies for large deposits, and reluctance to accept policies issued by Indian companies were brought to the notice of the Commerce Member, Sir A. Ramaswami Mudaliar, when he met representatives of Indian insurance companies.

It was pointed out that foreign exchange banks insisted that a certain deposit should be placed with them before granting Indian companies normal working facilities.

This demand, it was urged, militated against the interests of Indian companies, as a large amount of the liquid assets of Indian companies would be locked up beside the deposits which they had already placed with the Government of India in accordance with the new Insurance Act.

The Commerce Member, it is understood, promised to bear the points raised in mind while dealing with the question.

INSURANCE TO BE INSURED

A Bill soon to be introduced in the United States Congress proposes that life insurance policies of \$5,000 or less be guaranteed by a \$150,000,000 insurance fund provided by the United States Treasury. The scheme will be purely voluntary, and it has not been decided as yet whether annuities or other contracts not involving life contingencies should be included in its plan. The companies voluntarily coming within the terms of the Act will be required to pay one-tenth of 1 per cent. of the premiums on policies up to \$5,000.

INDIA'S TRADE WITH EAST AFRICA

A small increase in India's share of the East African trade in certain categories of cotton textiles such as bleached goods and cotton blankets, jute bags and sacks, boots and shoes, pulses, spices and certain kinds of leather manufactures has been recorded, according to the Annual Report of the Indian Government Trade Commissioner in East Africa, Mombasa, for the year 1939-40, just released. As usual, cotton textiles continued to be the most important item of the import trade of the African territories of Kenya, Uganda and Tanganyika. Imports of dressed leather from all sources of supply including India declined.

Imports into Kenya and Uganda of jute bags and sacks in which India has practically the monopoly of the trade, rose from 486,353 dozens valued at £122,750 in 1938 to 568,920 dozens valued at £181,612 in 1939. Imports into Tanganyika rose from 136,553 dozens valued at £29,883 in 1938 to 190,811 dozens valued at £53,091 in 1939.

The principal articles imported into India from East Africa are raw cotton, sodium carbonate, wattle bark, Arabic gum, millet and cashew nuts.

IMPORT CONTROL

Import control, shipping problems including shipbuilding in India, the problem of post-war reconstruction, finding new markets for India's export trade and the difficulties arising from increase in war risk insurance rates were among the questions discussed by the Committee of the Indian Merchants Chamber recently with the Hon. Sir A. Ramaswami Mudaliar, Commerce Member with the Government of India.

ACCOUNTS OF INDIA GOVERNMENT

The latest statement of the Central Government's monthly accounts published by the Finance Department shows that, excluding periodical adjustments and transactions of Railways and the Posts and Telegraphs Department, expenditure in the first two months of the current financial year exceeded the revenue by Rs. 10,75,00,000. This excess is the same as that for the corresponding period of the previous year. The revenue this year has gone up by Rs. 2,00,00,000, and the civil expenditure less by Rs. 75,00,000 but the defence expenditure has increased by Rs. 2,75,00,000.

The net addition to the Permanent Debt during the period amounted to Rs. 2,50,00,000.

NEW COMPANIES

According to the report for the month of December, 1940, on Joint Stock Companies by the Department of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics out of 85 companies registered in the whole of India with an aggregate authorised capital of Rs. 9'62 crores, the share of Madras was 8 companies with an authorised capital of Rs. 7'08 thousands. The highest number registered was 34 in Bengal with an authorised capital of Rs. 90'65 lakhs. Mysore accounted for 4 companies, the largest flotation being Hindustan Aircraft and the Walchand Tulsidas Khajan. One company was registered in Travancore.

Out of 25 companies with an authorised capital of Rs. 47'1 lakhs that went into liquidation during the month, 6 were from Madras with an authorised capital of Rs. 9'2 lakhs and 3 from Travancore with an authorised capital of Rs. 11'2 lakhs. The highest number was 14 from Bengal.

WOMEN AND HINDU LAW

That the only satisfactory way of removing defects in the law relating to Hindu Women's Rights to Property is to avoid piecemeal legislation and to take up as early as possible the codification of Hindu law, beginning with the law of succession, is the opinion of the Hindu Law Committee appointed by the Government in January. The Committee's report was published on July 26.

The Committee was constituted, with the Hon. Sir B. N. Rau, Judge, Calcutta High Court, as Chairman, to examine the Hindu Women's Rights to Property Act of 1937 (as amended by Act XI of 1938) with particular reference to five private Bills pending in the Central Legislative Assembly; and to suggest such amendments to the Act as would resolve the doubts felt as to the construction of the Act, clarify the nature of the right conferred any injustice that may have been done by the Act to the daughter. The Committee was also required to examine and advise on Mr. K. Santanam's Hindu Law of Inheritance (Amendment) Bill and Dr. G. V. Deshmukh's Hindu Women's Rights to Separate Residence and Maintenance Bill.

The Committee bases its recommendations on opinions received in answer to a questionnaire sent to High Court Judges, distinguished lawyers and citizens, members of the Central Legislature, High Court Bar Libraries, heads of religious institutions, Women's Associations, social reform associations and Pandits' Associations among others.

The Report sets out the defects in the Hindu Women's Rights to Property Act, 1937, and the Hindu Women's Rights to

Property (Amendment) Act, 1938, which the Committee itself detected or which were brought to its notice. "Defects of this kind," the Committee states, "are inevitable in piecemeal legislation effecting fundamental changes in Hindu Law. The only safe course is not to make any fundamental changes by brief, isolated acts; if fundamental changes have to be made, it is wisest to survey the whole field and enact a code, if not of the whole of Hindu Law, at least of those branches of it which are necessarily affected by the contemplated legislation."

BRITISH WOMEN AND WAR

The women of Britain are playing a more important part in the country's war effort and new methods are continually being evolved to make use of their services in factories. Skilled work, which in the last war was beyond the capacity of women workers, is now being carried out by tens of thousands of girls with only a few months' experience in factories. In some armament factories as many as 80 out of 100 workers are girls. It will be recalled that Mr. R. G. Menzies, the Australian Premier, when leaving Britain, stated that what struck him most was the splendid part being played by the women of Britain, whom he described as "the real heroines of the war".

INCREASE IN WOMEN'S LITERACY

The total population of Travancore, according to the present Census, is 6,070,790. The total number of literates is 2,894,416. Literacy has registered a percentage of 47.6 in the decade against 28.2 per cent. of the last Census. The number of literates among women has gone up from 351,611 in 1931 to 1,111,677 in 1941.

LITERARY

THE NEW TESTAMENT

The translation of the New Testament into basic English (Cambridge University Press in association with Evan Brothers Ltd., London, N.W. 1) has been finished. It was a hazardous venture, for the thousand words comprised in the vocabulary of basic English were viewed as insufficient to convey the beauty and sublimity of the original in the basic form. A perusal of the Testament in the new garb reveals, however, only a minimum amount of damage. As against this slight inconvenience, there is the possibility of a more wide-spread use of all the New Testament. Basic English has all the potentialities of popular appeal and it brings a knowledge of English within the reach of classes to whom it was hitherto a sealed book. Modern science can then be brought to the very doors of our people through the medium of texts in basic English comprised in Library services.

IMPERIAL LIBRARY

The Annual Report of the Imperial Library, Calcutta, for 1939-40, reveals that literature continues to occupy the foremost position with readers—a position which has been further strengthened this year by an increase of 50 per cent. over that of last year. Its use is five times that of the next subject, namely, History, despite the fact that the library keeps a negligible proportion of fiction and light works. Like Literature, History and Law have maintained their second and third positions for several years except in 1937-38, when this order was reversed.

Geography and Travels, which Engineering had superseded last year, have regained their fourth place.

MR. GEOFFREY DAWSON

The retirement of Mr. Geoffrey Dawson, Editor, *The Times*, is announced.

Mr. Dawson, who was Editor from 1912 to 1919 and again since the beginning of 1923, was previously for a short while Private Secretary to Joseph Chamberlain, then Colonial Secretary. He has retired on reaching an agreed age-limit and will be succeeded by Mr. R. M. Barrington Ward, who has been Assistant Editor for nearly 14 years.

PERSONAL

SIR A. WAVELL

An extraordinary issue of the *Gazette of India* announces the appointment of General Sir Archibald Wavell as Commander-in-Chief of His Majesty's forces in India in succession to General Sir Claude Auchinleck.

It is also announced that Sir Archibald Wavell assumed command on the forenoon of July 11, 1941.

Sir Archibald Wavell is also appointed a member of the Executive Council of the Governor-General of India in the place of Sir Claude Auchinleck and it is notified that Sir Archibald Wavell has on the forenoon of July 11 taken upon himself the execution of his office.

HITLER'S PERSONAL INCOME

In spite of the war, Hitler is very well off. His annual income is stated to be more than £200,000 a year.

This, according to a French report, is made up as follows:—

As President of the Reich (salary and allowances) £20,000; as Chancellor, £3,000; royalties from *Mein Kampf*, £133,750; earnings from the publishing firm of Frans Ether, £23,750; and profits from the newspaper *Voelkischer Beobachter*, £14,300.

Goering's income, estimating the same source, amounts to more than £100,000 per annum.

MR. K. M. MUNSHI

Mahatma Gandhi has permitted Mr. K. M. Munshi, former Home Minister in the Bombay Government, to resign from the Congress.

Some time back, Mr. Munshi wrote to Mahatma Gandhi setting out his views on the question of non-violent self-defence, to which Mahatma Gandhi has replied advising him that the only course for him was to resign from the Congress and attain freedom of action unhampered by the restrictions entailed by the Congress non-violence creed.

THE RT. HON. M. R. JAYAKAR

The Rt. Hon. M. R. Jayakar, one of the two India members of the Judicial Committee of His Majesty's Privy Council in London, has tendered resignation of his membership of the Judicial Committee.

HOMEOPATHIC MEDICINE

The establishment by the Government of Bengal of a General Council and State Faculty of Homeopathic Medicine in Bengal, is announced in a Government resolution just published.

The main functions of the Council will be to regulate the standard of instruction in Homeopathic medicine, to hold examination of candidates trained in recognised Homeopathic institutions, to grant certificates or diplomas to successful candidates, and to maintain a register of qualified Homeopathic practitioners.

AYURVEDIC COLLEGE

Bombay's first recognised institution for the study of indigenous systems of medicine, the Rambilas Anandilal Podar Ayurvedic College was declared open recently by Mr. H. F. Knight, Adviser to the Government of Bombay.

The first institution of the kind to be started by the Government of Bombay for the promotion of the study of the Ayurvedic system of medicine and literature and for carrying on research in that line; the college has provision in the first year for the admission of 24 students. A hospital provided with 15 beds is attached to the college.

MAN WITHOUT VOCAL CORDS TALKS

In spite of the fact that his vocal cords had been removed during an operation nearly nine years previously, John J. Smith, of New York City, recently talked over the radio. His feat was made possible by the sonovox, an invention of Gilbert Wright, of Los Angeles, California. Wright's device produces a continuous buzzing in the throat of the user. When a mute's lips silently form the words he wishes to utter, the buzzing is changed into audible and understandable sounds.

SHOCK CURE FOR HICCUP

Jagadish Prasad Chaturvedi of Thana, a suburb of Bombay, had an attack of hiccuping which continued non-stop for three weeks. One day he went out on a drive. While attempting to overtake a bullock cart, the car hit a tree near Donbivli Railway station. Chaturvedi who escaped unhurt, however, received a rude shock which cured him instantaneously of the non-stop hiccuping.

SWEAT AND HEALTH

All sweating baths are a beneficial sort of gymnastics for the skin. Exposure to heat and the profuse sweating which is usually induced bring into full exercise the glands and blood vessels of the skin.

An inactive skin becomes pale and bloodless and in time loses its fresh color through the deposit of debris because of the deficient blood supply.

For the maintenance of normal health, the skin should be brought into free exercise with profuse sweating at least once every day. Sweating produced by exercise is preferable, but in the absence of this, especially in cold countries or in the cold season in temperate countries, sweating produced by artificial means, even once a week, is a valuable aid to the maintenance of skin health. The Turkish bath is only one of the means by which vigorous skin action may be induced. The vapour bath, hot air bath, and best of all, the electric light cabinet bath are also convenient means by which sweating may be induced.

TUBE-WELL WATER

Tube-wells have of late come into great prominence on account of their being handy means of obtaining natural clear drinking water, which is at the same time of high and consistent bacteriological purity. Though reliable and satisfactory from the bacteriological point of view, the tube-well waters in some regions, however, have given rise to various complaints from the chemical point of view.

On the basis of chemical composition, the waters of the shallow tube-wells not exceeding 432 feet in depth in and around Calcutta are shown to fall under four types: The water in the area of the Dum Dum railway junction and northwards is slightly alkaline, free from saline or marine influence and is potable. The water in the area between Dum Dum railway junction and Lower Circular Road is not alkaline, but contains sea-salts and the sodium chloride content increases with the age of the tube-well. Waters that are potable at the start turn definitely saline in the course of a few years.

STATE BANK FOR HYDERABAD

The Hyderabad State Bank Bill was passed last month in the Hyderabad Legislative Council.

In the statement of Objects and Reasons it is stated that the main object of the Bill is to promote the growth of banking facilities in the Nizam's Dominions by the creation of a strong banking institution in close relation with the Government. On the recommendation of the Executive Council last year, the Nizam sanctioned the appointment of a senior officer of the Imperial Bank of India to draw a scheme for a State Bank.

The Bill provides for an authorised capital of Rs. 1½ crores of which Rs. 75 lakhs is proposed to be issued in the beginning, divided into fully-paid shares of Rs. 100 each. The Government, at all times, will hold 51 per cent. of the share capital issued by the Bank. This has been considered essential as it is proposed to deposit all cash balance of the Government and entrust the bank with money remittance, exchange and banking transaction of the Government, the custody and management of various reserves including paper currency reserve, the management of public debt and the issue of all currency notes and coins as the agents for the Government.

The management of the bank will be entrusted to a board of ten directors, three of which will be elected by the shareholders excluding the Government. The minimum dividend of three per cent. on all shares has been guaranteed on the lines of the Reserve Bank of India.

An amendment moved in the Council that the maximum holding by an individual shareholder should be 200 shares was accepted.

CENTRAL BANK OF INDIA LTD.

The net profit of the Central Bank of India Ltd. for the half year ended June 30, 1941, subject to audit, including the amount brought forward from last year's accounts, amounts to Rs. 21,08,145 which the Directors have resolved to dispose of as follows:—To pay an ad-interim dividend at the rate of 6 per cent. per annum free of income-tax for the half year ended June 30, 1941, Rs. 5,04,896. To carry forward to next half year's account Rs. 16,08,749. Total Rs. 21,08,145.

A. R. P. RAILWAY COACH

A well-equipped casualty and decontamination coach that would be invaluable during any serious railway accident, or in the event of an air raid, has just been placed in readiness by the G. I. P. Railway authorities. It is believed to be the only one of its kind in the country.

A surgery is provided in the centre of the coach and casualties can be admitted either direct, or by way of the Cleansing Room if they have been contaminated by gas.

One end of the coach is fitted for use by a decontamination squad. The men undress and put on their protective clothing in the Dressing Room and, on returning from duty, they enter a lobby where they have their protective clothing, etc., removed and placed in appropriate bins. They then pass through a gas lock into a shower bath compartment and back to the Dressing Room.

The coach is attached to the "break-down" train and would be extremely useful at the scene of a serious railway accident as well as for air raids. Electric lights and fans are fitted.

RAILWAY WORKERS' GRIEVANCES

The twentieth half-yearly meeting between the Railway Board and the All-India Railwaymen's Federation will be held in the office of the General Manager, G. I. P. Railway, Bombay, on Wednesday the 6th August 1941 and if necessary on the 7th August also. The following subjects are to be discussed:—

(1) Extension of provident fund benefits; (2) working of the present dearness allowance rules; (3) blocks in promotion in grades of the low-paid staff; (4) principles to be adopted regarding the staff on the transfer of company managed railways to state management; and (5) grievances of certain Accounts staff.

RAILWAY BOARD

It is reliably understood that questions such as dearness allowance, the principle to be adopted in the matter of promotion of the railway staff of the company-managed railways when taken over by the State and other kindred matters will come up for discussion at the meeting of the Railway Board to be held at Bombay this month.

KATHAKALI AND SERAIKELLA

The ballets of India, like most other Eastern countries, are adapted from ritualistic observances of religious ceremonies. Records of such dances, says Mr. Wehida Aziz in the *Bombay Chronicle Weekly*, are to be found in the Vedas when women and maidens danced round the sacred fire chanting hymns, signifying Siva's five activities: Panchakritya: the world process of creation or evolution, maintenance, and destruction or involution, the embodiments of souls and their release from the cycle.

The most famous of these are the Kathakali and the Seraikella Dances, both of which represent short and swift moving episodes from the Hindu mythology, the only difference being that the latter does not, like the Kathakali, dramatise the entire story. The programme in Seraikella dances is varied and the items range from martial to the romantic. In fact it is in footwork that the strength of these dances lies. The hands do not play such an important part, and the mudras are not to be seen. The movements of the feet are in strict harmony with the timing of the primitive drumming.

ART AND CRAFTS SCHOOL

"Art is a fascinating study and its application specially, if there is devotion to its ideals, labour in its practice, and imagination in its conception, inculcates a sense of appreciation of beauty and of the nobler things of life. It brings dexterity to human hands which are capable of achieving the highest excellence in the execution, it trains the mind by lending to human perception the restraints of an ordered imagination and proportionate design, and it brings spiritual satisfaction that must invariably accompany and manifestation of the beautiful," observed Sir Akbar Hydari, President of the Executive Council, Hyderabad.

ART TREASURES

Senor Suner and the French Ambassador, M. Pietri, have signed a reciprocal agreement between Spain and France for interchange of art treasures. France has actually already returned a number of Spanish works of art, among them the famous bronze 'Lady of Elche' in anticipation of the agreement.

WAR TIME SPORT IN ENGLAND

British sport reclaimed some peace-time prominence with first class cricket, athletics and lawn tennis providing well-earned recreation for both athletes and spectators, the majority of whom are serving in the Armed Forces or Civil Defence, says *Reuter* in a message dated July 19.

About 30 Internationals, many of them Olympic Games runners, participated in a charity contest, in which Armed Forces beat Civil Defence by 95 points to 80.

Corporal Sidney Wooderson, holder of the half mile and mile world records competed in the mile with a badly strained Achilles tendon heavily bandaged and finished fourth of the nine starters. The winner was Corporal Alfred Littler of the Royal Air Force, his time being 4 mins. 23 4/5 secs.

Lieut. Holmes, a British Olympic runner, won the 100 yards in 10 1/10 secs. and the 220 yards in 23 1/10 secs. and finally broke the tape a third time when he finished first for the Armed Forces in the relay race.

The outstanding feature of the Lawn Tennis Tournament in aid of the Red Cross was the match between Mrs. Menzies, formerly Miss Kay Stammers, and Miss Jean Nicoll. Though lacking Mrs. Menzies' experience and court-craft, Miss Nicoll countered efficiently and by forceful driving won the first set at 8-6.

Mrs. Menzies led 1-0 in the second set when play was unavoidably stopped.

The pioneers of war-time cricket, London Counties and a British Empire XI, figured in a drawn game at Lord's London Counties, scored 191 and British Empire 34 for four.

O'REILLY'S RECORD

In the Sydney first-grade premiership, W. J. O'Reilly, Australia's greatest bowler, headed the bowling averages for the eighth time this season, a record not even remotely approached. He took 46 wickets at an average of 8'2.

Arthur Morris, this season's find as a batsman, had the best batting average, 80'9 for 15 innings. He also got into the N. S. W. eleven. His aggregate of 890 runs was also the highest.

BRAND-NEW EXPLOSIVE

A brand-new explosive developed by the United States may be made available to Britain, according to Mr. W. H. P. Blandy, Chief of the Navy Bureau of Ordnance.

Testifying before the House of Representatives' Naval Committee recently, Mr. Blandy stated that the United States Navy plans to construct a complete new 70 million dollars factory for the manufacture of this explosive.

Mr. Blandy declined to amplify his statement apart from saying that production would begin within 12 or 13 months and would serve the United States Army and Navy and possibly British. He also revealed that shortage of armour was at present bottle-necking United States warship construction.

ILLUMINATED TYPE-WRITER ROLLER

An illuminated typewriter roller recently placed on the market simplifies the problem of cutting mimeograph stencils. Made of transparent plastic and lighted by a six-watt fluorescent tube mounted in a special fixture, the new roller illuminates the stencil from beneath, so that each letter becomes easily visible as it is cut. According to the manufacturer, the roller will last for the life of the machine, maintaining its original smooth surface indefinitely, since the type cannot indent the plastic—a fact that also makes it possible to type large numbers of regular carbon copies.

PRISMATIC GLASS AND OPAL SHADES

As a result of inquiries instituted, it has been established that prismatic glass and opal shades for use aboard ships can be manufactured in India.

Arrangements have been made by the Supply Department for orders to be placed by the shipbuilding firms for their manufacture.

RADIO ENGINEERING

The Government of Bengal have created two scholarships to be awarded this year for training Bengalees in Radio Engineering at the Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore. The scholarships are valued at Rs. 45 each per month and one of them is reserved for a Bengalee Muslim.

FILM CHAMBER'S DEMANDS

A deputation of the South Indian Film Chamber of Commerce waited on Mr. J. F. Sheehy, Member, Central Board of Revenue, Government of India, on Thursday July 17, in the office of the Commissioner for Income-tax, Madras.

The deputationists explained to the Member the difficulties experienced by film producers, distributors and exhibitors in respect of the present method of assessment of income-tax on films and requested him to introduce such rules of assessment as may least affect their interests.

In the matter of depreciation on the written down value allowed in case of articles used for picture production and exhibition, the deputationists asked for allowance of a higher percentage than what is being obtained now.

Thirdly, they requested that Government may be pleased to exempt from income-tax contributions made in aid of the war fund.

Mr. Sheehy gave a patient hearing to deputationists and promised to give his consideration to the representation made.

AUXILIARY OF FILM ADVISORY BOARD

An Auxiliary of the Film Advisory Board has been set up, says a Press Note, with effect from April 1, 1941. Its functions will be:

1. In co-operation with the Film Advisory Board to receive and distribute within Bengal and such other areas as may be allotted to it films of all kinds produced by or on behalf of the Film Advisory Board; and

2. by arrangement with the Film Advisory Board to make suitable for exhibition in its area films produced by the Film Advisory Board.

The headquarters of the Auxiliary will be at Calcutta.

AMERICAN FILM POLL

After an absence of two years from screen, Katharine Hepburn has won the award of the New York Film Critics for 1940's Best Screen Performance—won it as a result of her work in 'The Philadelphia Story'.

TEA CARS IN THE DESERT

A slogan in this war is "Wherever there are troops there are tea cars". Today a fleet of more than 400 of these tea cars cover the whole of Britain. There are several serving in Iceland. When the B. E. F. was in France, there were tea cars everywhere and since the war has flared up in Egypt's Western Desert, they have been hard at it behind the fighting lines. A Y. M. C. A. worker, who was one of the first to reach the desert area with a tea car, wrote as follows: "Specially equipped for desert service, the tea cars were given an amazing welcome wherever they went. I never imagined that a cup of tea could be so reviving until, in broiling heat and with my throat full of sand, I drank a toast to victory with the Colonial troops."

MOTORING ON BAD ROADS

Madras Presidency stands first as far as bad roads are concerned.

This unenviable tribute was paid to our roads by Mr. Sushil Ch. Ghose, an Engineer of the Calcutta Corporation, who has just completed an All-India tour in his self-driven car. He covered 6,480 miles and travelled practically whole of India excepting North-West India within two months.

In an interview to the *Calcutta Municipal Gazette*, Mr. Ghose said the roads in India outside Behar and U. P. were not generally suitable for motoring. The Agra-Bombay Trunk Road and the roads from Bombay to Bangalore were awful.

LIGHT CAR

America made another entry into the light car field when it was recently announced that the Crosmobile will be marketed soon in all important overseas countries. Although the car is new as regards export, its manufacturer has an accepted name among importers of American merchandise. It is built by a division of the Crosley Corporation of Cincinnati, U. S. A., whose Crosley radios and Sheldor refrigerators have been sold on a world-wide scale for many years. Several changes have been made in the design and appearance of the car since it was first introduced on the American market. It is the lightest car offered by an American manufacturer.

AEROPLANES IN ANCIENT INDIA

In the *Modern Review* Mr. T. V. Subrahmanyam writes that aeroplanes which were then known as Vimanas did exist in Ancient India. The writer gives some instances which are interesting:

In the Ramayana, the Rakshasa king of Lanka, Ceylon, Ravana, is said to have possessed a beautiful *vimana* by name Pushpaka. It is in this *vimana* that he carried away Sita, when on the way he had to encounter in the sky with the mighty vulture, Jatayu. It is in the same vehicle that Sri Rama returned from Ceylon to Ayodhya (Oudh) after slaying Ravana in a battle. It is said that the Pushpaka (*vimana*) carried back not only Sri Rama and his wife but the whole of the Vanara army. Think of its carrying capacity.

In the Mahabharata there are frequent references to hordes of aeroplanes clouding the sky and watching the battles and fights below on the terra firma. There are no records, however, to show that these aeroplanes were employed for raiding or bombarding; they were simply pleasure-cruisers of the air.

In the same work there is an interesting anecdote of a Gandharva (superman) carrying away as captives all the Duryodhanaites (Hundred Princes) in his *vimana*. On his way through air the captives cried out for refuge and hearing their cries, Arjuna, the famous archer, is said to have stopped the course of the *vimana* with a single arrow.

The beauty with regard to this *vimana* is that with the hit of the arrow it did not fall to the ground, as modern ones do, but only ceased to proceed further.

In the Bhagavata also there are many descriptions of *vimanas* and flying chariots. All are known for their great speed and carrying capacity.

BRITAIN'S GROWING AIR STRENGTH

The British Air Minister, Sir Archibald Sinclair, described in a speech recently how Britain's air strength was being constantly built up.

He said that the number of Air Training Corps units formed now amounted to 1,340, with a total strength of 190,000 cadets. There were about 5,000 commissioned men accepted for service and 740 units had been affiliated to R. A. F. stations.

SELECTION OF AIR PILOTS

The Nawab of Chhatari is appointed Chairman of the Committee for the selection of pilots for the Indian Air Force and Civil Aviation training scheme.

HOSIERY INDUSTRY IN U. P.

The development of the hosiery industry in the United Provinces is set out at length in a survey issued by the Industries and Commerce Department. The industry occupies quite an important place in the economic life of the province as, besides giving employment to a large number of workers, it consumes 1,698,000 lbs. of yarn valued at Rs. 11,20,000 and the value of goods produced exceeds Rs. 20 lakhs in a year.

AIR-RAID SUITS OF FIRE-PROOF CLOTH

New York style experts are turning from spring fashions to air-raid clothes. The latest creations have pointed hoods to protect the face and are made of fire-proof cloth. For protection against shrapnel fragments, plates of one quarter inch thick plastic can be slipped into pockets in the lining to cover the chest, back, and mid-section. The plastic plates weigh about fifteen pounds as compared to fifty pounds for an equivalent protection of metal. The suits are loose-fitting and designed for warmth.

SUGAR REFINING FACTORIES

Sugar refined from gur in India during 1941 is estimated to be 42,700 tons as against the actual production of 29,600 tons in 1940. The number of factories refining gur is estimated to be 10. The quantity of gur melted is estimated at 73,700 tons against the actual figure of 50,800 tons in the previous year. The percentage recoveries of sugar and molasses are estimated to be 57'94 and 32'15 respectively, as against the actual recoveries of 58'26 and 31'10 in the previous year.

ANTI-GAS FABRICS

Anti-gas fabrics made from indigenous materials at the Alipore Government Test House have in some respects been proved to be better than imported ones. These are much cheaper than the latter which cost Rs. 2-4 per yard. The oil skin industry, oil cloth and resin-pregnated cloth industries are likely to be developed in this country as a result of these new formulae of proofing being made public. An order has already been received for 22 lakhs of yards of this cloth.

CANAL WATER FOR IRRIGATION

The Government of C. P. has issued a Press Note impressing upon the public need for economy in the use of water from the Mahanadi and Tandula canals, in the course of which it says:

During the last ten years, when the average area under agreement under the Mahanadi and Tandula canals was only 2,00,148 acres, water was let out according to the full extent demanded by the cultivators without considering whether so much was really necessary as the supply of water available was always greatly in excess of the demand. Owing to the prolonged drought from the end of August to the middle of October, 1940, and the drastic reduction in the water rate for the irrigation of rice, the area under agreement has now gone up from 2,18,847 acres to 3,45,942 acres.

DAIRY INDUSTRY IN INDIA

Substantial increase in the agricultural and dairy production of the Farms, a satisfactory number of students attending the courses started at the Institute, an increase in the volume of research in dairying and dairy technology and improvements in the milking stock of the Institute are some of the features of the Annual Report of the Imperial Dairy Department for the year ending June 1940. The Report deals with the activities of the offices of the Director of Dairy Research and of the Imperial Dairy Expert, and of the Imperial Dairy Institute, Bangalore, and the Milk Depot, Wellington.

BURMA LAND PURCHASE ACT

The Burma Land Purchase Act, as recently passed by the Burma Legislature, has received the Governor's assent.

Introduced by U Saw, the then Forest Minister and now Chief Minister, nearly two years ago, the Act, which provides for compulsory purchase of agricultural land for distribution among landless peasants provoked considerable agitation in Indian circles.

The Purchase Act, the Tenancy Act and the Land Alienation Act are regarded as the three chief land legislations in Burma after separation.

ANTI-FASCIST COUNCIL

The constitution of an anti-Fascist All-India Trade union council to assist the world democratic alliance against Fascism and achieve effective and conscious participation of workers in war efforts in this country was decided upon at a conference recently.

Among the unions represented were the B. B. and C. I. Railway Workers' Union, the G. I. P. Railwaymen's Union, the Dock Workers' Union, the Parsi Textile Union, the Mint Workers' Union and the Municipal Workers' Union.

The Conference passed a resolution constituting themselves into a provincial committee to work to achieve the above objects.

INCREASE IN JUTE MILL WORKERS' WAGES

It is announced that the I. J. M. A. Committee have unanimously decided to recommend to members that for the month of June and until further notice, an allowance of one rupee per month should be given to all jute mill workers, irrespective of wages earned. This is the second increment that has been given to the workers since the outbreak of the war, an increase of 10 per cent. in wages having been granted in November, 1939. It is estimated that the new allowance will cost the mills about three lakhs of rupees per month.

WAGE INCREASE

The Management of the Madura Mills at Madura, Ambasamudram and Tuticorin, have granted a wage increase which may be revoked in bad times, of one rupee monthly for adult workers and eight annas for half-timers with effect from July 1.

They have also resumed payment from July 1, of Rs. 10,000 monthly to the Mills Workers' Co-operative Stores, Madura Rs. 5,000; Ambasamudram Rs. 3,000 and Tuticorin Rs. 2,000 to be continued so long as the need exists.

MILL STRIKE IN CALCUTTA

Following the extension of the system of checking work, about 12,000 workers of the Anglo-India group of four mills in Jagatdal within the Barrackpore subdivision in 24-Parganas struck work on the afternoon of July 15.

INDIAN CHRISTIAN REGIMENT

A deputation of Indian Christians led by Kunwar Sir Maharaj Singh and consisting of the Lord Bishop of Lahore, Dewan Bahadur S. P. Singh, Registrar, Punjab University, Prof. Ahmed Shah, M.L.C. (U. P.), and Mr. B. L. Rallia Ram, General Secretary, All-India Council of Indian Christians, waited on General A. B. Haig, Adjutant-General in India at Simla and emphasised the urgent necessity of recruitment of an Indian Christian Regiment in the regular army on an All-India basis. General Haig gave a most sympathetic hearing to the deputation.

INDIAN SHOE-MAKING

"Evolution of Indian Shoemaking" by Mr. John F. Bartos, Managing-Director, Bata Shoe Company, India, gives a record of the progress of the industry from the ancient times to this day. The brochure, which is very well illustrated, shows the marvellous progress made in this industry by the world's leading manufacturing firm in shoe-making. As one goes through its pages, it looks as if every one in India will in a short time be provided with a footwear at a cheap cost.

PRAISE FOR INDIAN TROOPS

General Sir Henry Maitland Wilson commanding the troops in Palestine and Syria has sent word to the Commander-in-Chief in the Middle East, General Sir Claude Auchinleck, especially commanding the work of the Jammu and Kashmir Mountain Artillery, Indian States forces, in the battle for Damascus.

This artillery company has already done sterling work in the East African campaign, particularly at Cheren.

STRIKES IN AMERICA

The frequent strikes in American factories handling large defence orders have been a puzzle to many people. President Roosevelt is determined to put a stop to them. The American Senate has already approved of legislation authorizing the President to seize defence plants in cases of threatened failure of production. In one case, the President asked the troops to take charge of a factory.

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THE JAPANESE MENACE

BY MR. H. S. TOWN

JAPAN today is Headline News and before these words are published, Japan's foreign policy and actions may well be the most important news of the day.

The present war has shewn how quickly the international scene may change. Treaties of Friendship, Non-aggression Pacts, Mutual Assistance Assurances mean nothing when one of the parties is a member of the Axis and are lightly entered into and as lightly discarded.

The friendship between the British Commonwealth and Japan has been broken and our once strong ally is now a potential enemy. What has happened to cause this change? Why has Japan chosen to give up her friendship with Democracies and transfer it to a Despotic Power? To answer these questions, we have to go back some half a century or more.

Fifty years ago, Japan was steeped in Feudalism and had little interest in the outside world. In 1895, Japan went to war with China, but though victorious Japan gained very little other than the island of Formosa and some experience. Her victory, however, enhanced the prestige of her War Lords. The Military virtues have always been held in high esteem in Japan and when the already high standing of the Military Chiefs in 1905 was still further

heightened by the victories of the Russo-Japanese War, the Military Party rose to a position from which it has never been dislodged.

Japan was an original member of the League of Nations, but her subsequent behaviour has shewn that she was never a real supporter of the aims of that body and was only a member for her own ends. She is one of the three countries of this world who have thrown the economic basis of life and have plunged the world into an abyss of armaments and has done this within 17 years of having ratified an agreement that the maintenance of peace required a reduction in national armaments.

The agreement to reduce armaments was conscientiously carried out by a few great powers who, by so doing, found themselves unable to bring sufficient pressure on Japan to check her attack on China.

China possesses many raw materials essential to Japan's industrial expansion. The control of these raw materials was coveted by Japan, but she failed to obtain this control by peaceful means. There was internal strife in China, and Japan grasped what she thought was a favourable opportunity and changed her policy towards China from one of negotiation to one of aggression. In 1937, she announced

to the World that she would destroy the main forces of China in three weeks. More than four years have passed and Japan is still seeking to do what she boasted would take three weeks.

War had now come to Japan, and as in all countries at war, the normal constitution has been subordinated to the one aim of gaining a victory over the enemy.

Generals, Admirals and Air Chiefs, however brilliant themselves, study with critical eye the technique of the successful Soldiers, Sailors or Airmen of other countries and the Japanese Military Chiefs have been no exception to this. They have adopted the Nazi methods of ruthless bombing of the civilian population in order to shake the morale of the Chinese. They have failed in this but still continue to bomb pitilessly, and should her war extend to other spheres it is certain Japan would attack civilian as well as military objects.

Realizing that Britain had been unable effectively to check her aggression in China, the War Lords of Japan became more certain of their power and when they saw the success that had attended the German Diplomacy of ensuring the safety of one flank by a treaty of friendship before attacking on the other flank they adopted similar ways themselves.

One of the nightmares that has caused constant concern to Japan has been the possibility of Russian influence in China becoming so strong that her own influence might wane. Since the war or as the Japanese prefer to call it the "incident" with China, Japan has feared a situation in which Russia actively and openly supported China. Japan had

absorbed all the Nazi talk of "living space", "destiny" and "new order" and decided to apply such slogans to herself. France was crippled and her possessions in Asia looked an easy prey but the fear of Russia held Japan back. This fear had to be removed, so Japan's Minister tried to secure his country by a treaty with Russia. Having secured this, Japan began to talk loudly about having a 'Mission' in Asia, about a "new order" and other duties in the same way as Germany does in respect of Europe.

Germany's unprovoked attack on Russia must have been very disquietening to the saner elements in Japan, but the War Lords were in the saddle and they had no intention of being checked. The U. S. A. and Great Britain gave serious warnings, but Japan chose to ignore them and under cover of a specious agreement has occupied those parts of Indo-China which she considers of strategic importance. This act of aggression seems to have been successful and Japan is now aiming at other advances. Will she make demands on Thailand or seize some other point in the Pacific and what is her ultimate aim? The answer to these questions is that if Japan thinks she can extend her grip on the Pacific, she will. If she thinks she can seize Thailand successfully, she will. If she thinks she can successfully attack Burma, she will. As with Germany so with Japan—there are no bounds to her ambition, there are no methods too terrible in their result that she will not use to gain her end. There is in short but one thing that checks Japan—the combined strength of the British Commonwealth and the United States of America.

But what has all this to do with India? As long as Japan remains east of Singapore, why should we worry about her? Surely we can start worrying if Japan threatens Singapore, so why worry before? These and similar questions are not uncommon and as they are asked by men of education, they call for consideration.

Were we in India certain beyond the possibility of error that Japan would never seek to extend her influence other than by the expressed will of those concerned, we might be content to rely on negotiation in our dealings with Japan.

Indian and British troops are in Malaya, and the British Fleet has strong detachments in Singapore, not as has been suggested to threaten Japan but to ensure the safety of India.

The Germans intrigued in Iraq and in Iran, with the one aim of securing bases from which to attack India, and Japan has intrigued with Berlin to ensure that Vichy gave her strategic points in Indo-China from which she can, if favourable opportunity arises, attack the outposts of India.

Let there be no doubt in anyone's mind Japan is not so interested in the Southern Pacific as she is in India.

India is a country rich in raw materials and to gain possession of India is a dream of many a Japanese soldier and statesman.

Her success in Indo-China may well be the prelude to an attack of Thailand—a country which however valiantly she may fight, will be quite unable to check unaided any large scale attack by a highly organised army, and we may be sure Japan, if she dares aggression, will do so with all the technique of the German Blitzkrieg.

Japan has so far held her hand in regard to Thailand. This may be, because she is not ready to attack or because she fears the joint power of the U. S. A. and the British forces in Malaya, but whatever the cause, we in India must not for one moment relax our preparedness.

The Japanese menace to India is today very real, because to the Japanese India appears disunited but the menace will fade away and disappear if the political parties in India will, for the present at least, forget their individual identities and accept this war as their own and put their whole strength into winning it. By so doing, they can save thousands of lives and release millions of the peoples of this world from slavery under the Nazi heel.

THE PRESENT POLITICAL SITUATION

By MR. S. SATYAMURTHY

I am very glad to have the opportunity of stating my views on the present political situation in India to the readers of the *Indian Review* among whom I am sure are men of different political views. The British Government have taken the constitutional line of saying that if the Indians present an agreed

constitution, they will accept same, subject, of course, to their obligations. I venture to say that this is merely lip homage to democracy; for, so long as the British Government do not withdraw the poison of separate electorates from the body politic of India and substitute joint electorates therefor to all legislatures, they

know, none better, that Indians are not likely to agree.

But that is only part of the truth. This statement of theirs is also a challenge to us. We on our side must leave no stone unturned to bring about a united demand. I agree Mr. Jinnah's demand for Pakistan is incompatible with the continued existence of India as a self-respecting political entity. But recent



MR. S. SATYAMURTHY

events convince me that Mr. Jinnah is, perhaps, over-reaching himself. Even Col. Amery and Mr. Winston Churchill may find it difficult to tolerate Mr. Jinnah much longer.

Writing as a humble Congressman, I suggest that the needs of the situation are three in number: (1) Mahatma Gandhi, in view of his public statement that he has no desire by his Satyagraha movement to embarrass the British Government in its life and death struggle, and in view of the nature and the limitations of the movement, should be given the right to conduct the movement in the manner he considers best and as long as he considers best. The Government, in

view of their latest *communique* on the subject and in view of Col. Amery's statement in the House of Commons on the action of the Muslim League Premiers joining the National Defence Council, cannot deny Mahatma Gandhiji the right to carry on this movement in vindication of the principle of Non-violence as the ultimate solvent of human ills—a principle which even Mr. Winston Churchill and President Roosevelt have now accepted it—unless the Government take the view that the Congress can never do right and the Muslim League can never do wrong. I, therefore, hope that all sound public opinion in the country will support the suggestion of mine. I have no doubt in my own mind that once the Government accept this suggestion, Mahatma Gandhi will respond more than generous; (2) I am clearly of the opinion that Mahatma Gandhi and the Congress should be persuaded by the public opinion of the millions of electors concerned to allow Congress Ministries to function once again in the Provinces. There can be no question of Congress Ministries functioning without the approval or at least the blessing of Mahatma Gandhi. There is no question naturally again of Congress Ministries functioning without the approval of the Congress.

I have reason to believe that the British Government have made up their mind not to allow Congressmen to come back to power. That is why they have recently amended the Government of India Act, permitting Governors to shut up provincial legislatures and to put off elections till the completion of a year after the war. This is most undemocratic amendment. I am surprised that the British Parliament fighting for Democracy

did this undemocratic thing in the case of India.

When I, therefore, advocate acceptance of office by Congressmen, it is not as if office is waiting for them round the corner. We have to fight with the support of the electors for the rights of democracy not being trampled upon by the very Government which is fighting for democracy. That is why it appeals to my fighting instinct.

I want this acceptance of office also in the very critical times ahead of us at least to preserve internal order and communal peace. Only popular Governments can do it. The Bombay and the Bihar Advisers have proved that. They cannot do it. (3) The most important need of the hour is to bring about communal understanding and unity. I strongly

believe that after the resignation of Congress Ministries, the communal situation has become much worse and Pakistan has reared its ugly head in all its ugliness. If Congress Governments function in the majority of the provinces, the Bengal and the Punjab Governments will also join them in bringing about communal understanding in their interest. With these eleven provincial Governments functioning together, I have every confidence that the demand for a National Government at the centre will have to be conceded by the British Government. While they may get their pound of flesh in respect of their war effort, they cannot get the spontaneous and the enthusiastic co-operation of the provincial Governments and of the electorates and of the public behind them unless their hearts are roused.

THE DANGER TO INDIA

BY MR. C. JINARAJADASA

SO many of the leading minds of India have been so immersed for



MR. C. JINARAJADASA

months in the problem of Indian Nationalism that there seems to be little

realization that if, owing to their non-co-operation with Britain, Germany wins, there will be neither India nor Indian Nationalism. All the discussions regarding Executive Councils, Constitutions, the devolution of power, etc., are urgent problems from one angle, but not the most urgent problem which faces India. It is the very existence of India as a civilization that is in jeopardy to-day. Since the year 1935 (though the era had begun earlier), a wave of darkness has slowly spread from Germany extinguishing the spiritual life of people after people. Czechoslovakia, Austria, Norway, Belgium, France, Holland, Yugoslavia and Greece have lost their nationhood. Practically the same destiny has overtaken Hungary,

Rumania and Bulgaria. It is this wave of darkness that has definitely been aiming to engulf India also from the West by the Axis Powers and from the East by Japan.

The following two quotations from Japanese writers give a clear indication of what thousands of the military and naval leaders in Japan have been dreaming of for many years. Thus, Mr. Chonosuke Yada, Director of the Japan-Siam Society, in 1935, said:

The world situation is constantly changing. It is highly questionable how long the Netherlands can retain her territories in the East Indies, which are more than sixty times as large as her homeland and continue to exploit them to her advantage. It is also uncertain how long India will remain a British possession. When we take account of these facts, we are convinced that Japan must make her way southward. She must make her way southward immediately, for there is no time to be lost.

More significant still is the following from Professor Chikao Fujisawa's book "Japanese Oriental Philosophy":

The (Japanese) Emperor as the Sage-King would think it his sacred duty to love and protect not only the people of this land, but also those alien peoples who are suffering from misgovernment and privations. It must be recalled that the Sage-King is answerable in person for the pacification on the entire Under-Heaven, which is the ancient name for the whole world; consequently his moral and political influence ought to make itself strongly felt through the length and breadth of the earth. Should any unlawful element dare to obstruct in one way or another the noble activities of the Sage-King, he would be permitted to appeal to force; but this may be justified only when he acts strictly on behalf of Heaven. . . . This firm belief in our holy State mission moved Japan to assist Mr. Henry Pu Yi to found the new state of Manchoukuo, which will faithfully follow the way of the Sage-King. . . . Nippon's national flag is an ensign of 'red heart', or fiery sincerity. It alludes to the heavenly mission of Japan to tranquillize the whole world.

This wave of darkness will engulf India unless it is resisted by the forces of the British Commonwealth. India alone cannot do it. Whether India co-operates with Britain or not has become a vital problem within the last few days. Japan is now at Saigon in Indo-China. For aeroplanes Saigon is four hundred miles from Singapore. Though Japan has not the fastest aeroplanes being built, the trip for a bomber can now be made in two hours. There are in Malaya three-fourths of a million of Indians. Yet in spite of the fact that the danger to India was never so great in several thousands of years of her past as today, there is no realization of fundamental values to things in politics in this year 1941.

For one thousand eight hundred years the Light which India has given to the far-eastern peoples of Asia has shone from Saranath to Tokyo, from Benares to Bali. But those peoples are beginning to realize that India is a land with a message which helped the past, but no longer helps the present. To use an American colloquialism, India is a "has been". Can this be changed so that once again from Saranath to Tokyo, from Benares to Bali, strength, light and peace go forth from India? This can happen once again, but only if India chooses the destiny which Britain has chosen of "blood, toil, tears and sweat, and takes upon herself to help mankind in this grave crisis. If she helps, then all is well with India's future. If she does not, then the world's historian will turn over the page of India's history with one word, "Finis". As said the sage of old, there is only one message for India today: "Na-anyah panthah vidyate 'yanaya" — "There is no other path to go." Will her leaders see that Path or be blind to it? Who can tell?

THE INDO-BURMA AGREEMENT

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EVER since the signing of the Indo-Burma Immigration Agreement, the volume of opposition to its terms has become more and more pronounced. Every political or commercial organisation in the country has given expression to its feelings of indignation against the undeserved slur cast upon our countrymen. There have been innumerable public protests against its discriminatory terms.

The Muslim League Executive which met the other day at Bombay condemned the agreement

concluded without consulting the Indian Legislature or the Provincial Governments concerned and other responsible public opinion in the country with the result that the vital economic interests of India in general and the trading interests and civic rights of the Muslim community in particular, enjoyed by them for over a century, have been sacrificed and irreparably damaged.

The Working Committee further urged the Governor-General and the Secretary of State for India

not to ratify the aforesaid Agreement and thus remove the serious discontent which it has caused in all Indian trading circles and the offence it has given to the self-respect of the peoples of India.

Apart from the many telegrams addressed to the authorities to modify the Agreement suitably, a cogent and well reasoned memorial has been submitted to the Viceroy, calling attention to the offensive nature of the Agreement and the obvious disabilities it imposes on Indians and praying for the suspension of its operation till such modifications are incorporated in the Agreement in the light of public criticism.

The Agreement, as the memorialists point out, amounts in important particulars to a surrender of the just claims of

Indians who are residents in, or have business connections with, Burma and our property there. Little need be said of the religious and cultural contact between Burma and India which is a matter of ordinary history. It dates from many centuries past. But it is common knowledge that Indians, especially the Nattukottai Chettiers of South India, have enormous business interests in Burma, which are now put in imminent jeopardy by the Agreement.

Apart from banking and money-lending operations, Indian land-owners pay nearly a crore of rupees as land revenue in Burma. The continuity of such work necessitates a continuity in personnel which is now sought to be made impossible by the extraordinary restrictions on immigrants.

The elaborate system of passports and visas seems designed not to control the inflow of undesirable persons of an excess quantity of unskilled labourers. They have every appearance of being designed not only to prevent Indian immigration but to drive out of the country thousands of Indians who have carried on business in Burma for generations, acquired property and to all intents and purposes become as good as domiciled Burmans.

The Agreement thus seeks to lay the axe at the very foundation of Indian business in Burma. At the time of the Round Table Conference and at the passing of the Government of Burma Act, assurances were given by responsible authorities that no improper restrictions would be brought against Indians entering Burma and that no unfair or discriminatory legislation would be passed against Indians. The present Agreement is a direct negation of that assurance that no attempt would be made to strike at businessmen and their

employees going to Burma as theretofore for business and other purposes. The Agreement thus offends against what may be "termed guaranteed rights".

Above all, no time was given to the public to examine the terms of the Agreement. It was sprung upon an unsuspecting public who had hoped that the Delegations were meeting for purely exploratory talks. The Baxter Report on which it was supposed to be based was never brought to public notice till after the publication of the Agreement itself. Nor is there anything in the Baxter recommendations to warrant these extraordinary restrictions.

Here is the fact found by the Commission: There is no evidence of any kind to suggest that Indians have displaced Burmans from employment which they had previously obtained. Indian labour in the past has been supplementary rather than alternative to Burmese labour.

The penalising of marriage and the literary tests are other unwanted provisions which cannot stand examination. Indians resent the implied humiliation.

No wonder that Mahatma has come forward with a strong indictment of the Agreement, which was evidently hatched in a hurry without due consideration. Mahatma Gandhiji truly says that Indians in Burma and Burmans in India can never be foreigners in the same sense as people from the West.

This drastic Agreement is an undeserved slur both on India and Burma. This Agreement is a brutal reminder that both India and Burma are under the British heel and that the Government

of India Act and the Government of Burma Act give no real freedom to the respective peoples.

"This Agreement," he says, "must be undone inasmuch as it breaks every cannon of international propriety."

It becomes less defensible in that an Indian instead of an Englishman was sent to negotiate the Agreement. It is an old and familiar trick, that of putting up an Indian to perform a disagreeable task. Nor is it relevant that the Agreement had the approval of local Indian opinion. For the Agreement is an insult to the whole nation, not merely to the particular individuals whose material interests lie in Burma. But even if it was relevant, there should be evidence to show the volume and character of that opinion.

Gandhiji suggests a way or two out of the difficulty in which the Government of India have placed themselves. One is by way of revision, as provided for under Section 188 of the Government of Burma Act, of the Government of Burma (Immigration) Order, 1937, which at present regulates Indian immigration into Burma. The other is by the Burma legislature passing an Immigration Act, as prescribed, in consultation with, and securing the co-operation of, the Government of India. Gandhiji suggests that the Secretary of State should withhold assent to the Agreement in the interest of fair play and in fulfilment of obligations to India.

I have no doubt whatever that the Secretary of State for India should not pass the Order-in-Council and should withhold the assent to the Agreement. Any restriction should be a matter for legislation by the Burmese Assembly in consultation with, and with the co-operation of, the Government of India.

RABINDRANATH TAGORE

BY MR. B. NATESAN

TAGORE is dead. In his death we have lost, as Mahatma Gandhi has truly said, "not only the greatest poet of the age but an ardent nationalist who was also a humanitarian". Even at a time when the world is distracted by wars in two continents, the passing of the great Indian poet and teacher has been a deeply moving event, not only in India but in Europe and America as well. Tagore's outstanding position as a world figure is borne out by the chorus of tributes from all over the world that have flooded our press. Tagore, like Gandhi, symbolised the new spirit of India's awakening. He was, in the words of Babu Rajendra Prasad,

the great sentinel of India whose moral principles stood out uncompromisingly on all occasions. For fifty years or more he has been a great teacher—the Gurudeva as he has been lovingly called—of India and his burning words have gone straight into the hearts of those who have hearkened to him. We needed his presence to-day more than ever before when the affairs of the world are in a topsy-turvy condition.

Though a poet and writer of considerable distinction in Bengal for many decades, he was little known to the rest of India and was hardly heard of in

England three decades ago. The award of the Nobel Prize through the accident of a Swedish scholar reading his poems in the original Bengali shot him into world repute, which he sustained by a continuous stream of writings in prose and verse for thirty years. But it was the publication of *Gitanjali* in English, with its Biblical cadence and wealth of colour, that took the world by storm. It opened a new heaven and a new earth. Nothing like it had ever appeared since Fitzgerald startled the world with his "Omar Khayyam". There was something rich and strange in the magic of this exotic song, with its wonderful suggestiveness, and vivid imagery. Critics were thrilled by the tender grace of these poems in prose.

Men going home glance at me and smile and fill me with shame. I sit like a beggar maid drawing my skirt over my face, and when they ask me what it is I want, I drop my eyes and answer them not. . . .

Entering my heart unbidden even as one of the common crowd, unknown to me, my king, thou didst press the signet of eternity upon many a fleeting moment.

or that mystical piece about children:

They build their houses with sand and they play with empty shells. With withered leaves they weave their boats and smilingly float them on the vast deep. Children have their play on the



sea-shore of worlds. They know not how to swim, they know not how to cast nets. Pearl fishers dive for pearls, merchants sail in their ships while children gather pebbles and scatter them again. They seek not for hidden treasures, they know not how to cast nets.

It was the puissant voice of ancient memories and strange dreams that thrilled the reading world with the excitement of a new enthusiasm. No wonder that



such excitement could not be lasting. And though the beauty of *Gitanjali* and its splendour are in some sense sustained in the *Gardener* and *The Crescent Moon*, there was a distinct reaction as the novelty of the thing wore out. As in the case of Tennyson, with whom Tagore had many things in common, Tagore has had his waxing and waning phases. But nowhere else in all literature have we such an intimate expression of the child mind, or the lover as in his poems. His place is among the lyrists of all time. Nothing in the "Golden Treasury of Songs and Lyrics" can give us that sense of spontaneity and self-surrender, so evident in the song sequels of the *Gardener*; "O mad superbly drunk," or "None lives for ever, brother" or that superb piece with the musical refrain:

The name of our village is Khanjana, and Anjana
they call our river.
My name is known to all the village, and her
name is Ranjana.

"As generations pass, travellers will hum them on the highway and men rowing upon rivers. Lovers, while they await one another, shall find in murmuring them this love of God, a magic gulf wherein their own more bitter passion may bathe and renew its youth."—(Yeats). And in such vignettes as *Upagupta*, *Sanatan* and *Satyakama*, he has shown himself master of an art at once difficult and rare. They are miniatures of rounded perfection. Tagore attained supreme mastery in another art, the Short Story, and his *Kabuliwala* and *Hungry Stones* will rank among the finest of contemporary efforts.

Tagore's interest in politics was fitful and capricious, but on occasions when he felt the deeper life of the nation at stake, he did not hesitate to come down with the voice of thunder. The last of such incursions was his famous challenge to Miss Rathbone's open letter. On a previous occasion too, when the Punjab was undergoing the humiliations of martial law, he renounced his knighthood with an indignant letter to Lord Chelmsford:

The time has come when badges of honour make our shame glaring in their incongruous context of humiliation, and I, for my part, wish to stand shorn of all special distinction by the side of those of my countrymen who, for their so-called insignificance, are liable to suffer a degradation not fit for human beings.

More than everything else, it is as poet that Tagore will be remembered for all time. "He is in the grand line from Valmeeki to Kalidas," said Sir Radha Krishnan. Tagore lacked the architechnics of the great masters but his song, as Sarojini Naidu said, "will remain generation after generation as fresh as the first flowers of the spring time and as enchanting as the music of the moonlit streams." That is a fitting tribute from a fellow-poet,

Tagore was a patriarch of four score and one when he died. His face and demeanour were so remarkable that at first sight one took the impression of unusual dignity and intellectual distinction. It was said of Tennyson that "his voice, his gesture and bearing impersonated, so to speak, his character and reputation; his appearance fulfilled the common expectation (so often disappointed) of perceiving at once something singular and striking in the presence of a celebrity". This was strikingly true of Tagore. We are also reminded of Tennyson's last dirge:

Sunset and evening star
And one clear call for me

as we remember the beautiful words of wisdom and courtesy with which he waits for death:

I know that the day will come when my sight of this earth shall be lost, and life will take its leave in silence drawing the last curtain over my eyes.

Yet stars will watch at night and morning rise as before and hours heave like sea waves casting up pleasures and pains. . . .

I have got my leave. Bid me farewell, my brothers! I bow to you all and take my departure.

Here I give back the keys of my door, and I give up all claims to my house. I only ask for last kind word from you.

We were neighbours for long, but I received more than I could give. Now the day has dawned and the lamp that lit my dark corner is out. A Summons has come and I am ready for my journey.

HINDU MARRIAGE LAW REFORM

BY MR. K. B. GAJENDRAGADKAR, B.A. (Hons.) LL.B.

MR. G. V. DESHMUKH of Nagpur has introduced "A Bill to remove legal disabilities under Hindu Law in respect of marriage between Hindus" (L. A. Bill No. 5 of 1941). The main clause of the Bill is: Notwithstanding any custom, rule or interpretation of the Hindu Law, a marriage which is otherwise valid, shall not be invalid because (a) it is between Hindus belonging to the same Gotra or Pravara; or (b) it is between Hindus belonging to different sub-divisions of the same caste. This Bill in short seeks to remove the prohibition of marriage amongst the Hindus between two persons of the same Gotra and between persons belonging to different sub-divisions of the same caste.

On the motion of Sir Reginald Maxwell, the Home Member, supported by Mr. M. S. Aney, the veteran Sanatanist, this Bill is now circulated for public opinion.

This question of Sagotra Marriages is discussed by the present writer in his article on "Sagotra Marriages" published in the journal section of the Bombay Law Reporter (*vide* 42 Bombay Law Reporter, Journal page 49).

In that article this question of Sagotra marriages is fully considered both from the religious and legal aspects quoting elaborate authorities from ancient texts. The whole position can be well summarised in the following few words:—The present-day rule which prohibits marriages between persons of the same Gotra was unknown to society for a long time. The very conception of Gotra as a group of persons connected with each other by spiritual or blood relationship was unknown in Vedic age. The word "Gotra" occurs in Vedic literature but it is used there in the sense of cow-pen. The prohibition of Sagotra and Sapravara marriages does not go back to

a period much earlier than 600 B.C. and is probably due to the influence of a cognate custom prevailing amongst non-Aryans which interdicted marriages amongst worshippers of the same totem. The provision first appears in Grihya Sutra literature and is subsequently accepted by later writers. A Sagotra marriage was very seriously viewed by Smriti and Nibanda writers who could never think of validating it by the theory of the *factum valet*. There is, however, no point in continuing this ban now; Gotras were originally mere surnames, and members of the same Gotra have no real tie of consanguinity, and even if we suppose that there originally existed such a tie, it would be hardly rational or eugenic now to prohibit marriages on that account. For members of any particular Gotra, prohibitions existing to-day are removed by hundreds of generations from its original founder.

Whatever may have been the case thousands of years ago, when there were no means of communication and when there were small communities, the prohibition of Sagotra relationship has had some plausibility and real feeling of close kinship about it, but now this prohibition has become quite meaningless. A man from Kashmir may marry a girl from Madras and the parents of both may have the same Gotra. Granting for argument that the Gotra sage was a common ancestor, one does not know how many generations have intervened between the most remote ancestors and the intending spouses.

The prohibition based on Gotra is said by orthodox people to be prescribed upon unseen grounds and so they argue that they

must be held to be absolute and must not admit of any evasion by any one calling himself a Vedic Hindu. This argument is far-fetched and fallacious. Everybody now has given up the ancient cult of Grihya and Shrouta fires and when hundreds of other innovations in ancient practices have been accepted without demur, there is hardly any justification for sticking to this one remnant of ancient practices. As a matter of fact, many Brahmins do not remember their Gotra or Pravara themselves but have to be told by priests what their Gotra and Pravaras are. Certain prohibition against marriage between Sapinda relationship must be respected no doubt on account of their universal acceptance.

The additional clause must be embodied in the Bill itself that parties to a marriage must not be related to each other within the prohibited degree of consanguinity. This Bill must not affect the rule of prohibition based upon Sapinda relationship between the parties to the marriage. Otherwise there would be the absurdity of allowing the man to marry his own sister!!

Further it should be noted this will only be a permissive measure like the Widow Re-marriage Act and no compulsion would certainly be forced upon anybody. The only advantage would be that the field for selection of the bride and bridegroom will considerably be enlarged and those who are inclined to take advantage of this Bill may do so.

The other clause in the Bill of Mr. Deshmukh seeks to remove the ban on marriages between persons belonging to different sub-divisions of the same caste. In the statement of Objects and

Reasons, Mr. G. V. Deshmukh has himself stated that there does not appear any legal prohibition under the law for marriages between sub-divisions of the same caste. But the general belief prevails that such marriages, which are rare, are not lawful. One really wonders why Mr. Deshmukh should insert this clause regarding marriages amongst the sub-divisions of the same caste, especially when he himself thinks that such marriages are not prohibited by law. If he really and sincerely thinks that positive enactment on this point would certainly dispel the general belief that such marriages are not lawful, he is utterly mistaken in his notion, I must say. No less a veteran person than Lokamanya Tilak has advocated this reform as far back as 1880 in one of his articles in *Kesari* on "Konkanastha, Deshastha and Karhade" (*vide* writings of Lok. B. G. Tilak—1th Part, pp. 1-6). In this article he has proved citing instances and quotations that there is absolutely no prohibition for the marriages between persons of the sub-castes of the same caste. The Peshwas, who were Konkanasthas, have set an example to the common people by taking in marriage girls belonging to Deshastha and Karhade families—the other sub-castes of the Brahmin community. Lok. Tilak has strongly advocated and urged people to introduce marriages amongst persons of the different sub-castes in the same caste. It is now well established beyond doubt that there is absolutely no prohibition whatsoever in the ancient Dharmashastra for such marriages. Sixty years have now elapsed since Lokamanya B. G. Tilak advocated this reform. Still the public has not taken to this wholesome reform. Public opinion, which is always

very conservative, must be educated on a large scale.

There is also no legal prohibition on marriages between persons belonging to different sub-divisions of the same caste. The Privy Council recently in its decision. (*Gopikrishna vs. Gaggio*, 38 B. L. R. page 751) has held that marriages between persons belonging to the sub-divisions of the same Varna as valid and has settled once for all the conflict of judicial opinion on this narrow point. In that judgment it is stated that the Shastras dealing with the Hindu Law of marriage do not contain any injunction forbidding marriages between persons belonging to different divisions of the same Varna. It is said that marriages between members of the different sub-castes of the same caste do not ordinarily take place. But this does not imply that such a marriage is interdicted and would, if performed, be declared to be invalid. Indeed, there is at present a tendency to ignore such distinctions if they ever existed. There exists no doubt a disinclination to marry outside the sub-caste inspired probably by a social prejudice; but it cannot be seriously maintained that there is any custom which has acquired the force of law.

It would thus become quite evident that this Bill of Mr. Govind V. Deshmukh well deserves consideration and should receive the unanimous support of all. It must be enacted in law at an early date. Social reformers should try to educate public opinion in this matter and prepare the country for this much-needed and long overdue reform.

IN a critical period such as this, we need leaders more than anything else as in every relationship of mankind, be it business, education, social, political, religious or the like, leaders are needed who are qualified to deal with the situation in order to usher in more advanced stage of development and usefulness. The vital problem before every group is how to make group activity a happy and satisfying experience for the people. The present-day organisations have such a vast membership that the individual has only impersonal, cold and uninspiring tie instead of warm feelings of group solidarity, and such impersonality is abhorrent to the very nature of human beings. It takes a special effort on the part of some one in the organisation to overcome that feeling and this man is the leader.

Leadership is a highly imperative duty imposed upon human beings; and it is possible in every human effort which can be translated into an achievement. Leadership is a process that, at its best, moves from a social situation of unrest and dissatisfaction to one of at least temporary adjustment; or may begin in a crisis and disorganisation and end in organisation and reorganisation. Sometimes it moves from stagnation to disorganisation and then to a new level of organisation. The leader is an artist working with people in a complex medium. "Just as the task of the artist is one of organisation of ideas and materials if any work of art is to be achieved, so with leadership the bringing of human desire and energy into organised relations becomes a work of high artistry." Thus

it is the activity of influencing people to co-operate towards some goal which they come to find desirable and so it implies dominant personality traits of one person and receptive personality traits of many other persons. Lindeman defines the leader as "an individual whose rationalisation, judgments and feelings are accepted (responded to) by the group as bases of belief and action".

Every person has a capacity to lead in some sphere and to follow in another. A person becomes a leader when he acts in a superior way in an attack upon or in defence of a social value. The acquiring of leadership is a social process involving a number of persons in mental contact in which one person assumes a dominance over the other persons. For acting in a superior way, the qualities of individuality and sociality are essential. Individuality refers to those distinguishing personality traits which set one person off from another, and sociality is composed of those behaviour traits which identify one person with another. By virtue of his individuality, a person is able to perform in ways different from and superior to his fellows and thus to qualify for leadership, but individual differences must not be so great as to preclude solidarity of purpose. Moreover, superior individuality must be expressed in directions that are appreciated by some social group, or its possessor will not be accredited as a leader.

As a result of his sociality, a person is able to understand his fellows, to perceive their needs and to suggest ways and means of leading them out of difficulties.

There should be the presence of a common cause and the leader should be able to see it and unite the followers to follow his lead. There should be a will to lead, *i.e.*, an interest in the cause and a consequent willingness to accept the responsibilities which its service entails. Every member should be fitted to the propaganda. For this the leader is required to possess outstanding ability in the special sphere, *i.e.*, specialisation in that field. "The mark of leadership may vary from gang to gang. The type of boy who can lead one gang may be a failure or have a distinctly subordinate role in another. The personality of the leader is to a large extent a response to the personnel of his group, which may vary from other groups with regard to age, interests, race, nationality, cultural background and so on." Some rare courage of conviction is also required. The leader is to master the conditions in which he is placed and not to be mastered by them. In other words, he is to drive the work and not to be driven by it.

The leader should possess knowledge of antecedent or background of the people to be served as it is upon these backgrounds that the new edifice is to be built. He should have foresight with wisdom in planning, and must clearly see the opposing forces and organise the favouring ones.

Next comes the quality of magnetism, which includes the following things:—

Good Physique.—A well proportioned physique and features supported by graceful movements is an attraction in itself. Physique also includes physical and nervous energy.

Enthusiasm.—It means keen interest in the work which gives energy and pleasing atmosphere.

Sincerity.—It includes honesty, courage and whole-hearted activity in helping others.

The most essential quality for leadership is the quality of selfless work. "By the test of the generations and centuries, it has not been those who exercised lordship, dictatorship or the domination of human force over men, who won the deepest allegiance of the people of their day and are to-day remembered with deepest

gratitude, but rather those who lost themselves in great unselfish causes and whose controlling ambition was to render the maximum helpfulness, especially to those who are in deepest need. Abraham Lincoln, through long years of toil and conflict, was not thinking of what would make him most comfortable, most welcome and most famous, but about how to put an end to slavery and to preserve the union." Mahatma Gandhi is a living example of this type.

At this stage it would be worth while to distinguish leadership from domination as most of the people think them to be one and the same thing. Leadership, as we have already seen, is the process of guidance through co-operation for the common end. On the other hand, domination is a process of control in which by the forcible assumption of authority and the accumulation of prestige, a person (through hierarchy of functionaries) regulates the activities of others for purposes of his own choosing.

In leadership, the difference in rank between the leader and the followers is not emphasised and the relationship between them is determined by the understanding of the community of ideals and not by social position. In other words, relationship is based on solidarity of purpose. On the other hand, class distinction is important in domination. The master commands and the subject obeys without any rational thinking. The relationship in domination is based upon command and obedience.

The leader works patiently for stimulating growth by bringing people to work together for a common end effectively and happily, and never aims at immediate results; while the dominator wants a standard training at the very beginning.

The leader enlists co-operation by pointing to the requirements of a mutually desired aim, but the dominator enforces arbitrary decision based on his personal wish or opinion.

The leader is always eager to explain actions and justify his policy by an appeal to facts, while the dominator insists on blind obedience. He is apt to resent any questioning and criticism is impudent.

The dominator regards all questioning as dangerous, because the chief element of his effectiveness is secrecy and monopoly of information.

The leader's aim is to liberate human energy while the dominator aims to make people into automatons and subjects them to some one's system of control.

Leadership is influence and as every person exerts influence over others, so to some extent he is a leader. See whether you are a leader and, if so, to what extent. Read the following questions and answer them. The greater the number of affirmative answers, the nearer you are to leadership:—

1. Have you a well balanced body?
2. Did you keep your head in an emergency?
3. Do you exercise self-control when things go wrong?
4. Are you cheerful and free from grouchy spells?
5. Do you think for yourself?
6. Do you keep your head in an emergency?
7. Do you remain calm under criticism?
8. Do your mates respect you and co-operate with you?
9. Can you maintain discipline without using the show of authority?
10. Can you handle a group of dissatisfied persons successfully?
11. Are you a successful peace-maker?
12. Are you patient in dealing with nervous and hard to please people?
13. Can you stand being opposed without saying things you regret later?
14. Are the delicate situations ever turned over to you to handle?
15. Do you make and keep friends easily?
16. Do you omit the scolding and quarrelling about petty or even major matters?

17. Do you adjust yourself to strangers easily?
18. Are you free from embarrassment before superiors?
19. Are your subordinates at ease in your presence?
20. Can you express your opinions without appearing overbearing and narrow minded?
21. Are you interested in folks?
22. Have you tact?
23. Have you a reasonable amount of self-confidence?
24. Have you confidence in your cause?
25. Have you the co-operative and not the competitive spirit?
26. Are you adapted to the group you seek to lead?
27. Have you steady will?
28. Do you have vision, are you optimistic, seeing the better order coming?
29. Have you the power of single motive?
30. Do you wear the leader's white flower of sincere life?
31. Are you sometimes alone with yourself and God?
32. Can you sense yourself as an agent of the world purpose?

Formerly it was thought that leaders are born and they are superhuman beings, but now we believe that it is a quality which is developed in course of time. The leader is no longer looked upon as a unique individual set apart from humanity by unusual personal qualities. The leader in one sphere is often a follower in another sphere. Experience has shown that leadership can be developed by gaining knowledge in the following spheres:—

1. Knowledge of general characteristics of human nature.
2. Self-knowledge of one's own qualities.
3. Grasp of right attitude for dealing with people.
4. Ability to apply this knowledge for mobilising the energy of the followers towards the common object.
5. Broadening of total personality.

WAR AND THE GILT-EDGED SECURITIES

BY MR. C. H. DIVANJI, A.I.L.B., F.I.S.A. (Ind.)

THOSE who have seen the last war and have also watched the prices of gilt-edged securities during and after the war are in a dilemma at the present steadiness in the gilt-edged security prices.

History, as it is said, always repeats itself and if this was true, the securities market should be reverse of what it is at present. Mr. Lloyd George, in his memories of the last war, has very pointedly mentioned that one of the many follies that Britain committed during the last war, was that loans were floated for financing war at a rate higher than that which actually prevailed in the market. The Government of India had to follow the example set by the British Government and had also to raise war finances at higher rates.

Fortunately for our country, the British Government seemed to have decided to finance the present war by raising loans at as low rates as possible and consequently the Government of India have also been following the same policy.

The first step towards creating the confidence of the public in the gilt-edged securities that Government of India have taken since the war, was the repatriation of the Sterling Debt. Though pessimistic financiers expected that this repatriation of Sterling Debt will rebound adversely on the Indian gilt-edged securities, their expectations have been falsified. Since then the successful repatriation of Sterling Debt amounting to ninety million pounds has had a very healthy and sobering effect on the prices of the gilt-edged securities in India.

One of the great factors that has helped to keep up the prices of the

gilt-edged securities inspite of the war, is the fact that the Government of India have practically ceased to increase their debts since 1934. The latest figures available on this will show:

Total obligation of Government of India in England and in India in 1934.	Total obligation of Government of India in England and in India in 1941.
(in crores of rupees), 1,223.97.	(in crores of rupees), 1,247.15.

During the period of seven years, the debt increased only by Rs. 23.18 crores. This policy of the Government created a dearth of gilt-edged securities in the market.

The steadiness in the prices was further maintained on account of the new Insurance Act that came into force in 1938 and which compelled all Insurance Companies to maintain at least 55 per cent. of their funds in the Government Securities. Insurance Companies in India in the aggregate have been increasing their business as well as total funds very rapidly and to that extent demand for the gilt-edged securities has been increasing every year. It is estimated on an average the Trustees of the different Trusts required to invest between Rs. 15 to 20 crores in gilt-edged securities. So if we do not take into account the demand created by the Insurance Companies for the gilt-edged securities, the Trustees alone would have required more than Rs. 100 crores during the last seven years for their investment purposes. Add to this more than Rs. 50 crores required by different Banks as a second line of defence for their resources. The total demands during the seven years would be in the neighbourhood of Rs. 175 crores.

If we take this into consideration, it will not be difficult for us to realise why the gilt-edged security has been able to maintain its prices inspite of the present devastating war.

Inspite of the reverses that the British Empire suffered in the capitulation of Belgium and France and the withdrawal from British Somaliland in Africa, the Government of India have been able to borrow large amounts from the Indian Public at a low rate of 3 per cent. taxable interest. We hear statements being made regarding higher prices of gilt-edged securities that this is due to artificial manipulations by the Reserve Bank of India. It has been shown that whether the Reserve Bank of India manipulates or not, the market was bound to remain steady in the circumstances already stated. Even if the Reserve Bank of India had succeeded in maintaining the higher prices by manipulations, it is rather a matter of congratulation to the authorities as they have been doing it with a vision which will act very favourably on the Post-war Reconstruction of industries that may follow in India at the end of the armed conflict of the world. During the last war, the interest rates were unduly raised which was a great handicap for the industrial reconstruction that followed the war, particularly in India. Even the industries like iron and steel, jute and cotton had to raise finance at rates varying from 6 to 9 per cent., from the after effects of which the industries had not been able to come out easily. If the industries were not compelled to raise finance at higher rates, the Government may have by now been able to get more by way of taxes from those industries than what they would actually be getting now when, on account of war, finances are very badly needed by the Government.

The very fact that in spite of the Nazi onslaught in Europe and Africa, the

gilt-edged market has not been affected, is sufficient to create a confidence that the policy of low interest rates will be successfully maintained and stuck to by the Government.

The international political situation has not affected the gilt-edged market, the Indian political situation, however bad it may become, will not affect the same, and it is not an optimism to say that the days of high yield of gilt-edged securities have passed and the level at which the gilt-edged prices, as at present maintained, is to remain for a long time to come.

It is in the interests of the Indian industries that this level of prices should be maintained, as gilt-edged security prices will be one of the chief factors in obtaining finance for the Post-war reconstruction of industries at rates cheaper than what they were after the last war. Of course, there is a danger of general public diverting their investments from gilt-edged to industrial enterprises with a view to earn higher rates of interest and this may create a bearish effect on the gilt-edged securities, but as a safeguard against this, the Government has the 1938 Insurance Act and signs are not wanting to show that if necessity arises, the Government of India will not hesitate to put a special Banking Act on the Statute Book, which will compel the Banks to invest large amounts of their resources in the gilt-edged securities.

Under the circumstances, only a pessimist would say that the gilt-edged prices will not be maintained on these levels at least during the war. The Post-war period may lead to lower gilt-edged prices and higher prices of industrial investments as the result of higher rate of interest that the Government may be forced to offer on account of the heavy burden of war expenses. But that eventuality will not affect the gilt-edged prices in the near future. The surmise of higher rate of interest for Government finances is based on the fact that after the war, India will not be in a position to borrow from the London Market and funds will have to be raised in India only.

HITLER YOUTH

BY PROF. P. L. STEPHEN

"When thou wert a child and couldst hardly walk, I have taken thee into the arsenal; I have there rolled cannon balls before thee over iron plates; and I have shown thee bright new arms, bayonets and sabres; and I have pricked the back of my hands until the blood came out in many places; and I have made thee lick it; and I have done the same to thine. Afterwards, from thy tenth year, I have mixed gunpowder in thy grog; I have peppered thy peaches: I have poured bilge-water (with a little good wholesome tar in it) upon thy melons. . . . Nay recollect thee! I have myself led thee forth to the window when fellows were hanged and shot; and I have shown thee every day the halves and quarters of bodies; and I have sent an orderly or chamberlain for the heads; and I have pulled the cap up from over the eyes; and I have made thee, in spite of thee, to look steadfastly upon them."—*Landor: Peter the Great to his son.*

THE supreme preoccupation of Nazi Germany with military preparation for world domination is evident even in its youth organization. All the world over, the aim of youth organizations is to foster the naturally noble ideals of the young, to encourage their spirit of camaraderie and to give them opportunities to enjoy their zest for healthy and innocent activities. To the Nazis all these serve only for camouflage; their all compelling purpose is none other than seething their young in the Nazi ideology and training them to be blind soldiers of Hitler.

The first ideal, therefore, placed before Hitler youth is Hitler worship. Every direction issued to the young men emphasizes that they should have "one thought only: Our Fuhrer"; every speech ends with: Our Fuhrer, Adolph

Hitler! Heil! Heil!! Heil!!!; and many a song has for refrain:

Our lives and loyalty
Our Fuhrer, are pledged to thee.

The supremacy of the German race over every other in the world, and the consequent fitness of Germany ruling the world form the next ideal of Hitler Youth. For the realization of this ideal, war against others and the shedding of blood may all be necessary, and the whole world may be hurled into suffering and ruin. But that could not be helped.

Though all around in chaos
We press on, flag unfurled,
For Germany today is ours,
Tomorrow the whole world.

In song after song the Reich poet and youth leader, the present Nazi Governor of Austria, Baldur von Shirach, harps on fighting and military glory. The world at large may talk of disarmament and peace, but for the youth of Germany war-life is the ideal.

The old world fears the foul red war
Its old bones tremble and quake.

But in Germany

Forward, Forward, Ring out the bugles
loud and clear,
Forward, Forward, Youth has no thought
of fear.

Nay,

When Jewish blood spurts from the knife
Then everything is fine.

It is only natural that such ideals should be harped upon in Hitler Youth, since these are the obsessions of Hitler and the formation of Hitler Youth has been only to secure his obsessions now and in the future.

Quite early in his life, Hitler had realized the value of training up the

young for his purposes. But it was only after his triumph of 1933, that Hitler Youth began to flourish. Under the Weimar republic, the organization had to face considerable hardships. But all the well known skill of Hitler to work in secret was used in its behalf, and in course of time it secured the support of the police force itself. On many a criminal occasion the police actually helped Hitler youth out of the scrape.

After 1933, its progress was amazingly rapid until in a short time it embraced all the youth of Germany. A number of devices helped to effect this. At first it was cajolery and cunning. Hitler's, by now notorious, hypocritical promises and idealism were used in its behalf. It was put forth innocently as an organization, which aimed only at the development of the physical and mental powers. Parents were persuasively told that their children would get an ideal training which would make them happy for life. It was plainly promised that Hitler Youth would have no connection with politics of any kind. Slogans, which automatically attract the young, were repeated in plenty and the young men felt that they were joining a body of physical, spiritual and intellectual perfection.

As the power of the Nazis increased, the strong arm of the Government was used to force all young men into the Hitler Youth. Other youth organizations were banned. Every young person had to be in the Hitler Youth. If not, the parents were suspect and got the attentions of the gestapo. No employment was available to such, since no employer dared to take on any such. Hitler Youth was soon a sort of Terror to many young men who had been happy in the now

banned youth organizations like the Bundische Jugend, Wandevogel, and the Catholic Youth organizations.

The outstanding characteristic of the Hitler Youth organization is its paramilitary nature. Its divisions correspond to the army. The lowest unit is called the Kameradschaft and consists of twelve to fourteen boys. Three Kameradschafts make a Schaar (troop), and two or three Schars make a Gefolgschaft (Company). Above the Gefolgschaft are the Unterbann (Sub-district) and the Bann (District). Each one of these is commanded by a Fuhrer as Kameradschaftfuhrer, Schaarfuhrer, and Gefolgshaftfuhrer. There are twenty Regional Leaders and at the head of all these is the Reich Youth Leader.

Each Fuhrer has his own staff. An Unterbannfuhrer, for example, has a staff of ten boys, one in charge of health affairs, one of press and propaganda, one of air defence, one of physical training and so on. Each one of these Fuhrers wields a great deal of influence in his locality, and the civil population has really some dread of these on account of their secret influences.

In the training and life of the Hitler Youth, even more than in its organization, its military nature is revealed. On fixed days the members gather together, dressed in their uniforms and march in military order to some far away country place. No one is allowed to fall out of line, to drink or rest on the way, however weak he may be, unless "Company Halt" is called out by the Fuhrer. Wearing heavy boots and marching at a brisk pace for miles together, the less hardened members have often to drag themselves with blistered feet in caked blood. But then Nazi

Germany does not care for the individual, and in any case, there is no provision for the weak!

The exercises of the Youth are of the nature of military drill, and the games are mostly imitations of war. Thus at times they compete in calculating distances to be reached, or of places to be "captured". Suddenly the order rings out to "dig in", and the young men sweat away at it like soldiers. Then there is practice at throwing hand-grenades. At other times the company is divided into two troops, and a mock battle is held, with observation posts, patrols, hand-grenades and machine-guns. One troop defends its flag, while the other tries to take it. All the activities that follow, no doubt of an exciting nature, tend to develop in the young a desire to try their skill at real battles. Only those whose interests lie elsewhere and those who are physically unfit for rough activities suffer. Even the others have to develop blind obedience and the following up of regulations which direct them how to act in every detail. These minute regulations aim at making of Hitler Youth a hard school in which

the fists are steeled, courage strengthened and the young given a blind faith in Germany.

The creation of this faith in Germany is the aim of the meetings held pretty regularly. The subjects for these meetings come down from the headquarters. Full directions for all the speakers are also sent, so that no independent thinking is necessary. The speeches are to bring out not only the inevitableness of German greatness, but all the evils that can by any stretch of imagination be placed at the doors of other nations.

Very often the members of the Hitler Youth are given such diversions as the picketting of Jewish shops, the booing of those who are suspected by the Fuhrers, the preventing of attendance at certain churches, and the harassing of families which hesitated to send their young ones to the Hitler Youth.

Hitler Youth is thus an organization built up and working for the militant aims of Nazi Germany. It is simply the junior branch of the German army, trained and controlled to develop blind fighters for the Nazi dream of world domination.

WHO BUILT THE QUTB MINAR ?

BY DR. NANDALAL CHATTERJI, MA., PH.D.

(Professor, Lucknow University)

IN point of architectural conception and majestic design, the Qutb Minar of Delhi is undoubtedly the most perfect Tower of Victory ever built in the history of the world. This great minar reminds one of the beautiful Jayasthamba of Chitor, but who will deny that it is vastly superior to the latter by reason of its stupendous height, symmetrical design, magnificent carvings, and superb outlook? From the artistic point of view, the Qutb Minar does, of course, lack the poetry, romance, and mystery of the Chitor Jayasthamba, but as a piece of architecture, the Kutab Minar on the whole is an unparalleled monument and has justly extorted the admiration of critics and admirers alike.

Tradition asserts that this glorious monument was originally begun by Prithviraj

for the sake of his daughter. The latter, it is said, was so devout that each morning, before taking her food, she would go to the Jumna to perform her morning ablutions, to offer prayers to the Sun, and, after the custom of Hindu ladies, to moisten with the river water her necklace of nine auspicious stones. But the journey was exceedingly tiresome for a royal princess, and at last the Raja persuaded his daughter to be content with a sight of the distant river and therefore commenced building this tower to enable her to catch a glimpse of the river every morning.

This picturesque legend has obtained unexpected support from certain authorities of whom Mr. Beglar, Assistant to Sir A. Cunningham, and Sir Syed Ahmed are the

most notable. The arguments advanced in support of the theory as regards the Hindu origin of the minar are extremely interesting and may be briefly indicated here.

The entrance to a mazinah should be on the east side, as it actually is in the neighbouring unfinished tower of Alauddin, but the entrance to the Qutb Minar is on the north as is usual with Hindu buildings and temples. The Muslims usually built minars on a raised platform, but the Qutb Minar has no platform at the base. The Arabic inscriptions on the tower are in themselves no proof of the fact that it was built by the Muslims, because these were carved on separate pieces of stone and were inserted on the wall afterwards. It is quite likely that originally the exterior wall had ornamental niches containing images of Hindu gods. These were removed and the whole space must have been covered up by the Arabic inscriptions which at least from their crude setting appear to be an after-thought.

Furthermore, the bells, chains, lotuses, and triangles on the walls of the Minar are unquestionably Hindu features and could not have been inserted by Muslim craftsmen. The Muslims generally attach two Minars to a Mosque, but that the Qutb Minar is a solitary and isolated tower shows that it is no organic part of the mosque, was never meant to be a mazinah and could not have been built by the Muslims. The peculiar slope of the Qutb Minar is another remarkable feature and is totally unlike that of other Muslim minars.

Besides, as Mr. Beglar pointed out, only Hindus with their known proficiency in mathematics could have designed such a stupendous tower. The invaders could not have possessed the requisite engineering skill and mathematical knowledge. The reader would be interested to know that Mr. Beglar actually confirmed his argument by mathematically working on a series of measurements to which the measurements of the minar, indeed, conform closely.

There are structural details which confirm the Hindu origin of the minar. The base of the minar is at the level of the plinth of the old Hindu temple demolished

to serve as the Quwwatul Islam mosque. This unexpected equality of level points to the fact that the tower was contemporaneous with the temple, or was in any case built earlier than the mosque which is on a different level. Mr. Beglar pointed out that some of the moulded bands of stone round the minar have been so deeply cut that the resulting appearance unmistakably conveys the impression that some old Hindu decorations have been wilfully chiselled off. Some *nagri* inscriptions too have been found inside the minar and these further support the theory of its Hindu origin. This minar does not face any of the arches of the mosque and is clearly out of its central position. This apparent anomaly can also be explained only by the supposition that the minar must have stood at the time when the temple was first converted into a mosque.

Again, Mr. Beglar also noted a close connection between the minar and the old Hindu temples, *e.g.*, the levels of the bands in the first storey and the different heights of the temple pillars. He also found the bands of the first three storeys to be in agreement with the law of geometrical progression, although the higher storeys do not conform to this law. This led him to think that the first three storeys are Hindu and the subsequent ones are Muslim.

These arguments, weighty as they are, are not fully convincing, and were criticised among others by Cunningham himself. In answer to the aforesaid arguments, it may be pointed out that the entrance to the Koil minar is also on the north side as in the Qutb Minar hence the position of the entrance is also no indication of non-Muslim origin. In many other Muslim buildings also the entrance is found on the north. Hindu temples, too, do not always have entrances to the north. Among fifty temples that Cunningham noticed, thirty-eight have entrances to the east, ten to the west, and two to the north. As regards the question of an elevated plinth, it may be said that the early Muslim builders did not always build on a raised platform. The Ghazni minars like the Qutb minar are without a platform. Again, the example of a single tower in a mosque was not rare in those days

The mazinah of a mosque can also be a detached piece as at the Jami Mosque at Koil (Aligarh).

Then, as for the Hindu motifs like the bells, chains, or lotuses, they exist obviously because materials from the adjacent Hindu temples were used in the construction of the minar, and because Hindu craftsmen were employed. The minar is similar to the towers at Ghazni, but is different from the only medieval Hindu tower at Chitor. No Hindu tower is known to have been built after the fashion of this minar. This fact only points to its Muslim origin.

Sir John Marshall pointed out that the only *nagri* inscription dating before Aibak's time found on a window lintel is there, only because the particular stone has been taken from another structure. It does not prove the Hindu origin of the minar itself. As materials from the neighbouring temples are known to have been used, the presence of Hindu motifs need not cause any surprise. As regards the details of design and engineering, which show Hindu influence, it may be similarly said that the early invaders were after all soldiers and not craftsmen and that they had to employ Hindus to design and build the minar. Engineering skill seen in the minar is, therefore no proof of the fact that the tower must have been built by Prithviraj, or some earlier Hindu Raja.

In point of style also, the tower appears to have been built under the patronage of the Muslim rulers. Though there is some difference of opinion in respect of the actual details, its style on the whole has been regarded as Muslim. Structural details may have been inspired by ancient Buddhist, Jaina, or Hindu temples, but the entire conception is so unique and so unlike that of any known Hindu tower in India, and so similar to the towers at Ghazni that it may be said to have been modelled on Central Asian design.

Judging from the internal evidence of the Quwwatul Islam mosque which shows unmistakable Hindu influence, it can be safely presumed that the Muslim conquerors had to depend on Hindu builders. They had no time to introduce any new

architectural style in India. Certain architectural features like the arch, or the geometrical designs of ornament which were common in the Muslim countries were, however, insisted upon. The Muslims had no scruples against exploiting the materials of highly sculptured Hindu temples. In fact, the idea of forcing Hindus to wreck their own temples and rebuild them according to the ideas of Islam must have given a peculiar satisfaction to the fanatical invaders. It is quite conceivable, therefore, that the minar was built mainly by Hindu craftsmen at the instance of the Muslim authorities in accordance with their taste. Even Havell who was a zealous admirer of Hindu art, admits that the Qutb Minar is a Saracenic modification of the Indian Jayasthamba, although he believed that the contribution of Saracenic art in the thirteenth century was not constructive but decorative. Finally, the detailed inscriptions on the minar leave us in no doubt about the history of the Sultans who had a share in its building.

On the basis of all that has been stated above, one is irresistibly led to the conclusion that it is the Ghazni towers which formed the prototype of the Qutb Minar, the ultimate origin of which, according to certain authorities, is to be found in such Sassanian structures as the towers of Jur and Firozabad in Persia, the Chaldean ziggurat observatories at Khorsabad, and Tower of Babel. The alternate rounded and angular fluting which is a special feature of the surface decoration on the Qutb Minar is surely a pleasing adaptation of the polygonal outline of the Ghazni minars. It is futile to connect such a feature with any Hindu or Jaina parallels. The ornamentation of the minar is consistently Muslim in character from base to top, although some Hindu features do also exist. The projecting balconies at the base of every storey are also supported on a type of *stalactite* corbelling which is known to be a regular feature of Saracenic decoration seen alike in the Qutb in India and the famous Al Hambra in Spain.

There has been considerable speculation as to the real purpose of the minar. Was it meant to be a tower for the

Muezzin to call the devout to prayer? It is undoubtedly too high for such a purpose, besides the minar does not form part of the mosque proper and is certainly detached from it. Was it simply intended to be ornamental? This would rather be strange if it were so. The view that the Muslims built the minar as a worthy symbol of their recent victory is more rational. The minar truly symbolises Muslim conquest of Hindustan in a manner which cannot be mistaken. There was already a Hindu Jayasthamba of rustless steel standing at this place. Was it to excel this pillar and commemorate the might of Islam that this minar was built? It has also been suggested that the Qutb Minar may have been represented as the "pole of the earth", or that it may have been built as a memorial to the famous saint of the same name (Qutbuddin) who lived and was buried close by.

Authorities like Havell, Fergusson, Burgess, Smith, Marshall, and Page are not unanimous on the point as to who among the Muslim Sultans actually commenced the construction of the minar. One view is that the minar was begun with the mosque during the lifetime of Muhammad Ghuri. The Futuh-i-Firuzshahi supports this opinion and the existing inscription referring to the "Amir the Commander of the Army, the Glorious, the Great, the Sultan Muizzuddin Muhammad Ghuri" is supposed to suggest that the latter may have commenced the minar. This view does not find favour with some authorities who think that the founder's name should be seen in the inscription on the first compartment where the name of Qutbuddin Aibak actually occurs. The reference to Muhammad Ghuri, according to this view, is merely honorific. It is urged that it was Qutbuddin Aibak who was the founder of both the mosque and the minar. There is a third view which assigns the commencement of the tower to Iltutmish. In support of this view, the evidence of the Tarikh-i-Firuzshahi and the inscription of Sikandar Lodi on the minar are cited. The latter inscription clearly describes Iltutmish as the builder of the minar.

As for the name of the tower, it seems almost certain that it was named not after Qutbuddin Aibak, but after the venerable saint, Qutbuddin Bakhtiyar Kaki, whom Iltutmish once offered the dignity of Shaikhul Islam. It must be stated, however, that the inscriptions of Iltutmish occur on the door of the second and third storeys and that these refer to his ordering the completion of the minar. From this it has been inferred that he did not begin it. Besides, the inscriptions bearing the names of Muhammad Ghuri, Qutbuddin Aibak, and Abul Maali, the Mutawali of the Mosque during Aibak's reign, in addition to the likelihood of the minar having been built as a mazinah seem to suggest that the construction was started in Aibak's time. In any case, even if the construction had been started by Aibak, the progress must have been inconsiderable on account of the shortness of his reign, and the original structure was mainly the work of Iltutmish.

Alauddin apparently had no hand in its erection, as he started a more pretentious tower of his own. But Cunningham thought on the basis of Amir Khusru's testimony that the present red stone facing the balconies may have been added by Alauddin. The last two storeys were the work of Firus Tughluq, who, according to Futuh-i-Firuzshahi, "repaired the minar of Sultan Muizzuddin which had been struck by lightning and raised it higher". Repairs were necessitated once again in Sikandar's time by further damage caused by lightning. The tower was later damaged by earthquakes in 1782 and 1803. Repairs were executed by Major Robert Smith of the Bengal Engineers. He completed his work in 1828 at a cost of Rs. 17,000. The repair work was skilfully done and reflects great credit on Major Smith, but the "Gothic" balcony railings and the equally incongruous "Bengali" *chattri* have now been happily removed.

To the lover of Indian architecture, the question whether the Hindus or the Muslims built the minar would appear wholly immaterial; for this great tower is a monument to the genius of the Hindus and the Muslims alike.

THE VEDAS AS LITERATURE

BY MR. V. NARAYANAN, M.A., B.L.

—(o)—

FOR sheer poetry and daring imagination, there is no match to the following Vedic passage about the state before Creation.

Then was not non-existence, not existence. There was no realm of air, no sky beyond it. What covered over and where? And what gave shelter? Was water there, unfathomed depth of water?

Death was not there, nor was there aught immortal; no sign was there of the day's and night's divider; the breathless breathed by its own nature. Apart from it was nothing whatsoever.

He, the first origin of this Creation, whether He formed it or did not form it, He verily knows it or perhaps He knows not.

I do not desire to dwell on many other descriptions of the creation of the world, but shall be content with quoting the following passage as it expresses in poetic language the psychology of fear—fear that is born of the sense of separateness and is lost in the sense of oneness.

In the beginning, this world was Atman—alone, in the form of a person. He was afraid, as one who is alone is afraid. He then thought: "Since there is nothing else besides myself, what am I afraid of?" Thereafter his fear passed off. For, of what should he have been afraid? Assuredly it is because of the existence of a second person that fear arises.

The *Upanishad* sums up the knowledge about *Brahman* and Creation in these words:—

He is beyond thought and invisible, beyond the distinction of birth and colour. He has neither eyes nor ears. He has neither hands nor feet. He is everlasting, everpresent, infinite in the great, infinite in the small. He is the Eternal, whom the sages see as the source of creation. Even as a spider sends forth and draws in its thread, even as plants

arise from the earth and hairs from the body of men, even so the whole creation arises from the Eternal.
* * * *

How was this poetry of *Brahma Vidya* passed on from father to son, from preceptor to disciple? We have an example in the Vedic episode of Svetaketu, who went into residence as a pupil at the age of twelve and returned home to his father at the age of twenty-four, proud and conceited because he thought himself very learned. Then his father said to him: "Svetaketu, my son, since you are proud and conceited because you think yourself very learned, have you ever sought after that instruction by which we hear what cannot be heard, by which we perceive what cannot be perceived, by which we know what cannot be known?" "What is that instruction, Sir," Svetaketu asked. His father replied: "My dear son, as by one clod of clay all that is made of clay is known, the difference being only a name arising from speech, thus, my dear son, is that instruction." And he proceeded: "In the beginning this world was just *Sat* (Being), one only without a second. It bethought itself: "Would that I were many." The many make the world, but they are all one in essence." And the father went on explaining: "As the bees make honey by collecting the essences of different plants and reducing the essences to one unity; and as these essences have no discrimination so that they might say, 'I am the essence of this plant, or I am the essence of that plant,' even so, my son, all these creatures, even when they are merged in That, know not that they are merged in That."

The passage describing the bliss of *Brahman* reaches great heights of poetry. It says:

The bliss of a young man, master of himself, alert and full of wisdom, strong in body and steadfast in mind is a full measure of human bliss.

One hundred times that bliss is the bliss of the earthly Gandharvas and also of him who has mastered the Vedas and is not smitten with desire.

One hundred times that bliss is the bliss of divine Gandharvas and also of him who has mastered the Vedas and is not smitten with desire.

In this passage there is a reference to "Him who is yonder in the Sun" as a familiar form of *Brahman*. In *Ishopanishad* there is this prayer to the Sun:

Spread thy light and withdraw thy blinding splendour that I may behold thy radiant form. That Spirit far away within Thee is my own inmost Spirit.

This truth is more familiar, embodied as it is in the universal prayer *Gayatri*, revealed to the world through the great Rishi Vishvamitra (the Friend of All). This verse is suffused with poetry. "That" is the poetic way of describing the Indescribable. In form, this prayer is congregational. A united people contemplate together at stated hours under the cathedral vault of heaven. Each of them feels for the moment that he is all. "Who sees all beings in his own self," says the *Upanishad*, "and his own self in all beings, knows no fear."

* * *

Now let us look at a few word-pictures of *Brahman* and of the realms of *Brahman*.

It is not woman, it is not man, nor is it neuter; whatsoever body it takes, with that It is joined.

Thou art woman, thou art man, thou art youth, thou art maiden; thou art the old man tottering along on his staff; thou art born with thy face in all directions. Thou art the dark blue bee, the green parrot with red eyes, the rain cloud, the seasons and the seas. Thou art without beginning because thou art Infinite—Thou from whom all worlds are born!

Who knows where He is, He to whom the Brahmins and the Kshatriyas are as food and Death himself a condiment.

There the sun does not shine nor the moon and the stars; neither these streaks of lightning nor this fire. When He shines, all things shine by Him. By His light all this is lit.

Many fine episodes and good anecdotes in Indian literature can be traced to Vedic passages, and many are the beautiful expressions of the Vedas that have gone into the texture of Indian poetry, not merely in Sanskrit, but in the Indian languages as well.—A Broadcast Talk.

THE UPANISHADS

SELECTIONS
FROM THE 108 UPANISHADS
Text in Sanskrit Devanagari
and English Translation

BY

DR. T. M. P. MAHADEVAN

FOREWORD BY

PROF. M. HIRIYANNA, M.A.

In the matter of selection, the guiding principle has been to give the main teaching of the Upanishadic philosophy. At the commencement of the selections from each Upanishad will be found an introductory note, giving details regarding the Upanishads as also its contents. To ensure continuity of thought, prefatory notes are given at the top of sections of the Upanishads, omitted portions are also indicated. This is altogether quite a unique and valuable publication.

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INDIAN AFFAIRS

BY "AN INDIAN JOURNALIST"

The Late Lord Willingdon

IN the death of Lord Willingdon at the age of 75, the Empire has lost a great public servant who filled many important posts outside Britain with distinction for over two decades. Lord Willingdon first came to India in 1913 as Governor of Bombay where his natural bonhomie and liberal leanings won for him the affection and regard of many Indian friends. For in a letter to Mr. Lloyd George written as early as 1916, Lord Willingdon had urged "the necessity for a big and generous move in the way of legislation, both in economic and administrative matters by the Home Government". "India," he wrote, "has done her part nobly during the war and while she asks for nothing because of that, I think she deserves to be generously treated." This naturally raised his stock in Indian circles. Appointed Governor of Madras at the time of the inauguration of the Montagu reforms, Lord Willingdon claimed to have worked Dyarchy with particular success, and he boasted that the two halves of his Government worked like a "happy family". Doubtless it must have been a happy thing for the members of that family, but the regime witnessed the worst features of communalism and was singularly barren of any good politically. Lord Willingdon was subsequently more at home in Canada in the role of a Constitutional Governor-General. And when in 1931, Mr. MacDonald sent him out to India to succeed Lord Irwin (now Lord Halifax) to the Viceroyalty, hopes were entertained that with his unfailing tact and goodwill and his repeated declarations, that he hoped to govern as the constitutional head of the Government

in India, he would do everything to implement the policy of conciliation inaugurated by the Gandhi-Irwin pact. In this the country was disappointed; for unhappily for all concerned, Lord Willingdon, always courteous and affable, took a curious antipathy to Gandhi. The result was disastrous; the "dual policy" of repression and reform would not work; his attempt to break the power of the Congress failed; and he lived to see Gandhiji to whom he would not accord an interview, guide and win elections in triumph and Congressmen take office in seven provinces.

Lord Willingdon left a difficult legacy to his successor, Lord Linlithgow. He had none of the brilliance of Curzon nor the astuteness of Reading, but long association with India and Indians had imbued him with a deep and abiding love for this country for which he sincerely wished equal freedom and status in the Commonwealth. Lord Willingdon took his stand firmly against racial arrogance and social exclusiveness. A great English gentleman, he was warm-hearted and generous. His habitual charm of manners, his affability and warm attachment made him many friends among Indians, whose sympathy goes out to Lady Willingdon in her great bereavement.

The Pakistan Scheme

That "Pakistan" is no new discovery of Mr. Jinnah's but that it was first initiated by a group of reactionary Englishmen in England is revealed by a Simla correspondent to the Press.

The movement was started in London between the Second and Third Round Table Conferences when Mr. Churchill, Sir Claude Jacob and Sir Michael Odwyer, diehard elements of the Conservative Party, were building up a strong opposition both inside and outside Parliament to the National Government's India policy.

Mr. Jinnah has adopted it as a handy weapon against the majority community. It is also recalled that recently, Sir Sikandar addressing the Lyallpur Students' Federation warned his audience against the movement, which was essentially foreign in origin, though he refrained from disclosing the details.

The New Freedom and India

While the eight-point declaration issued after the Roosevelt-Churchill meeting has been hailed as a new charter of freedom, its vagueness and the absence of any direct reference to subject peoples of Asia and Africa lent colour to the fear that it was merely to be confined to the White races. Mr. Attlee, Lord Privy Seal, who made the announcement, did well to follow it up with an explanation the next day declaring that the benefits of the peace principles applied equally to all countries of the world. He said:

We, the Labour Party, have always been conscious of the wrongs done by the white races to races with darker skins. We have been glad to see how with the passing of years the old conception of colonies as places inhabited by inferior people whose function was only to serve and produce wealth for the benefit of other people has made way for juster and nobler ideas. Recently, I was privileged to announce a declaration of principle which apply, I believe, to all the peoples of the world. We of the Labour Party say that the freedom we claim for ourselves should be extended to all men. My declaration will be equally applicable to all races, including Asiatics and Africans.

This is a welcome declaration which must hearten all people seeking their freedom from foreign domination. But will the British Government make a beginning in India by acting up to this admirable principle?

In this connection, Mr. Savarkar, President of the Hindu Maha Sabha, has cabled to President Roosevelt, enquiring whether the declaration in regard to war aims covered India's case also.

I exhort you to declare explicitly if the Anglo-American announcement of war aims covers India's case and whether America guarantees the full political freedom of India within one year after the end of this war.

If America fails to do that, India cannot but construe this declaration as another stunt like the war aims of the last Anglo-German War, meant only to camouflage the imperialistic aggressions of those who have Empires against those who have them not and are out to win them.

But what is the President's reaction to this categorical question?

British Labour and India

Presiding over the national conference of Trade Unions and other organised bodies in Great Britain, Mr. W. Dobbie, Labour M. P., demanded the immediate release of political prisoners and the right of free assembly. He said:

Trust Indian people, release prisoners, and make a declaration of freedom and independence for India, not because of the war but on the basis of international justice.

Mr. Dobbie declared that

the British Labour Party was pledged to Dominion Status, but circumstances had compelled them to throw in their lot with other parties for the overthrow of the Nazi regime.

But if British Labour is convinced that a reconciled India is such a powerful ally against the Nazis, why did it not insist on the Prime Minister to adopt a more reasonable policy towards India? Labour intellectuals are fully convinced of the correctness of India's attitude. Prof. Laski wrote:

Delay in fulfilling the unanswerable claim of India to self-government is indefensible. I think no better aid could be given to our cause than the release of Indian politicals, fixing a date by which self-government will come into operation and summoning or constituting a convention to work out the form of Government for India. Its results could form the basis of negotiations with Britain as was the case with Canada and Australia.

Mr. Sorensen, M.P., contended that it was not simply Indian prisoners who must be released, but India herself. And the Conference ultimately adopted a resolution

calling upon the Government to recognise the right of the Indian people to their national independence, to agree to the convocation of a freely elected Constituent Assembly, to agree to the immediate establishment of a provisional Government with full competence in all spheres of policy and administration and to propose a treaty of mutual friendship and co-operation while agreeing to reference of all outstanding questions to arbitration.

The resolution expressed confidence that such action by Government would be accompanied by a simultaneous and unconditional suspension of civil disobedience and establishment of friendship and co-operation.

The Editors' Conference

After all one can now understand the delay in releasing to the public the full text of the correspondence that passed between the President of the All-India Newspaper Editors' Conference and the Government of India. The attempts to get special treatment for Gandhiji for the publication of his statements "without waiting for Press advice" have failed. This evidently accounts for the resignation of Mahadev Desai from the Committee.

We are glad to note, however, that the Conference has passed the following resolution unanimously:—

No editor, whether of a newspaper or a news agency shall be under any obligation to refer any statement or report to the Press Adviser unless he considers it necessary to do so. In the event of the Government, whether Central or Provincial, holding publication of any matter by a newspaper or a news agency to be in any manner objectionable, the matter shall, except in cases of grave emergency, be brought before the local Press Advisory Committee and a warning issued if necessary thereafter. The Committee urges that no penal action should be taken without consultation with the Press Advisory Committee and that only in cases of deliberate and systematic infringement after preliminary warnings have been conveyed to the newspaper or the news agency concerned should such action be taken.

The fact that the resolution has now been passed with the full knowledge and approval of the Government of India is a matter of happy augury.

Mr. Amery's No

After 15 months in the India Office, Mr. Amery, like the Bourbons of old, seems to have learnt nothing and forgotten nothing. He is still repeating the old catchwords about the August declaration and agreement among parties. The seriousness of the war situation may induce Mr. Churchill to change his policy and venture on dramatic moves with Russia or America; but Mr. Amery is content to go through the same rut

regardless of consequences. The request was made that Government should, on a definite date, give India that national freedom for which she asks. Under what constitution, asks Mr. Amery, naively, and is content with the twice told tale which comes so glibly to all official apologists of reaction.

There is no India as there is a Belgium or Holland for instance. In many respects India is much more like Europe than it is like an individual country. The difficulty I have tried to explain throughout is not our unwillingness to give self-government to India but the absence of any willingness among Indians themselves to agree upon terms on which they are ready to govern themselves, either for India as a whole or as has been suggested in separate units.

Quite true. If India is not one country like Belgium or Holland, India will not change into something different immediately after the war. Why not then, asks Acharya Kripalini,

drop cant and hypocrisy and say that as long as British imperialism can, it will continue to keep India in chains? That would be frank at least.

Sir M. Visvesvarayya's Plea

In a recent speech in Bombay, Sir M. Visvesvarayya stressed the importance of mass education, industrialisation and preparedness for self-defence as the three fundamental needs of the country. Unrestricted foreign competition and neglect of industries in the past had thrown the people overwhelmingly into agriculture. That will not do in future. At least 500 factories will have to be started to cope with the growing needs of the war situation and a lot of planning is required to transform these war time factories for the manufacture of arms and ammunition into the peace time work of shipbuilding, automobile and aircraft industries. He referred to the aircraft factory in Bangalore as a welcome advance, but it cannot go far. Hundred machines in two years is poor production when we realise that in a war of this magnitude they can be destroyed in a few hours. Only a favourable State policy can bring about the desired change.

Anglo-American Declaration

THE dramatic meeting between President Roosevelt and Mr. Churchill at some unspecified spot in the Atlantic in the second week of August is one of the most important and fruitful developments in the war. The Joint Declaration which resulted from this sensational meeting marks the absolute completeness of the understanding between the two great democracies, and pledges their united efforts to secure peace, freedom, and security in the world now rent and racked by the turmoil of war.

The terms of the eight point declaration were disclosed by Mr. Attlee, Lord Privy Seal, in his broadcast on August 14.

The President of the United States and the Prime Minister, Mr. Churchill, representing His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom, having met together deem it right to make certain common principles in the national policies of their respective countries on which they base their hopes for better future for the world:—

First, their countries seek no aggrandisement, territorial or other.

Second, they desire to see no territorial changes that do not accord with the freely expressed wishes of the peoples concerned.

Third, they respect the right of all peoples to choose the form of government under which they will live; and they wish to see sovereign rights and self-government restored to those who have been forcibly deprived of them.

Fourth, they will endeavour, with due respect for their existing obligations, to further the enjoyment by all states, great or small, victor or vanquished, of access on equal terms to trade and to the raw materials of the world which are needed for their economic prosperity.

Fifth, they desire to bring about the fullest collaboration between all nations, in the economic field with the object of securing for all improved labour standards, economic advancement and social security.

Sixth, after the final destruction of Nazi tyranny, they hope to see established a peace which will afford to all nations the means of dwelling in safety within their own boundaries and which will afford assurance that all men in all lands may live out their lives in freedom from fear and want.

Seventh, such a peace should enable all men to traverse the high seas and oceans without hindrance.

Eighth, they believe that all nations of the world for realistic as well as spiritual reasons must come to the abandonment of the use of force.

Since no future peace can be maintained if land, sea or air armaments continue to be employed by nations which threaten or may threaten aggression outside of their frontiers, they believe pending the establishment of a wider and permanent system of general security that disarmament of such nations is essential. They will likewise aid and encourage all other practicable measures which will lighten for peace-loving peoples the crushing burden of armament.

Mr. Attlee, Lord Privy Seal, in supplementing this declaration added that the fourfold freedom enunciated in it were equally applicable to all peoples of Asia and Africa as a rule.

The German Drive to Leningrad

For ten weeks rigorous fighting has been going on along the entire front of some 2,000 miles, being particularly heavy in the Kingisepp, Smolensk, Novgorod and Odessa directions. The casualties from all accounts are heavy on both sides.

"The gigantic nature of the eastern struggle is best realisable when one considers that now the battle is raging not only on this or that sector but on half-a-dozen points simultaneously," wires *Reuter's Special Correspondent in Moscow.*

The pressure on Leningrad has been heavily resumed during the last few days, and clearly the Germans are attempting to encircle the city by advancing on it from three or even four directions. Some time ago, they reached the southern bank of Lake Ilmen with alternative routes of pushing directly northwards to Leningrad, or eastwards to cut the Leningrad-Moscow railway. The most vital, and may be the most critical, battle is still raging inside the Dnieper bend behind Nikolayev and Kriwoirog.

The War Cabinet

Mr. Mackenzie King, the Canadian Prime Minister, who attended the last meeting of the War Cabinet in London, revealed that the Dominions had been fully consulted in the matter of war policy and had been able to express their view and general consensus of opinion "had been reached as a result". He is satisfied with the present machinery of consultation afforded by the presence of the Dominion Commissioner in London and the British High Commissioner in Canada, besides other effective means of direct communication between the two Governments. By these means complete exchange of views have been possible. Urging his objections to posting Prime Ministers in London as members of the Imperial War Cabinet, he observed:

I was present at a War Committee of the British Cabinet. I would not be in a position to say without consultation with my colleagues at Ottawa and, through them, with their Service colleagues, just what was the opinion which could be given to the Government here. . . . It is very much easier to give my Cabinet's opinion by being able to discuss it with my colleagues in all its phases.

Mr. Menzies of Australia who has since resigned his Prime Ministership is, however, of a different opinion. In view of the growing tension which Japan has created in the Far East, he is of opinion that Australian representation in London has become most imperative. Addressing the House of Representatives, Mr. Menzies said:

I believe, each nation in the Empire has its immediate risks and interests and the best result for the Empire as a whole can be achieved by having matter of high policy discussed by an authoritative spokesman from the Dominion concerned.

It is felt, however, that it is not always possible for Dominion Prime Ministers to leave their posts for far away England to participate in continuous war discussions. Gen. Smuts, for instance, can't be expected to be away from South Africa for long.

It is now learnt that the United Kingdom and Australian Governments have agreed that an Australian Minister other than the Prime Minister should be sent to London as soon as possible.

Allied Troops in Iran

Joint Military action has been taken in Iran by British and Soviet Governments.

The action is designed solely to deny the Axis any further opportunity to threaten the security of Russia, countries in the Middle East and India and prevent oil and other resources of Iran falling into Nazi's hands which Iran herself would be powerless to prevent.

It is emphasised that the action is merely a security measure entirely without intention of interfering with Iran's independence and integrity.

As we go to Press, we learn that British and Russian advance into Iran, has been transformed into peaceful co-operation as a result of "cease fire" order issued by the new Iranian Premier.



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DIARY OF THE MONTH

Aug. 1. Commons' debate on India.
—National Government is formed in Egypt.
Aug. 2. America warns Vichy.
—Indian assets in Japan is freezed.
Aug. 3. Rt. Hon Dr. Jayakar appeals to Congress to end the dead-lock.
Aug. 4. Princes' Standing Committee meets at Bombay, H. H. Jam Saheb presiding.
Aug. 5. Suez area is raided.
—New Russo-American Trade Pact is signed.
Aug. 6 Change in Congress policy is urged by Maulana Abul Kalam Azad.
Aug. 7. Dr. Rabindranath Tagore is dead.
—Tokyo's move in Thailand.
Aug. 8. German note to Iran over their expulsion.
—Bruno Mussolini is killed in an accident.
—President Roosevelt and Mr. Churchill meet in the former's yacht somewhere off the coast of New England.
Aug. 9. Norwegian farm lands confiscated by Nazis to establish civil air line.
Aug. 10. Yugoslavian revolt against German forces.
Aug. 11. London National Trade Unions meet and express sympathy and support for Indian National Movement.



LORD WILLINGDON

Aug. 12. Lord Willingdon, former Viceroy of India, is dead.
—Anglo-Soviet assurance to Turkey.

Aug. 13. British Convoys reach Far East.
Aug. 14. Japanese Minister, Baron Hiranuma, is shot at by an unknown person.
—Anglo-American declaration is announced.
Aug. 15. Soviet-Polish military agreement is signed at Moscow.
Aug. 16. Anglo-Soviet Trade Agreement is signed.
Aug. 17. The Japanese arrive in Thailand in great numbers.
Aug. 18. Mr. Churchill returns to London after meeting Mr. Roosevelt.
Aug. 19. Canadian Premier, Mr. Mackenzie King, arrives by air in London.
—President Roosevelt warns his people that America is planning for war in 1948.
Aug. 20. Sardar Patel is released on medical grounds.
Aug. 21. American loan to Russia is assured by Mr. Jesse Jones, Federal Loan Administrator.
Aug. 22. Ahrars give up civil disobedience.
—Lord Halifax returns to London.
Aug. 23. Frenchmen in Saigon protest against Vichy's capitulation to Japan.
—Mr. S. Satyamurthy is released.
Aug. 24. The Board of Trade prohibits export of any goods to Japan.
—Mahatma Gandhi in a statement to the Press condemns the Burma Agreement.
—The personnel of the Ceylon delegation is announced.
Aug. 25. British and Soviet troops enter Iran.
Aug. 26. Muslim League resolution asks Muslim Premiers to resign from the Defence Council.
Aug. 27. Russia warns Japan that obstruction of U. S. supplies *via* Vladivostok will be an "unfriendly act."
—Ex-Premier Laval is shot at and the assailant is arrested.
Aug. 28. Iran decides to cease resistance.
—Japanese Ambassador in conference with President Roosevelt and Cordell Hull.
Aug. 29. Menzies, Australian Premier, resigns.
—Mr. Jinnah releases correspondence with Viceroy.



The WORLD of BOOKS



ROAD RAIL TRANSPORT. By S. R. N. Badri Rao, M.A., M.Litt. Edited with an Introduction by Dr. B. V. Narayanasawmi Naidu, M.A., B.Com., Ph.D., BAR-AT-LAW. Annamalai University. Rs. 5.

The editor, in his lengthy introduction, points out the importance of distance and volume as governing railway rates. He would support the general conclusion of the author in regard to the regressiveness of freight rates on ground-nuts though he would modify the opinions expressed in the text in view of the developments now taking place in the ground-nut position. In the second Part of the book, which deals with motor transport, the main point stressed is based on an intensive survey of the transport systems prevailing in Travancore and in Coimbatore. The need for the control of motor transport is justified with the limitation that it should be allowed to expand as being the best link of rural areas with urban centres. The repercussions of the problem of road maintenance and finance are exhaustively analysed.

The author discusses legislation abroad in the matter of control of transport, particularly in Great Britain, U. S. A., and Ireland, and points out how goods traffic by motor transport has not been regulated to the extent to which passenger transport has been. He would plead for a co-ordination of the different services, railway, motor and animal, and point out the advantages of a railway operating a road service.

SIKH CEREMONIES. Compiled by Sirdar Sir Jogendra Singh, Kt. Published by the International Book House, Bombay. Rs. 2-8.

Raja Sir Daljit Singh, K.B.E., C.S.I., contributes to this book an excellent and informative introduction in which he explains in a simple and lucid manner the essentials of the Sikh religion and philosophy. The Sikh religion founded by Guru Nanak, developed by his nine successors and having its teaching embodied in the Sikh sacred book, the Guru Granth Sahib has had a profound influence on its followers. It is singularly free from any mere formalism. It recognises no distinction of caste or colour. It emphasises the truth as revealed in all the religions. It sets its face against Sanyasa, but insists on a full and complete family and social life. It posits the existence of one God, immanent and all pervading, of the Jiva Atma following the rules of Karma and reincarnation, individualised by the interplay of Satwa, Rajas, and Thamo gunas, enveloped in Maya, and points the way to salvation along the path of true discipleship by Bhakti, prayer and nama japa. The ceremonies detailed by the learned compiler are but few dealing with (1) the Installation of the Guru Granth Sahib; (2) Birth, Child-naming and initiation; (3) Amrit ceremony or Baptism; (4) Anand Marriage; and (5) Funeral service. The book also contains a collection of hymns and prayer songs which reveal the sublime nature of the Sikh culture.

The book will be of great interest to all students of Comparative Religion.

MEMORIES OF MOTILAL GHOSE. By Paramananda Dutt. A. B. Patrika Office, Calcutta.

Babu Motilal Ghose, one of the founders of the *Amrita Bazaar Patrika*, was a notable figure who made his mark both as publicist and journalist. His public life extended over a period of nearly 60 years, during which his vigorous personality and versatile pen were exercised day after day in the service of his countrymen, with a courage and consistency that made journalism a power rather than a profession. It is but fitting that an intimate biography of such a man should be presented to this generation by one who has had exceptional opportunities of interpreting his views and actions. For Mr. Paramananda Dutt, joint Editor of the *Patrika* and grandson of Motilal, had lived under the same roof with him for five and twenty years.

He was at first my playmate, then a teacher who taught me music, writing and morals, then a friend, philosopher and guide and, lastly, I became his constant companion, an amanuensis, a private secretary and an attendant rolled into one.

With such opportunities no wonder Mr. Dutt is able to give a very vivid picture of Motilal the man and the journalist. We have, as might be expected, copious extracts from the *Patrika* of Motilal's days, recounting its trials and struggles with the bureaucracy and its constant wrestlings with its contemporaries. Of particular interest are Motilal's personal relations with leading men of the Government and of his countrymen of diverse views.

Motilal's moving interview with King George V when he came to India as Prince of Wales in 1911, his friendship with Lord Carmichael and his varying moods with another veteran journalist of Calcutta, Surendranath Banerjee are all recounted with a minuteness of detail which they so well deserve.

THE TRIAL CELESTIAL. By Suryadutt J. Bhatt, LL.B. Karnatak Publishing House, Bombay. Re. 1.

Mr. Bhatt wishes to get rid of the traditional religious bias in the reconstruction of the world, as otherwise there can be no smooth solution of the world problems. The book is an one-Act play in prose, with the Almighty, the Old Man, Voltaire and the Astral Spirit as the principal characters. The dialogue is quite spirited and the speeches long only in a few instances. The play should succeed on the stage. Anyway, the lesson inculcated by the drama is badly needed for India.

SEXOLOGY OF THE HINDUS. By Chandra Chakrabarthy. Vijayakrishna Bros, 81, Vivekananda Road, Calcutta. Re. 1.

The problem of sex has received a great deal of attention at the hands of the psychologist. Sex no longer is treated as a cheap sensational stuff. A deep scientific study is effected by eminent men like Havelock Ellis. Mr. Chakrabarthy in this pamphlet gives us an account of the Hindu view of sex. There is nothing very new that Mr. Chakrabarthy has said which has not already been said in an unimprovable manner in Vatsyana's *Kamasutras*. Sex life was treated in ancient India with an artistic activity with a science and a sequence all its own.

PRAKRIYASARVASVA. Madras University Sanskrit Series No. 15. Edited by Dr. C. Kunhan Raja. Rs. 3-4.

This contains an important section of the grammatical rules of Panini with an elaborate and lucid explanation by Narayana Bhatta of Malabar. The work quotes a large number of ancient authorities till now little known. This gives an added importance to the work. The large number of appendices makes the edition specially valuable.

EASTERN LIGHTS. By Mahendranath Sircar. Arya Publishing House, Calcutta.

This fine book is the result of a series of lectures on Indian Philosophy and Modern Hinduism delivered to European audiences in Italy, France, and Germany. In these lectures, Professor Sircar interprets the various aspects of Hindu Vedanta and mysticism in a very forceful and eloquent manner. There are twelve essays in the book which easily fall into three groups. The first four deal with the Upanishads, the Gita, the Bhagavata and the Tantras, and bring out the delicate differences between the spiritual ideas and experiences of the different stages in the religious life of ancient India; the inward affinity of these great books is also emphasised quite as clearly. The three following essays present the Hindu view of Reality and of the concepts of Beauty and Value. The place of intuition by the side of Reason in all Indian schools of thought, the aesthetic nature of our theories of *rasa*, and the

dynamic and creative character of Dharma as a standard of value are all very fully demonstrated.

The lecture on Cosmic Man provides the transition to the last four lectures on the exponents of modern Hinduism, viz., Ram Mohan Roy, Dayananda Sarasvati, Ramakrishna Paramahansa and Aurobindo Ghosh. Altogether an interesting book to read.

RAMACHANDRA AND ZARATHUSHTRA. By J. M. Chatterjee, M.A. Cherag Office, Navsari.

This is a small booklet in which the author tries to show the relation between Zarathushtra, the founder of the religion of the Parsis and Ramachandra of the Hindu tradition. The book is written in Bengali. While welcoming the attempt of scholars to make a comparative study of various religions, one has to be cautious when people try to identify various religious teachers and heroes handed down according to different traditions.

BOOKS RECEIVED

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THOUGHTS ON PAKISTAN. By Dr. B. R. Ambedkar. Thacker & Co., Ltd., Bombay.

SRI AUROBINDO'S "THE LIFE DIVINE." By V. Chandrasekharam. Sri Aurobindo Library, Madras.

STATISTICAL ABSTRACT FOR BRITISH INDIA. Government of India Press, Calcutta.

THE SCIENCE OF THE SOUL. By Dewan Bahadur K. S. Ramaswami Sastri. Dharmarajya Press, Delhi.

SRI RAMAKRISHNA AND SPIRITUAL RENAISSANCE. By Swami Nirvedananda. Ramakrishna Mission Institute of culture, Calcutta.

LATIN AMERICA. By Robin A. Humphreys. Oxford Pamphlets. Oxford University Press.

THE MILITARY AEROPLANE. By E. Colston Shepherd. Oxford Pamphlets. Oxford University Press.

AIR RAID PRECAUTIONS. Handbook No. 3, Manager, of Publications, Delhi.

EDUCATION BY 5 INSTRUMENTS FOR BROADCASTING USEFUL KNOWLEDGE. By J. C. Basak. 363 Upper Chitpore Road P. O., Beadon Street, Calcutta.

EMINENT CONTEMPORARIES. By Savin, Vidya Bhandar. Nazirabad, Lucknow.

GROUND-NUT. By Dr. B. V. Narayanaswami Naidu. Annamalai University, Annamalai Nagar.

NEMINATHA PURANAM OF KARNAPARYA. By H. Sesha Ayyangar. Madras University, Madras.

INDIAN HISTORICAL RECORDS COMMISSION. Seventeenth Meeting held at Baroda, 1940. Proceedings of the Meetings. Government of India Press, Delhi.

REPORT OF THE HINDU LAW COMMITTEE. Government of India Press, Delhi.

Hyderabad

NEW PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL

The Nawab of Chhatari, who was a member of the Viceroy's Executive Council, is appointed President of the Council when Rt. Hon. Sir Akbar Hydari retires. His appointment will be in the first instance for three years subject to extension for a further period of two years according to circumstances that may then exist.

The terms of appointment which had been accepted by him are as follows: (1) an honorarium of Rs. 5,000 per mensem free of income-tax; (2) a Government motor car to be placed at his disposal; (3) a house to be allotted for his residence; and (4) a sumptuary allowance of Rs. 1,000 a month for the purpose of State functions and entertainment to be held on special occasions on behalf of the Government as President of the Council in his official capacity.

ELECTRIC POWER FOR HYDERABAD

A scheme involving an estimated expenditure of Rs. 50 lakhs has been drawn up for utilising the water-storage at Nizam Sagar for generating hydro-electric power.

The step is being taken to stimulate industrial expansion in the State by supplying cheap power and also to meet the ever-growing consumption. The scheme also envisages the placing of the entire electric supply industry in the State under a unified control.

In addition to the Nizam Sagar hydro-electric scheme, the purchase of a generating set of 7,500 k.w. capacity for the Hyderabad Thermal Power Station and also a diesel or steam generating plant of about 1,500 k.w. capacity for an emergency, and the installation of two boilers has been recommended to Government.

The Committee appointed by Government to investigate these schemes has recommended the creation of a Board to control the entire electricity supply industry in the State.

Mysore

THE MYSORE LEGISLATURE

Two resolutions recently passed by the reformed Mysore Legislature point to the progressive character of this body. One of these demands the introduction of basic education in the State and the other, total prohibition. The first resolution was passed by 177 votes against 88 while the second by 118 against 31. It is significant that both the resolutions were passed in the teeth of Government opposition. The debate on the resolution on prohibition was an interesting one, specially for the opposition offered by one lady member, Srimati Susila Bai, who advanced the interesting argument that prohibition could better be brought by persuasion exercised by women on their husbands than by compulsion of a State law. As against this one lady, there were two to support the resolution in addition to a host of male members. The Government spokesman opposed the resolution and advanced the argument we are so familiar with in British India. It is worth noting, however, that he did not oppose the principle of prohibition, even total prohibition, but that he wanted its gradual extension.

MYSORE IRON WORKS

Mysore's great steel works will shortly undergo considerable expansion under a scheme costing approximately a quarter million sterling.

Capt. Binstead, the Mysore Government's Trade Commissioner in England, is placing orders in England for the necessary equipment including electric furnaces and a rolling mill plant, which will enable the Works to produce the heaviest and most valuable materials. These orders will be having priority under war conditions.

SHORT WAVE STATION FOR MYSORE

Mysore will shortly have a Broadcasting Station on shortwaves and it is likely the Station may be opened in about three months' time.

Travancore

YARN CONTROL

The Travancore Government have prohibited the export of yarn from Travancore except with their special permission.

Government explain that it has been brought to their notice that, although there is acute shortage of yarn within Travancore, certain dealers have with a view to evade the maximum limit of prices fixed there and for profiteering been exporting yarn from their stocks to places outside the State.

Government announce the constitution of a Yarn Control Committee consisting of Khan Bahadur Abdul Kareem Suhrawardy, Inspector-General of Police, Mr. C. Kumara Das, Director of Industries, Mr. E. I. Chacko, and Mr. H. Parameswaran, Convenor.

CHILD MARRIAGE RESTRAINT ACT

Having regard to the state of general public opinion on the question of child marriages, Government will be inclined to view with disfavour applications for exemption from the Child Marriage Restraint Act, which are obvious attempts at evasion of the law and which have no compelling circumstances to merit exemption, says a Press *Communique* issued by the Government of Travancore.

The *communique* adds that the Act having come into force, applications have been received by Government for exempting certain marriages from its operation. In considering these applications, Government have been largely guided by the special circumstances characterising them, viz., that these marriages had been fixed and all the preliminary preparations for them made before the Act came into force.

MR. G. PARAMESWARAN PILLAI

Rajasevapravina G. Parameswaran Pillai, Controller of War Supplies and State Press Adviser, is appointed Chief Secretary to the Travancore Government in the place of Mr. M. K. Nilakanta Ayyar.

Baroda

ADMINISTRATION OF THE STATE

The Government review of the annual administration report of the Revenue Department for the year 1939-40 includes the following among other items:—

The total land revenue demand for the year was 93'35 lakhs against 102'54 lakhs of the previous year. Out of this 1'10 lakhs were remitted for valid reasons. The net realisation amounted to 81'99 lakhs. The decrease in demand is due to the permanent reduction ordered last year.

During the year under report, the new Income-tax Act was brought into force. The old flat rate of 12½ per cent. over all incomes was substituted by a graduated scale ranging from 1½ per cent. to 8 per cent. The taxable limit has been raised from Rs. 750 to Rs. 2,000. The assessments are now to be made annually instead of triennially. The total demand for income-tax was Rs. 7,39,887.

JAIL ADVISORY BOARD

To secure the release of long-term but reformed prisoners with safety to the community after they have served a sufficiently deterrent period of their sentence, the Government have appointed a Jail Advisory Board to examine individual cases of such prisoners in detail and recommend the advisability of conditional release in deserving cases. In accordance with the new rules, the Jail Advisory Board recommended the release of 42 prisoners.

HELP TO PAPER FACTORY

To encourage industrial enterprise in the State, the Government have sanctioned a loan of Rs. 5,000 to Mr. Karshandas Gordhandas to enable him to start a paper manufacturing factory in the State. The loan will be repayable in 10 years and will bear 3 per cent. simple interest.

Cochin

PRINCES' COMMITTEE

H. H. the Maharaja of Cochin, it is learnt, proposes to constitute a Princes' Committee, whose duties will be to formulate, scrutinise and recommend schemes to promote the welfare of the Cochin Royal Family. The Committee will consist of eight members of the Ruling Family, (each of the four branches choosing two from among them) and will be presided over by H. H. the Elaya Raja.

The Committee will have to frame their proposals and recommendations within the allotment for the Royal Family, and in that event the recommendations need not go to H. H. the Maharaja, but only to the Dewan as a matter of administrative routine.

PENSION FOR VILLAGE OFFICERS

It is understood that Government will shortly issue orders making village officers' posts pensionable and those who have retired since 1109, about 1934, without pension will be given the benefit of the new order.

Indore

IRRIGATION FUND

His Highness has sanctioned the recommendation of the Standing Finance Committee to set apart annually Rs. 2,00,000 from the revenue of surplus every year from 1940-41 to create an "irrigation fund" for the undertaking of tanks and productive irrigation works in the State.

Bhopal

His Highness the Nawab has recently approved of the scheme for the motorisation of a portion of the State Forces and practical steps have already been taken in this connection of Bhopal Army. Service Corps has been established and was inspected by His Highness recently.

Jammu and Kashmir

The financial year 1939-40 witnessed further progress of the Jammu and Kashmir State finances, the total revenue receipts for the year being Rs. 258 lakhs as against Rs. 252 lakhs in the previous year. The provision of increasing social amenities as befits a modern State had increased the Government expenditure from Rs. 263 lakhs in the previous year to Rs. 280 lakhs in the year under review. The year opened with a cash balance of Rs. 41 lakhs and closed with a balance of Rs. 35 lakhs.

The Princes' Chamber

A meeting of the Standing Committee of Princes was held under the presidency of H. H. the Maharaja Jam Sahab of Nawanagar, Chancellor of the Chamber of Princes.

Unanimous decisions were taken regarding the proposed National Defence Council and approving the recommendations of the Committee of Ministers relating to the question of expenditure on the use of troops within the territories of the States, the Crown Police Force Law and the prospecting licences and mining leases in the territories of the States.

Rajputana States

It is learnt that a group of Eastern and Southern Rajputana States, following the example of the neighbouring Central India States, are considering the question of setting up a Joint Police Administration and a common High Court to ensure administrative economy consistent with efficiency.

It may be remembered that His Excellency the Viceroy advised the Princes in his address last year to the Chamber of Princes to consider the practicability of such a procedure to ensure economy and administrative efficiency in those States whose slender income could not afford the maintenance of independent High Courts and well-trained police forces.

INDIANS OVERSEAS

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Ceylon

IMMIGRATION CONTROL BILL

"Strong opposition" to the Immigration Control Bill is expressed by the European Association of Ceylon in a memorandum they have submitted on the subject to the Standing Committee 'A' of the State Council.

Declaring that in view of their opposition to the Bill, they do not propose to make any representations regarding the details, the memorandum states that their observations are based on broad considerations and intended mainly to secure the exclusion of certain classes of persons from the operation of the Bill.

Firstly, the memorandum lays down: "British subjects domiciled in the United Kingdom are persons who have not created and do not create any problem which the Bill seeks to solve and should, therefore, be placed among the excepted persons."

"That non-Ceylonese already admitted to Ceylon have the right to secure property, employment and a variety of other interests in Ceylon and it is politically unjust to deny to such non-Ceylonese free entry into Ceylon (or the possibility of being present at will) must be considered essential to the protection of their interests. It will accordingly be submitted that persons resident in Ceylon on an appointed date (chosen after due deliberation) or have been resident in Ceylon for a specified period before that date should be excepted from the operation of the ordinance."

Referring to assisted Indian immigrant labour, the memorandum states: "That

there is involved in the statements made to persons whose homes were in India by His Majesty's Government by the Government of Ceylon and by others with the knowledge and acquiescence of the Government of Ceylon, an undertaking that such of them as were induced, and indeed assisted, to embark upon the earning of a livelihood in Ceylon would not in any way be discouraged in the future from continuing to earn that livelihood. The assisted Indian immigrant labour at present in Ceylon and that which having been in Ceylon is now being prevented from arriving here by reason of the Indian ban on emigration are essential to the agricultural industries of Ceylon and should not be discouraged in any way from rendering service to such industries."

Adequate provision to enable persons in control of private enterprise to exercise unrestricted freedom of choice in the selection of employees is also urged in the memorandum on the ground that absence of such provision will jeopardise the welfare of many existing enterprises.

The memorandum states in conclusion that the definition of "non-Ceylonese" should be based on residence and not on domicile.

Malaya

INDIAN TROOPS IN MALAYA

Indian troops in Malaya are well looked after and they have won a reputation for being very quick at learning intricate mechanical details, was the opinion expressed by the Editor of the *Sind Observer*, who recently returned from a tour of Malaya. He expressed himself to be highly impressed with the defensive measures taken in Malaya.

Burma

INDIANS IN BURMA

In his Report for 1940, India's Agent in Burma notes an improvement in the tone of Burma's Press in its comments on Indian problems. He also mentions that overt acts against Indians progressively decreased. Trouble was apprehended in connexion with the working of the Tenancy Act; fortunately both landlords and tenants showed forbearance. The year was marked by four pieces of controversial legislation which affected Indians, viz., the Tenancy Acts, the Land Purchase Bill, the Land Alienation Act and the City of Rangoon Municipal Amendment Bill. Indian organizations were active in communicating their views to the proper quarters; this did not, however, lead to strained feelings between them and the Burmans. The year was in many ways an anxious time for Indians resident or domiciled in Burma. Nevertheless they lived in peace with their Burman neighbours. This has been well worth emphasizing in a Report which indicates more than one unsolved problem for Indian and Burman alike, and more changes in Burma's political scene than in previous years.

INDO-BURMA AGREEMENT

Mr. Chunilal B. Mehta, President of the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry, New Delhi, has on behalf of the Committee of the Federation addressed the following telegram to the Secretary of State for India, London.

"The Committee of the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry, New Delhi, are arranging to submit a joint representation to H. E. the Viceroy in consultation with Imperial Indian

Citizenship Association, Bombay, and the Madras all-parties' meeting regarding the scope and provisions of the Indo-Burma Immigration Agreement after hearing the Burma Indian Delegation who are arriving shortly in India. The Committee pray that His Majesty's Government would be pleased to take no action in issuing an Order-in-Council regarding the Indo-Burma immigration question pending receipt and consideration by them of the joint representation."

Africa

INDIAN SOLDIERS IN AFRICA

Stirring stories of the bearing of Indian troops are told in details now issued of awards for gallantry in Africa announced in *London Gazette* of July 18. The Military Cross is won by Captain John Mouut Barlow of Indian Army Cavalry. During the fighting at Meehili on the night of April 8-9, Captain Barlow who was commanding the advance guard, came under heavy fire from twelve guns.

With two troops, he attacked and captured the guns bayoneting and killing about fifty to sixty of the enemy and wounding many more. Captain Barlow organised and led the charge himself. The decision by which he led his troops into action undoubtedly saved the brigade greater casualties and allowed a greater number to withdraw safely.

Captain Barlow displayed great initiative, gallantry and devotion to duty and set a splendid example to his troops.

The Indian Order of Merit, Second Class, was awarded to Havildar Sheedan Singh, Sixth Rajputana Rifles. During the attack on Acqua Column on February 20, he was severely wounded by mortar bomb in the left arm early in the attack. He bound up his arm and finally led the last assault on his Company objective with five men.

He displayed gallantry and leadership of the highest order and most complete disregard for personal danger. His example was an inspiration to all.



TOPICS From PERIODICALS



HINDUS AND THE VICEROY'S COUNCIL

At last the Viceroy's Executive Council has been expanded and the personnel of the Defence Council announced. The expanded Council has been widely criticised on the score that Indians are totally excluded from the key portfolios of Defence, Finance and Communications. It is held, therefore, that the substance of power has not been really conceded to Indian members. Mr. E. Vinayaka Rao, Advocate, Madras, writing in the *Bharata-Dharma*, draws attention to an important feature of the composition of the Council. He sees in this expansion only another instance of disregarding and sacrificing Hindu interests notwithstanding the assurance given that no political or communal considerations have been borne in mind in making the appointments. He points out:

In the five new appointments of members of the Executive Council two are Hindus, viz., Mr. Aney and Dr. Sir E. Raghavendra Rao, two are Muslims, viz., the Rt. Hon. Sir Akbar Hydari and Malik Sir Feroz Khan, and one is a Parsi Sir Hormusji P. Mody. This really indicates that a policy of equal representation to Hindus and Muslims has been adopted. This was exactly what Mr. Jinnah and the Muslim League have been asking for and exactly what the Hindus have been protesting against.

The composition of the National Defence Council, according to the writer, is even worse. When the names are analysed, we find that

out of the 22 new members of the National Defence Council nominated nine are Hindus, nine are Muslims, one Sikh, one Parsi, one European and one Anglo-Indian. Here again we see a

manifestation of numerical equality of representation. This coincidence in equality in number cannot be the result of mere accident. Considering that the Muslims constitute only about 22 per cent. of the population and the Hindus constitute 68 per cent. of the population, there can be no justification whatever from any point of view, communal, political or administrative, for this extraordinary over-weightage given to the Muslims and this extraordinary under-representation given to the Hindus.

The writer complains that while the major community is called upon to make all the sacrifices, it is the other elements that are given over-representation at the expense of the Hindus. This cannot be justified on any ground of principle or policy. For

every temporary concession made contrary to sound principle is seized upon as a precedent and is made the starting-point for fresh agitation clamouring for further concessions. It is very necessary that this danger should be borne in mind and even in making any temporary concessions, no departure is made from the principle that representation should be in accordance with the population strength and sacrifices.

The Poona Conference expressed itself strongly on the constitution of the Viceroy's Council and Defence Council. The position taken up by the Conference when they asked was that there should be no recognition of the communal principle and that every one should have equal opportunities.

The entire administration should be carried on on the basis of the unity and integrity of India as a geographical and political unit and that electoral arrangements should be purely on a territorial basis, and recruitment to the public services should be purely on merit and efficiency without any question of communal or class representation. This is the best national democratic ideal which must be supported by every democratic-minded person. But if for any reason it is not possible to recognise and give effect to this fundamental salutary principle, Hindus say that representation in the legislatures and services should be wholly in proportion to the respective population strength of the communities concerned without any weightage, and if sacrifices have to be made every community should be called upon to bear the burden in proportion to its population strength.

SHIP-BUILDING IN INDIA

In India we do not have a shipping and ship-building industry worth the name. This fact assumes a grave importance, observes Mr. P. C. Jain in the *Modern Review*, when we remember that we have a 4,000 mile coast to defend. In the past, as every student of history knows, both these industries flourished in the country.

Every year, says Mr. Jain, nearly 7 million tons of cargo and about 2 million passengers are carried in coastal trade of India. In 1924, Mr. Haji calculated that of this trade only 13 per cent. was shared by the Indian shipping companies. Today this share was increased, though it still remains low, to nearly 20 per cent. of the cargo and 5 to 8 per cent. of the passenger traffic. The Indian tonnage operating on the Indian coast does not exceed 1½ lakh tons gross and this is hardly 23 per cent. of the total tonnage. In the overseas trade about 25 million tons of cargo and 2 lakh passengers are transported every year; of this, the share of Indian shipping does not exceed 2 per cent.; the British ships carry over 64 per cent. and the foreign ships nearly 34½ per cent. of this trade.

This backward condition of Indian shipping is due mainly to two factors. The British and foreign companies are well organised and they have formed themselves into "rings". In the face of competition with an Indian firm, prices are cut to unremunerative levels till the new-comer is throttled.

Prices are again raised when the coast is clear. By these unfair means, more than 20 Indian companies involving a capital of over Rs. 20 crores have come to grief during the last 35 years. This is a huge waste.

The inactivity of the Government of India becomes still more intolerable when it is realised that two Government-appointed committees have recognised the rights of Indian shipping to special protection, at least in the coastal trade. The Indian Mercantile Marine Committee (1923) and the Imperial Shipping Committee (1939) have both recommended measures to enable the Indian shipping companies to have at least a major portion of our coastal trade. It is a pity that nothing has so far been done.

An attempt has just been made by the Scindia Steam Navigation Company under its able leader to resuscitate the ship-building industry in India by the opening of a substantial ship-building yard in Vizagapatam.

THE EXPANSION OF HINDUISM

Dr. Benoy Kumar Sarkar contends in the pages of the *Prabuddha Bharata* that Hinduism in the past had never been content to rest confined to the limits of India. As practised by our ancients, it was a system of cult or culture always on the move trying to proselytize, to influence and conquer other lands. It was another specimen of world imperialism of raceless, cosmopolitan and impersonal character.

Afghanistan and Central Asia were conquered by our Hindu religion and Hindu culture. Likewise was China conquered and it is in that conquest that we have to see the deeper significance of the Chinese Goodwill Mission of to-day. Burma and Siam were also similarly Hinduized. Go to Siam and you will find that the names of rulers over there are derived from Rama, Vikrama, Jaya, Indra, Ananda, etc. Go to Indo-China, there also you will encounter Hindu culture in daily life. In Sumatra, Java and the other Insulindian islands as well as in far-off Japan, Hinduization is likewise manifest in temples, gods and goddesses, rituals and ceremonies. Korea, Manchuria, Mongolia, Siberia, Turkestan,—all these regions of Asia are to be recognized to a certain extent as the colonies of Hindu cult and Hindu culture.

Nor was western Asia free from the domination of Hindu thought. Hindu culture penetrated also to those places.

Hindu arts and sciences, algebra, arithmetic, *Ayurveda*, therapeutics, metallurgy, fables, stories, philosophies crossed the Himalaya mountains and the Khyber Pass. Hindu ideas were assimilated by the Iranian, Hellenic, Hellenistic and Romanized peoples. They were later accepted as the arts and sciences of the Muslims, the Saracens of Baghdad. From the latter they passed on to the Europeans who accepted them as some of the foundations of their mathematics, chemistry, medicine, etc.

Thus our Hindu ideals, manners and sentiments, which began at Mohenjodaro in Sindh and in the Punjab, spread everywhere in Asia and to some extent in Europe. These Hindu spheres of influence were so many "Greater Indias" in Asia. The expansion of India consisted in the establishment of the ideological imperialism of Hindu culture throughout the length and breadth of the Asian continent.

SOYA BEAN IN DIET

"Soya bean as a component of balanced diet" is the subject of an interesting article in the latest number of *Science and Culture* by Mr. A. C. Ukil, who urges the addition of soya bean in our diet which is not well-balanced.

"To balance a largely starchy diet in a rice-growing country like India, it is necessary to add to the food proteins of high quality such as milk, fish, meat or eggs and leafy and other vegetables for vitamins and mineral salts. To those who cannot afford to buy expensive protein and fat products, the liberal use of soya beans in the usual diet offers a solution. Experiments by different food experts indicate that 20 per cent. soya beans and 80 per cent. rice provide a well-balanced diet as far as protein and fat requirements are concerned. The addition of fruits and vegetables, particularly leafy vegetables, makes it a balanced food at a cheap cost.

In considering the food value of soya bean, Daniels and Nicholas, and Osbourne and Mendel found that it averages a high percentage of physiologically useful protein, a considerable amount of energy-yielding fat and carbohydrate and sufficient fat-soluble vitamin A and water-soluble vitamin B. In addition to the fact that the soya bean is rich in protein, this protein, unlike that of all other vegetables, is similar to animal protein or to the protein of the human body. The different kinds of protein contain a number of different amino acids. Generally, plant proteins seem to lack some of the active amino acids, but the soya bean is an exception. McCollum says: "Its proteins which are adequate when fed at a plane corresponding to 17 per cent. or more of the

diet can support growth when they form the sole protein supply." Horvath says: "The soya bean protein is a complete protein containing all the essential amino-acids necessary for the building up of the protein of the human organs." Science has found that besides carbohydrates, fats, proteins, and minerals, the body needs substances called vitamins. The Philippines Bureau of Science tests have shown that polished rice, which most of us eat, is deficient in vitamin B. McCollum found it deficient in vitamin A. Horvath found the soya bean to contain vitamin B and B₂, also called F and G. Other investigators found vitamins A, D, E, and C."

The addition of soya bean to rice would add vitamins to the diet at a very little cost and improve the health of the poorer classes.

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THAILAND: THE LAND AND ITS PEOPLE

Ever since the Japanese occupation of Indo-China, Thailand (better known as Siam) has become the centre of public interest. A glance at the map of the Far Eastern peninsula will show how the Japanese incursion into Thailand will affect the fortunes of Burma, Malaya, and other British possessions. It is, therefore, of interest to read the account of Thailand and its people, which Mr. Vidya Dhar Mahajan gives in the columns of the *Tribune*.

Thailand is not a homogeneous country inhabited by people of one nationality. On the other hand,

out of an estimated population of 9,831,000 for 1925-26, Siamese numbered 3,800,000, Laos 3,650,000, Chinese 500,000 and Malays 400,000. Besides, there were Cambodians, Burmese Indians, Mons, Karens, Annamites, Kachos, Lawas and others. There were about 2,000 Europeans and Americans mostly resident in Bangkok. However, the population had increased to 14,465,000 on May 31, 1937. The Siamese inhabit mostly central Siam, and Laos predominate in Northern and Eastern Siam. The Chinese are scattered everywhere but are mostly to be found in the towns. Bangkok is one-third Chinese.

The Siamese are mostly farmers. Most of the trade and industries are in the hands of the Chinese. There are very few towns with a population of above 10,000. Bangkok the capital of Siam,

is on the river Menam about 20 miles from its mouth. The whole town covers an area of about 10 square miles. There is a complete system of electric tramways, and all streets are lined with shady-trees and lit by electricity. All over the town are scattered Buddhist temples with coloured tile roofs and gilded spires. Till very recently, whole of the city was built mostly on flat-bottomed boats, but at present the things have changed and are changing. In place of wood, bricks are being used and bridges and roads have been planned and built.

The means of communication and transportation are being rapidly developed.

There already exist more than two thousand miles of railroad. Moreover, an 18-miles road plan involving an expenditure of £15 millions has been prepared. About 2,000 miles of roads are to be constructed during the first five years of

the scheme. The inland water-communications are also being overhauled and modernised. Civil aviation is also developing.

There exists a system of compulsory elementary education, but it is mostly under the control of Buddhist monks. But the Government has also established training colleges at Provincial headquarters.

Partly through this and partly by the system of Government supervision and control, the monastic schools are being modernised and linked up with the Government institutions. According to the report of 1934-35, there were 8,929 elementary schools with 916,780 scholars; 318 secondary schools with 44,726 scholars and 4,298 special schools with 142,689 students. The two Universities had 9,539 scholars on its rolls.

Thailand is not a purely Buddhist country. While the Siamese and the Laos are the bulk of the Buddhists, the Malays are Muslims.

Of course the Muslims form only a microscopic minority numbering merely 498,311 as compared with 10,958,426 Buddhists. Buddhism is thus the religion of the masses. It is a matter of history that Buddhism was introduced into Siam not from India—the land of Buddha's birth,—but from Ceylon and Burma. The Siamese take pride in the fact that they alone are the orthodox Buddhists as Burma and Ceylon are dependencies.

Of the character of the people and their national characteristics, the writer says:

The Siamese are gentle, patient, law-abiding, kind and hospitable to strangers; light-hearted, sympathetic and little given to quarrelling or violent crimes. A typical Siamese is of medium height, well-formed with olive complexion, eyes well-shaped, broad flat nose, prominent lips and a short chin. Their staple food is rice and fish. There does not exist any caste system. Their pastimes are gambling, boat-racing, cock and fish-fighting and kite-flying. Since the Siamese keep on constantly chewing the betel, their teeth become black.

Till 1932, Siam was ruled by an autocratic monarch with no check on his powers. But in that year was introduced a democratic form of government with an elected assembly.

In 1935, King Prajadhipok abdicated and Anand Mahidol became King. But since he was a minor (born in 1925), the work of the administration was entrusted to a council of regency.

The Military Service Act of 1917 lays down that all able-bodied men are liable to two years' service with the colours and for varying periods in the reserve. Thus, Siam must be having a large number of trained soldiers ready to take the field.

WAR AND PEACE AIMS

Prof. Dip Chand Verma, writing on War and Peace Aims, recounts in the columns of the *Hindustan Review* the story of the failure of the peace after the last great war. He quotes at length the aims and ideals that inspired the statesmen at the helm of affairs in England and America, and shows how the hopes of the then world have been shattered. It was all due to the absence of clear-cut aims and methods of attaining those aims. He shows that during the present war too there is the same confusion as to the ultimate end in view. There has been some talk of democracy and victory, and men like Churchill and Halifax are content with the declaration that "our war aim is to win the war". It will not do to say merely that Britons would not be fighting so well unless they were fighting for democracy.

All this jargon about democracy and victory takes us nowhere. The need of the hour is to state in precise and unmistakable language the definite principles the allies would adopt (taking for granted that this war would again be won by them) after the conclusion of hostilities. From our experience of the last war and the Treaty of Versailles, we know where the allies failed to carry out their commitments. This time we must see that the war and peace aims are in the first place stated in a language on which no two interpretations can be placed, and in the second place the only function of the Peace Conference should be to set up a constitutional and political machinery to execute them. We must make up our mind on the probable post-war issues just now. For instance, Imperialism in any form must be categorically repudiated and renounced. Similarly it would be foolish to expect any reparations from the defeated states after the war. This war is going to be a costly business and we would be on the real danger of economic bankruptcy. Only international collaboration and world planning can possibly pull us through. The greatest need would be to establish a political order based on the principle of world federation. Any tinkering with this problem would be fatal. Only a real world state would be in a position of guaranteeing the future peace.

Is Britain prepared to make a comprehensive statement which would include all these aims, asks the Professor. For

already misapprehensions are cropping up on the Indian policy.

It is really a remarkable thing that if the post-war world is to be a world of democracy and freedom, the British Parliament should not find any difficulty to meet the very modest demands of the Indian National Congress, namely, to establish a representative government at the centre and the declaration of Indian freedom after the war. Do the British statesmen realize, that if they do not take the necessary steps to arouse world opinion in favour of the principles for which they are so courageously fighting, no new order would suddenly arise and the world would be again thrown back into the old ruts.

Criticizing the British policy in India, Prof. Laski eloquently remarks in the course of a newspaper article: "There is no case against such a policy (policy of satisfying India), save that of Imperialism in its most naked form. We are fighting against a German-Italian attempt to impose imperialism of the kind we practise in India upon Europe."

Would Mr. Churchill come forward and break the vicious circle by making a gesture to India? If freedom is an altruistic principle, it must mean Indian freedom also.

This, says Prof. Verma, would be the acid test of the genuineness of the war and peace aims, which the British statesmen must declare at some stage of this war.

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GANDHIJI AND NON-VIOLENCE

Gandhiji's reactions to the present war have perplexed many friends. Mr. H. S. L. Polak, who can claim to interpret Gandhiji's mind better than any Englishman, save perhaps the late Mr. C. F. Andrews, offers an interesting study of Gandhiji's attitude to war. Quoting from a letter from Gandhiji during the last war, he shows how enthusiastic the prophet of non-violence was in his recruiting campaign. "It is for me religious activity," says

Gandhiji, "undertaken for the sacred doctrine of *ahimsa*." More than this, Mr. Polak reveals that Gandhiji "had been dissuaded with difficulty from enlisting for combatant service by way of example."

Mr. Polak then recounts the circumstances under which Gandhiji thought fit to leave the Congress and then resume leadership. His acceptance of leadership is on condition that Congress is to have nothing to do with violence—*ahimsa* is to be its creed as well and not a mere political expediency.

No wonder much bewilderment has been caused by his present attitude and the changes that have preceded it. How to reconcile adherence to a religious conviction firmly held as a result of prayer and fasting, with concern for the future of a party organisation and the practical needs of the nation? Gandhiji's sincerity is axiomatic. He is profoundly convinced that pure non-violence is the sole antidote for violence. He is equally honestly convinced that the Congress Party fully represents the highest interests of the country as a whole, says Mr. Polak.

The combination of ascetic philosopher and subtle political leader has produced a complex situation in which, on the one hand, some of the most experienced Congress leaders have, largely from loyalty to Gandhiji, sought imprisonment when they might be most effective in the public life of the country and contributing most creatively to its early independence and, on the other, the Party constitutional programme has been deliberately set aside in favour of a non-co-operation campaign in opposition to the war effort, of which it is difficult to believe from what occurred in the summer that a large section of its diminished membership are convinced.

It is permissible, perhaps, to suggest that, had Gandhiji experienced a week of the *blitzkrieg* at Kingsley Hall in place of several months' contemplation in the peace and quiet of Wardha, the pure doctrine of non-violence might have been conditioned by Krishna's teaching in the *Bhagavad Gita* that men must learn to perform their own duty, regardless of consequence, for the duty of another is full of peril; that war in defence of *dharma*, or civilization, is such a duty; and that, though he himself and others equally developed may be right to carry on the fight on the plane of the spirit, India can only gain and retain her freedom on the plane of war participation in her own cause, which for her is the true performance of that duty.

CHILD AND CINEMA IN INDIA

The motion picture has of late become a social influence of marked importance in India. Mr. V. G. Ramakrishnan discusses its effect on the child mind in the course of an article in the *New Review* for August.

The appeal of the motion picture is tremendous, because it combines the story and pictures with a delightful emphasis on the latter. It is interesting and intelligible with much less efforts than the book. Even if the boy cannot read the titles and captions and follow the plot accurately, he finds pleasure and interest in the individual incidents as they appear on the screen.

These vicarious experiences are lived over again and again. They are woven into their day dreams. Critics of the cinema usually emphasise the degree to which it operates to stimulate sex emotions and violence in other forms. But the reaction on the adolescent mind may not be the same on the child mind. Individual children will, of course, respond differently to the same motion picture.

Altogether the result, as experience shows, is salutary. A judicious selection of educational films will undoubtedly prove beneficial to children.

The motion picture producers and distributors of America have arranged a series of 52 children's programme for Saturday performances carefully selected for filling the needs and appealing to the interests of youthful audiences. A similar thing may be attempted in India. Rightly educated public opinion would be the best safeguard that we could have in making the motion pictures safe for the child and enhancing their contribution to his proper socialization.

THE INDIAN DEAD-LOCK

Sir George Schuster, M.P., a former Finance Member of the Viceroy's Council, in the course of an article to the *Spectator* on the Indian Dead-lock, appeals for the setting up a small committee to solve the Indian dead-lock. How to make the whole of India appreciate the urgent danger in which she herself stands? Answering this question, Sir George says:

The latest moves indicate that on the road to the Eastern oil-fields and India, there may develop the decisive fighting-front of the war. We hear much of the "arsenal of the democracies" across the Atlantic, but for this fight where could an arsenal be better placed than India?

Of course, there are difficulties—difficulties of skilled labour, tools and plant and many other things. But there are many natural advantages too. We hear of great efforts, but can any one be satisfied that India's possible contribution has yet been visualised on anything approaching the full scale?

The last Indian Budget showed expenditure estimates of only 30 per cent. above the normal peace-level. Even allowing for British payments for Indian troops used outside India, can this be a measure of India's full effort in this total war? Can India's full effort be sustained except on a wave of national enthusiasm? If she is to put her whole heart into this effort, must that not be an Indian effort led by Indians, preached to the country by leading Indians at great public meetings? And what a story could be told.

Here is India's chance to make herself strong—strong enough to stand equal to all the great countries of the Commonwealth, including Britain, to build herself up as a great industrial power.

Can such a story be told effectively by the present small unrepresentative official Government? May there not be lurking suspicions that India is not being asked to do all that she could do, because British interests are afraid of her becoming too great an industrial power—a dangerous competitor to themselves in the future? One thing that must be made clear beyond a shadow of doubt is that such suspicions have no foundation.

The writer clearly states that the need to convince India that we are honest in our purpose to give her complete self-government, that we are not looking for excuses at the

last moment to retain our Imperial power. And, lastly, there is another closely connected need, to convince India that our war-aims are in sympathy with her own. The broad lines only need to be stated. All depends on how they are stated and by whom; on their being stated to India as our honourable and equal partner in this struggle.

There are other steps which might be taken too. One I myself have often pleaded for—that we should get representative Indians over here (possibly one as Parliamentary Under-Secretary) to live in our atmosphere and send home word of the spirit of the British people and what they are fighting for.

In conclusion, Sir George points out I would end by setting out the sort of statement that might be made to the Indian people. But there is only one man who can do that supremely well—our Prime Minister. If he would speak to India—now at this crisis—that might have a transforming effect. He need give no message of weak concession of political bargaining. He need only tell the truth—truth as to the urgency of the peril—truth that this is India's war as much as ours—truth as to the greatness of India's opportunity—truth as to the British people's desire to see India grasp this opportunity to rise to her full stature, and then take her place as one of the most powerful partners in our Commonwealth—a British Commonwealth now, but to be enlarged, it may be, to a wider family of free nations when the war is over.

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U. F.

SIMPLICITY AND CIVILIZATION

Rabindranath Tagore, writing in the *Visva Bharati Quarterly*, recounts an early experience of his revealing the natural benevolence and simplicity of our countrymen in rural India, which is yet unaffected by the corroding influences of modern business mania.

Once there was an occasion for me to motor down to Calcutta from a place a hundred miles away. Something wrong with the mechanism made it necessary for us to have a repeated supply of water almost every half an hour. At the first village where we were compelled to stop, we asked help of a man to find water for us. It proved quite a task for him, but when we offered him his reward, poor though he was, he refused to accept it. In fifteen other villages the same thing happened. In a hot country where travellers constantly need water and where the water supply grows scanty in summer, the villagers consider it their duty to offer water to those who need it. They could easily make a business of it following the inexorable law of demand and supply. But the ideal which they consider to be their *dharma* has become one with their life. To ask them to sell it, is like asking them to sell their life. They do not claim any personal merit for possessing it.

This sense of Dharma is steadily disappearing in the process of the so-called civilisation. Urban India is drifting to a new habit of life alien to the natural simplicity and benevolence of our nature.

A millionaire tourist, ready to corner the food market and grow rich by driving the whole world to the brink of starvation, is sure to feel too superior to notice this simple thing while rushing through our villages at sixty miles an hour. For it is not aggressive like a telegraphic pole that pokes our attention with its hugely long finger, or resounding like his own motor engine that shouts its discourtesy to the silent music of the spheres.

Yes, it is simple; but that simplicity is the product of centuries of culture; such simplicity is difficult of imitation. In a few years' time it might be possible for me to learn how to make holes in thousands of needles instantaneously by turning a wheel, but to be absolutely simple in one's hospitality to one's enemy or to a stranger requires generations of training. Simplicity takes no account of its own value, claims no wages, and therefore those who are enamoured of power do not realise that simplicity of spiritual expression is the highest product of civilisation.

A process of disintegration, continues the poet, can kill this rare fruit of a higher life, as a whole race of birds possessing some rare beauty can be made extinct by the vulgar power of avarice which has civilised weapons.

INDIA'S NATURAL RESOURCES

Sir Alfred Watson, writing in *The Great Britain and East* on a scheme of industrial development in India, observes that by real daring in finance and engineering, India can be industrialised without imposing the horror and the waste that marked the rise of industrial England.

War has brought to India the opportunity of a vast and beneficent revolution in the life of her people. Much of what is done now will survive and expand in new directions after the war, and India will emerge as among the greatest industrial Powers. While it is a commonplace to say that India is among the first eight of the industrial nations, few people stop to calculate how small a proportion of the Indian people is actually engaged in manufacture.

With a total population that is probably in the neighbourhood of 370,000,000 and an annual growth of approximately three millions, the factory workers, according to what statistics are available, are fewer than a million and three-quarters, showing a growth of about a million in twenty years.

Twenty millions is more than the industrial population of the United Kingdom; it may be fewer than that of Japan, which has industrialised itself at a headlong pace. Yet, says Sir Alfred Watson, the industrial resources of India are vastly greater than those of Japan.

India has everything that Japan lacks—coal and iron, almost every kind of mineral wealth from gold downwards. She is better equipped than almost any other country in the world to be self-sufficient were her raw materials utilised as they should be. It is an anomaly altogether that only about one in fifteen of her population should be in industrial employment apart from agriculture.

INDIA IN PERIODICALS

INDIA'S CONSTITUTIONAL PROBLEM: SUGGESTED NEW APPROACHES. By J. P. Eddy, K.C. [The Asiatic Review, April 1941.]

PARTIES AND POLICIES IN THE MADRAS LEGISLATURE UNDER DYARCHY (1920-1937). By Rao Sahib C. S. Srinivasachari. [The Hindustan Review, June 1941.]

THE EVOLUTION OF INDIAN MYSTICISM. By K. S. Ramaswami Sastri. [The Aryan Path, August 1941.]

THE PALLAVA RULE IN SOUTH INDIA. By T. J. Job. [The New Review, August 1941.]

THE ALL-INDIA RADIO: ITS ADMINISTRATION AND ITS PROGRAMMES. By Dropdi Nandan. [The Modern Review, August 1941.]

THE RESUSCITATION OF THE KSHATRIYA SPIRIT. [Prabuddha Bharata, August 1941.]

MULTUM IN PARVO

NEWS * DEPARTMENTAL * NOTES

Questions of Importance

INDIA AND THE WAR

A strong plea for the suspension of the Satyagraha movement in view of the changed international situation is made by Khan Ghulam Mahomed Khan, member of the A.I.C.C. and former President of the Frontier Provincial Congress Committee, in a statement to the Press. He says:

The Nazi invasion of Russia has made it clear how dangerous and destructive Nazism and Fascism are for the world. This attack is at once a warning and a challenge to the whole world.

The Congress was justified earlier in refusing to help the British Government in their war activities. The declaration of Great Britain, on the one hand, that she was fighting for democracy and for the freedom of small nations, and on the other, her refusal to concede even a small demand for a national Government at the Centre, which the Congress made at Poona, proved that Britain's actions were contradictory.

The war, however, has definitely approached nearer India. Now is the time for Mahatma Gandhi, the Congress, the Congress Socialist Party and other nationalist parties to consider the question of India's freedom and defence. I want to point out to Mahatma Gandhi that the satyagraha campaign in the present circumstances cannot be expected to serve any useful purpose. Mahatma Gandhi should immediately consider its calling off.

Britain, on her part, should also give up her regrettable policy and grant a general amnesty to political prisoners. The British Government should come to an understanding either by accepting the Poona offer or some other proposal that might be acceptable to progressive Indians. Indians would then get a chance to use their full power to crush Nazism and Fascism, and Britain would, thereby, get unprecedented aid from India.

MR. FIELDEN ON CONGRESS DEMAND

"Indians want the same freedom that Mr. Churchill wants, namely, the freedom of all to live their lives in their own way," writes Mr. Lionel Fielden, former Controller of Broadcasting in India, in a British journal.

Mr. Fielden says that the plea of the Indian National Congress in Sept. 1939,

will pass into history as one of the most eloquent, just and moving passages in the English language. Had the Government answered it in the generous tones of liberty that the British profess to admire, Mr. Nehru to-day would not be in jail, but leading with tremendous fire an India united in our cause.

Mr. Fielden analyses the personnel of the expanded Executive Council and the National Defence Council and points out that while these gentlemen are eminent and clever, they cannot claim to represent India, and even if they do offer their views, the Viceroy has the power of veto.

SETTLEMENT IN INDIA

The *Manchester Guardian* in a leader

says:

The time has come for the British Government again to take up the question of an Indian settlement. From both sides the war is moving nearer to India. On the East, the Japanese press towards Singapore and Burma. On the North-west, German intrigue is busy both in Afghanistan and Iran. Should Germany defeat Russia, India will be insecure and would know it. Besides all else, we have this immediate cause to desire a peaceful settlement for India and India to need it for herself.

To a proper settlement in India, there must ultimately be several parties: the British and Indian Governments, the Princes, the Congress, the Muslim League and the smaller minorities. But it is impossible to wait for them to embrace one another before doing something more than we have yet done.

The question has two parts: framing a new Constitution for India after the War and the methods by which India shall, in the meantime, have a proper share in the Central Government. The second part now holds the field. There is likely to be any solution unless the Viceroy's Council is so reconstructed that Indians will have in it what is to be in effect, whatever it is called, a National Government.

There is the possibility that the Congress and the Muslim League would not at first come in. Every effort should be made to bring them in. Reconciliation in India would be as inspiring as many a victory in the field.

MR. ANEY ON MILITARISATION

Accepting a portfolio in the Viceroy's Executive Council was consistent with the policy advocated and followed by the late Lokamanya Tilak, said Mr. M. S. Aney, Member-designate of the Viceroy's Executive Council, replying to his critics, in the course of a reply to a welcome address presented to him at Akola.

Mr. Aney hoped that his advice to the inner circles of the Government of India on vital questions would pave the way for a better understanding, which was necessary for solving the present political dead-lock. Had Congress not committed the mistake of refusing the Viceroy's August offer, he continued, one year's experience would have brought the Defence and other vital departments under Indian control. He believed that Swaraj would be obtained by the gradual transference of power from Parliament to the Indian Legislative Assembly. In India's interest, England must win this war. Hence all voluntary help must be afforded.

Non-violence, Mr. Aney proceeded, would not save India from Fascist aggression. What was required was fully-equipped militarisation of the country.

RT. HON. JAYAKAR ON PAKISTAN

That the remedy for India was not vivisection but was greater fraternisation and mutual understanding was the view expressed by the Rt. Hon. Dr. M. R. Jayakar, addressing a well-attended public meeting of the South Indian residents in Bombay on "Pakistan". Mr. Jayakar explained at length the historical aspect of "Pakistan", how the problem arose and how the basic assumptions of Pakistan are false in history, false in experience. He said that his main object in addressing the meeting was to inform rather than to inflame.

Mr. Jayakar then advanced reasons to show that there was neither racial nor linguistic differences between the two communities. A Muslim of Bengal spoke Bengali and of Gujarat, Gujarati. In regard to the cultural aspect of the question, it was purely a question of environment.

SIR MIRZA ON INDIA'S NEEDS

"What Indians want and what India needs at present is Indianisation, industrialisation and militarisation—Indianisation rather than democratisation. The latter will doubtless come as a result of the joint deliberations and recommendations of the proposed committee at which the various parties and interests in the country will be represented," observed Sir Mirza M. Ismail in an informal talk with pressmen after his return to Bangalore from the Non-Party Leaders' Conference at Poona recently.

SIR STANLEY REED'S PLEA

In the Commons debate on India, Sir Stanley Reed, while welcoming the Viceroy's move, pleaded for a definite interim policy. He said:

It took six or seven years to hammer out the Act of 1935. How long is it going to take to hammer out the new Act. I regard it as of paramount importance that the Secretary of State should concern himself with the setting up of a very small body in India of enquiry and investigation to go into the vast new problems and, if possible, to issue interim reports so that, when the time comes to implement our definite guarantees of Dominion Status, of independence of which the Dominion Status is a better and higher form, we shall have material ready for a prompt decision.

MR. AMMON'S PLEA FOR INDIA

Mr. B. G. Ammon, speaking on the India Debate initiated by Mr. Amery in the House of Commons, said that it was a matter for regret that in regard to the general question of discontent in India, they were no nearer a solution.

We had made statements that certain things would be done, but there has never been anything definite as to when it would become possible for it to become operative. That is really what is worrying India and a declaration about it would go a very long way to smooth the way and make it impossible for any one to stir up trouble. It is not good enough to seek to shift on to the Indian people a problem that is ours. To do that is simply to indicate bankruptcy in statesmanship.

MR. N. R. SARKAR'S PROPHECY

Mr. N. R. Sarkar, in the course of an address at Calcutta, said:

"The Bengalis should, with a view to maintaining their very existence in the face of the growing struggle, adapt themselves to twentieth century ideals. They could not now take shelter behind the great names of Ram Mohun Roy, Surendra Nath Banerjee or Iswar Chandra Vidyasagar. India's freedom was bound to come, and he hoped that this country would be able to preserve it. China was free, but she was not happy. Physical and economic freedom was India's primary necessity. He expressed the opinion that Europe's fate would not be decided by the military or political success of the combatants, but by the economic advantage that one nation might acquire."

PREMIERS IN THE DEFENCE COUNCIL

Mr. Amery, Secretary of State for India, made the following statement regarding the recent invitation to the Indian Provincial Premiers to join India's newly constituted National Council:—

"The Prime Ministers of all provinces, in which working of the constitution has been uninterrupted, were invited by the Viceroy to join the National Defence Council in their capacity as Prime Ministers and regardless of their personal, party or communal affiliations. Not only were they invited in their capacity as Prime Ministers but they accepted the invitations in that capacity and in the light of their constitutional responsibility and obligation to the peoples and the provinces as a whole."

GANDHIJI ON CONGRESS POLICY

"I am surprised that such things appear in papers when there is no foundation whatever," said Mahatma Gandhi when a pressman drew his attention to the report that forty prisoners in the Naini Jail, including the Congress President, have made representations to him, urging a change in Congress policy in view of the changed international situation. Gandhiji added: "I have not received any communication either from the Maulana Sahib or any other prisoner; nor has any messenger come to me with such representations."

Asked what the position was of Congressmen in jail, who felt that the policy of the Congress should be revised in view of the altered situation at home and abroad, Gandhiji said: "If they have changed their views and want a change of colour, of course they can do so at any time. They have only to declare this and the Government will be glad to oblige them." When asked whether nothing that had happened in the country or outside recently warranted the calling off of satyagraha, Gandhiji said: "So far as I am concerned nothing has happened."

THE LEAGUE AND THE DEFENCE COUNCIL

The Working Committee of the All-India Muslim League, which met at Bombay on August 24, passed a resolution calling upon Sir Sikander Hyat Khan, Sir Mahomed Saadulla and Mr. Fazlul Huq, Premiers of the Punjab, Assam and Bengal respectively, to resign from the National Defence Council.

The resolution also announced that Sir Sikander Hyat Khan and Sir Mahomed Saadulla have already expressed their willingness to resign from the National Defence Council.

Mr. Fazlul Huq has been given ten days' time to resign from the National Defence Council.

SIR MAURICE'S CONVOCATION ADDRESS

"Restriction of proper expenditure on education, even in time of war, could never be a true economy," said Sir Maurice Gwyer, Chief Justice of India, delivering the Convocation Address at the Bombay University, on August 19.

"I would even go further," added Sir Maurice, "and say that, subject to all reasonable conditions, it may rightly be increased."

Sir Maurice referred to the excessive number of failures in examinations and the small proportion of those reading for the honours degree as compared to the pass degree. The failures, he added, were so large because numbers of students were found in most Universities who would never be able to derive any benefit from a University education.

Sir Maurice urged the institution of a "method of selection based upon manifest promise and proved merit" for admission of students into the Universities. This, he continued, would only be half a policy, for the problem still remained of opening up other opportunities for other students who were likely to be excluded. The other half of the policy would take the shape of a long overdue reform of secondary education. The time had come when at some suitable point in a school boy's career, he ought to be given the opportunity of selecting courses of instruction having a different bias than a mere University career. Vocational and technical training must in that event be given a much more prominent part in the secondary school system.

THE PROPER EDUCATION

"The high school ends too early and the system makes no provision for those who wish to continue their studies without entering a university. We need a great number of technical schools under Government management to round off the school course. . . . Above all, we need more agricultural and veterinary colleges," said the Rev. L. D. Murphy, S.J., Principal, Loyola College, addressing the graduates admitted to degrees at the 83rd convocation of the University of Madras last month.

Exhorting the graduates to advance the well-being of their fellow-men, the Rev. Father Murphy said: "It is not the well-being of your own comfortable social class that is recommended to your care. It is the ubiquitous poor who need your help. . . . If graduates will continue the good work of their undergraduate days, the combination of their authority with their zeal will enhance the very good they do."

TEXT-BOOKS IN SIND

Pir Illahi Bux, Education Minister, is directed by Director of Public Instruction in Sind to expunge from text-books anything savouring of communalism. He has also directed that such material from history books too must go.

The Education Minister has issued a circular that if any teacher indulged in any communal propaganda, he will be dismissed.

INDIAN ARMY TRAINING

Apart from doubling the output of Indian Commissioned Officers, the training scheme for the rapidly expanding Indian Army involves a great variety of other personnel including technicians and transport drivers, clerks and cooks and wireless operators.

SECURITY PRISONERS

A memorial signed by about 1,500 citizens of Lahore has been submitted to His Excellency the Governor-General-in-Council by the Civil Liberties Union, demanding among other things trial of the security prisoners detained in various jails in British India. Amongst the signatories are leading lawyers, medical men and businessmen.

"Nearly 200 of His Majesty's subjects in British India", says the memorial, "are being detained in Deoli camps without any trial according to the ordinary law of the land. The orders for their detention appear to have been passed *inter alia* under Rule 26 of the Defence of India Rules framed under the Defence of India Act 1939, which Act is to remain in force during the continuance of the present war and for a period of six months thereafter. The aforesaid detenus do not appear to have been given any opportunity of proving their innocence which normally speaking is to be presumed in their favour. It is equally important that none of His Majesty's subjects should be deprived of his liberty without there being in existence material sufficient to justify a judicial decision against him by the King's court."

The memorialists submit the following points for the consideration of the Governor-General:—(1) that the detenus should be tried according to the law of the land; (2) in the alternative at least a judicial enquiry by retired high judicial officer or officers be held into the allegations made by the Executive Government against these detenus; (3) an impartial enquiry be held into the conditions under which these detenus are being detained, including the consideration of the grievances incorporated in the memorandum said to have been submitted by these detenus; and (4) the rules framed by the Government for the detention of the detenus be made available to the public.

BENGAL COURT OF WARDS BILL

A Bill entitled "the Bengal Court of Wards (Amendment) Bill, 1941", to further amend the Court of Wards Act, 1879, has been published.

The statement of Objects and Reasons of the Bill says that the High Court of Calcutta, at the hearing by a special bench of the case of Anath Nath Bose *vs.* Maharaja Srischandra Nandy, decided on March 4 last that Section 10-C of the Court of Wards Act, 1879, had no application to the High Court as the expression "civil court" appearing in the different sections of the Court of Wards Act, 1879, means a civil court other than the High Court. The effect of this decision has been to take away all protection from the wards' estates in respect of decrees or orders passed against them by the original or appellate side of the High Court—a position which will largely frustrate the object for which the Legislature enacted Section 10-C of the Court of Wards Act in 1936.

The object of this Bill is to make the provisions of Section 10-C of the Act applicable in respect of execution of decrees or orders passed by the High-Court with retrospective effect in regard to all pending suits or proceedings including proceedings in execution.

HINDU WOMEN'S RIGHT

The Government of Madras have issued a Press *communique* stating that they have decided to postpone legislation regarding the applicability to agricultural lands in Madras Province of the principle involved in the Hindu Women's Right to Property Act.

DISTRIBUTION OF ASSETS

Satisfaction was expressed by Mr. J. C. Setalvad, presiding over the thirteenth Indian Insurance Companies' Association at Bombay last month, that the Indian insurance companies in general and the association in particular had received attention, active support and willing co-operation from the various interests that build up the economic structure of the society.

Mr. Setalvad referred to the many problems confronting the Indian insurance companies in regard to the attitude of the foreign exchange banks towards Indian companies, reduction in Indian insurance rates and urged that the Government of India should give life insurance companies in India wider scope in the matter of distribution of their assets and reduce the percentage of compulsory investments in Government and approved securities.

Mr. Setalvad concluded by appealing for increased co-operation amongst the members. Due to present war conditions, the reinsurance facilities which they were getting from foreign countries had been completely curtailed and each one of them had spare business which could be reinsured amongst the member companies.

INSURING FAT

Lloyds can reveal a hundred odd insurances but an insurance company in America wants some beating in its latest scheme, for it is doing good business in insuring fat or rather lack of it.

The insured pays his or her premium against putting on too much weight. It is incidentally a heavy premium. The insured must be regularly examined by the company's doctor. In addition, certain physical exercises are prescribed and must be religiously followed.

LIMITATIONS ON FIRE POLICIES
REPEALED

According to announcement by the Attorney-General of Ontario, the Section 101 of the Ontario Insurance Act came into force on March 1, 1941. This Section repeals the one year limitation on the term of fire insurance policies covering mercantile and manufacturing risks and permits such policies to be written without restriction as to the term.

The removal of this restriction in Ontario is in keeping with the Government's policy to avoid the regulation of business and interference with the right to contract.

THIRD PARTY INSURANCE

The Motor Car (Third Party) Insurance Act of 1939 has been made operative in Victoria as from January 22nd. A feature of the new tariff is that it discriminates in favour of country cars, the premiums for which are 25 per cent. to 45 per cent. lower, according to class. The premium for private cars is £1 13s. for metropolitan and 18s. for country cars and includes a hospital tax of 1s. 9d. and a collection fee of 6d. It is believed, however, that the Act will not become fully operative for another year, as car owners are only required to comply with its provisions on renewal of their policies.

SCHEME FOR FIRE-WATCHERS

Coventy Corporation has negotiated a scheme of insurance with Lloyd's underwriters in respect of fire-watchers in street fire parties of business premises.

Under the scheme, which is not available to those engaged in whole-time fire-watching as regular employment or to persons under 16 years or over 60 years of age, fire-watchers can insure themselves for a premium of £1 against death or disablement resulting from enemy action while doing duty.

WAR SUPPLIES

Though Madras had contributed about Rs. 1½ crores to the war fund and had shown intelligent appreciation of the issues at stake, she had not been well treated in regard to distribution of orders for war supplies. During the first 20 months of the war, the total value of orders for war material placed in India was Rs. 80 crores, but Madras' share was only rupees four crores. That was not entirely the fault of Government; for Madras lacked the technical experience and the mechanical equipment necessary for the production of finished products. It was, however, the duty of Government to help the province in these directions, not only to enable her to produce finished material for the present war but to help her to develop her industries, to encourage the people to acquire technical experience and to provide them with facilities to establish necessary equipment for industrial development.

CAMOUFLAGE NETS

A beginning has been made in Madras Presidency in the manufacture of camouflage nets which are stated to be required in large numbers for military purposes. These nets are made of sisal-hemp. Neither coir nor jute is found to be suitable.

The Controller of Supplies, South India Circle, has already located supplies of hemp suitable for the purpose and a trial order for nets has also been placed. Twine made of a certain type of aloe has been found acceptable.

The manufacture of these nets will not only meet an essential war need, but also help growers of the fibre and provide remunerative employment to a large number of fishermen and others.

GOODS FROM INDIA

India's new position as supplier not only of war essentials for the Commonwealth forces but of certain classes of manufactured goods to meet civilian needs in the United Kingdom is emphasised in the report of the Indian Government Trade Commissioner, London, for March 1941.

The report refers, for instance, to the present sale of Indian matches in the United Kingdom and says that further enquiries were received from importers. Owing to difficulty in obtaining certain classes of textile goods in England, a firm with oil-fields, refineries, etc., abroad enquired regarding the supply of certain textile and surgical goods needed at these installations overseas from India.

Among the goods mentioned were: cotton, wool, gauzes and gauze bandages, lint, elastic woven bandages, adhesive and otherwise, crepe bandages, adhesive plaster and dressings, etc., also towelling, sheeting, sail cloth, tarpaulins, cotton canvas, blankets, bolster and pillow cases, dust cloths, calico, damask furnishing fabric, etc.

MR. T. M. WILSON

President Roosevelt has nominated Mr. Thomas Murray Wilson as Commissioner to India with the rank of Minister.

According to the American *Who's Who*, Mr. Wilson, the new American Minister to India, was born at Memphis in Tennessee on July 29, 1881, and is unmarried. He was formerly engaged in cotton business, banking and farming. He was Consul at Madras in 1921-22 and at Bombay in 1922-23. He has been Consul-General at Sydney since June 1937, Mr. Wilson served in the World War.

WOMEN'S AIR FORCE

The substitution of airwomen for airmen has proved so successful that today there are 26 different trades open for the recruitment of women in the W. A. A. F. and the probability of an even larger number of trades is open in the near future.

There are now in this country two large W. A. A. F. training depots, where the new recruit is sent to be enrolled and to complete a fortnight's disciplinary training. Here she is taught what serving really means.

She learns about the Royal Air Force, the duties they perform, and how and where the W. A. A. F. co-operates with the service. She is given lectures on W. A. A. F. Administration, W. A. A. F. policy, W. A. A. F. discipline and, above all, she is given lectures on the history and organisation of the Royal Air Force; for the W. A. A. F. comes under the direct control of the Royal Air Force and of this we are very proud.

WOMEN'S TASK

"Women should assert themselves a little more in public life and perhaps a little less in private life," said Mr. J. B. Priestley to the Society of Women Journalists.

"My complaint is that you British women will leave public affairs to men.

Fifty per cent. of these affairs would be better done if the rhetoric and nonsense were taken out and there were more feminine participation.

British women in particular will have a big part to play in reconstruction after the war, and you must see that the adventure of life is shared not only in private but in public by men and women. Say to the men: 'It is our world as well as yours,' and stick to feminine values."

FUTURE OF INDIAN WOMEN

"Our future will be determined not by our capacity to revolt but by our training and equipping ourselves for what we aspire," said Begum Aiziz Rasul, Deputy Speaker, United Provinces Legislative Council, commenting on the future of Indian women in the post-war period in the course of an address to the Simla branch of the Delhi Rotary Club. The speaker said that the women's movement was the most striking example of this country's progress during the last two decades. The movement is spreading steadily amongst women of all ranks, rich and poor, educated and ignorant. All alike feel the dawning of an era of fresh usefulness for their sex.

Concluding, Begum Aiziz Rasul said that women of India looked forward to a considerable broadening of their activities and opportunities in all spheres. They hoped that the social laws would be re-adjusted and women would be given opportunities of self-development and self-realisation. They hoped that women would have greater share in the running of the administration of the country.

WOMEN'S HOMAGE TO THE POET

Calcutta's womenfolk offered their homage to the memory of Poet Rabindranath on Sunday the 21th August, at one of the most representative women's gatherings ever held in Calcutta.

The memorial meeting, which was held at the Senate Hall of the Calcutta University, was convened by thirty-seven different women's organisations: Hindus, Muslims and Christians—of all age, rank and nationality—sat side by side in the crowded Hall and expressed their love and respect for their beloved Poet. Maharani Sucharu Devi of Mayurbhanj presided.

SILVER JUBILEE OF "TRILINGA"

Pundits, patrons of learning and politicians of every school of thought assembled in large numbers recently at the Gokhale Hall, Madras, and paid handsome tributes to Mr. Vavilla Venkateswara Sastrulu for his services to Telugu and Sanskrit literature through the 'Vavilla Press' and for moulding the political opinion of the country through the medium of the "Federated India" and "Trilinga" conducted by him.

"The Vavilla Press has done a great service in the matter of the regeneration of the Telugu literature," observed Mr. N. C. Kelkar who presided over the function. "And the title of Bhashodharaka conferred upon Mr. Sastrulu is both appropriate and significant, whether from the point of view of the help given by his press to the cause of Sanskrit or the Telugu vernacular."

WORLD'S FIRST NEWSPAPER

When and where was the first newspaper published? A French authority gives the honour to Prague, with the date 1594; Belgium comes next (1610); and England takes eighth place with the "Weekly News" of 1622. The usual opinion is that the "English Mercurie," dated 1518, was the world's first newspaper, but the French authority says that the "Mercurie" was printed in eighteenth century types, and in addition, its terminology shows it to be a fraud. The Prague newspaper, on his testimony, began publication on January 24, 1594, and was followed three years later by a monthly review of events—'The Complete Journal for the Entire Month of September,' as the title of the first issue proclaimed.

MR. S. G. VAZE

A change in the editorship of "Dyana-prakasha", the Servants of India Society Marathi Daily, has been decided upon by the Society Council. Mr. K. G. Limaye, who has been the Editor of the paper for the last fifteen years, it is learnt, will make room for Mr. S. G. Vaze, editor of the now defunct weekly of the Servants of India Society.

SIR F. E. JAMES

Sir Frederick James, who is joining the Tatas, will be presumably taking on the



SIR FREDERICK JAMES

political side of the work, which hitherto was part of the portfolio of Sir Homi Mody.

When Sir Homi Mody was invited to join Tatas, he among his many other responsibilities served this purpose surpassingly well. With the all-essential part which the Tata Iron and Steel Company is playing in the matter of war supplies, the need for such contact is ever so much greater. Sir Frederick will prove a worthy successor to Sir Homi. Why not an Indian?—the carping critic may ask. The answer is simple: the policy of Tatas from the beginning has been to secure the best talents wherever they be found. Sir Ardeshir Dalal, Sir Homi Mody, Hon. Sushil Sinha, Mr. Mather, Mr. A. D. Shroff, Dr. John Matthai—these are the recruits secured by the Tatas on the criterion of the best available talents.

LORD WILLINGDON

Lord Willingdon is dead. He was aged 74 at the time of his death.

Lord Willingdon came out to India first in the year 1913 as the Governor of Bombay; he was appointed Governor of Madras in the year 1919. In 1926, he was appointed Governor-General of Canada and remained there till 1931; he was appointed the Viceroy of India in the same year and stayed in India till 1936.

PLASTIC SURGERY

Plastic surgery which consists in the restoration of congenital defects, said Lt.-Col. V. R. Mirajker in a Broadcast Talk, was practised in India in the good old days and even during Vedic times, and mention has been made in the ancient medical books, the *Charak* and *Shushruta*, that many of the cut noses were repaired by people practising surgery in those days. Even in our present-day standard surgical books on plastic surgery, mention is made of the Indian method of rhinoplasty, that is repair or making of a new nose. The real impetus for this type of surgery was given by the last Great War, when so many disfigured and mutilated faces and limbs resulted from bomb explosions. Some of the specialists in this branch of surgery have really done marvellous work and made the disfigured people presentable to the society and saved them from ending their life short by the misery of this disfigurement.

ART OF BRUSHING TEETH

Ninety per cent. of the people abuse their mouth with the tooth brush. They not only injure their gums but wear away their teeth. It should be done in the following way:—

Use a brush with long, medium-stiff bristles of even length on a brush head not more than an inch long. Brush the chewing surfaces of the back teeth first. This will soften the brush bristles sufficiently to prevent injury to the gums. Using a rotary stroke with as short a diameter as possible, brush the outside all the way around and then go to work on the inner side. Rub the gums lightly.

Most important of all—don't use too much force in the brushing motion. Apply to the brush only slightly more pressure than you would in stroking a cat's fur. One out of every 10 persons has a certain degree of gum recession caused mainly by a too strenuous technique in brushing.

ANDHRA M.B. S.

The Central Government, after consulting the Medical Council of India, have recognised the M. B. B. S. Degree of Andhra University as a recognised medical qualification with retrospective effect.

IMPORTANCE OF VEGETABLES

"Rural medical practitioners and medical officers in Government, local fund and municipal medical institutions are requested to encourage the use of vegetables, especially leafy vegetables, by the villagers among whom they work," says a Government Order communicated to local bodies.

The Government, in the course of the order, state that the diet surveys carried out in various parts of India have shown that the intake of vegetables, particularly leafy vegetables, is everywhere far below the desirable level. The Government state that leafy vegetables are very valuable supplements to rice diets since they contain richer vitamins and mineral salts. While non-leafy vegetables such as roots and tubers have certain nutritive advantages over other vegetables, the daily consumption of leafy vegetables will add to the nutritive value of diets.

GOOSEBERRY AS TABLET FOOD

The Nutrition Research Laboratories, Coonoor, are now engaged in powdering Indian gooseberry (*Amia* or *Nellikai*) which is considered to be of high nutritive value and despatching the powder to another centre in India to be converted into tablets.

Gooseberry tablet is claimed to be a good substitute for fresh vegetables and is supplied in famine camps and desert areas where vegetables are either too dear or cannot be obtained at all. Large supplies of Indian gooseberries are arriving here from the surrounding districts and hundreds of coolies have been engaged to convert them into powder.

"GLOVES" FOR THE FEET

Wet or cold feet are avoided with "foot gloves" of transparent, flexible and water-proof material. Sold in packages of eight pairs, they may be put on before the shoes or worn between shoes and overshoes. The maker recommends them to fishermen, hunters, and participants in winter sports; to policemen, firemen and postmen; and to women who wear open toe shoes, or who wish to protect footwear.

INDIAN BANKS AND WAR

"The net profits during the year have increased very largely, amounting to Rs. 279 lakhs as compared with Rs. 29 lakhs for the half year ending the 30th June 1940, and Rs. 23 lakhs for the previous twelve months. As a result, we are able to pay Rs. 262 lakhs to the Central Government. This increase is primarily due to the large increase in our investments resulting from the expansion of the currency necessary to cope with the growth in the country's activities caused by the war, the bulk of which was due to purchases by the British Government, for which they paid the Indian Government in sterling in exchange for which we gave Government rupee currency," said Sir James B. Taylor Governor, Reserve Bank of India, addressing the Seventh Annual General Meeting of the shareholders of Reserve Bank of India at Delhi. Sir James said:

"Our income and expenditure for the year are Rs. 382 lakhs and Rs. 103 lakhs respectively, leaving a net profit of Rs. 279 lakhs. As these figures are not comparable with those submitted to the last annual general meeting, covering as they did a period of only six months, we have compiled *pro forma* figures for the Bank's expenditure during the 12 months ended the 30th June 1940, and these show that our total expenditure in 1940-41 was less than that in the previous year by Rs. 225 lakhs."

MR. H. C. CAPTAIN

On the death of Sir Sorabji Pochkewalla, Mr. H. C. Captain, who was for nearly two decades Secretary of the Central Bank of India, was made the Manager of the Institution in 1937. Last year he was made the General Manager. It is now announced that his designation hereafter will be Managing Director. This is a fitting recognition of his excellent stewardship for the past four years.

When he assumed office as Manager, the Central Bank had 59 branches and 81 pay offices; to-day it has 140 branches and pay offices—an increase of 50 which works out to 12 new offices every year. The Central Bank is now a truly All-India organisation.

DEARNESS ALLOWANCE FOR RY. WORKERS

The Court of Enquiry to investigate the question of dearness allowance for railway employees was appointed by the Government of India in August 1940 under Section 3 of the Trade Disputes Act 1929, as a trade dispute was apprehended between the G. I. P. Railway and the workmen. The Government were prepared to apply the principles of dearness allowance to be adopted as a result of the enquiry to the employees of other railways also to whom they might be equally applicable.

The issues for enquiry were:—

1. What was the rise in the cost of living for the lower paid staff since the outbreak of the war in the various areas?
2. Was there a case for war allowance?
3. Conditions of the grant of dearness allowance in the different areas.
4. Regulation of allowances with future changes in the cost of living.

Apart from differences of opinion which might inevitably arise on such questions, there can be little doubt that the report under review (court of Enquiry constituted under the Trade Disputes Act, 1929, to investigate the Question of Dearness Allowance for Railway employees Vol. I Report 17. Manager of Publications, Delhi, 1941. As. 12.) furnishes an admirable discussion of the very complicated issues of cost and price indices and war-time wage policy.

CHIEF INSPECTOR OF RAILWAYS

This scheme of separation of the Inspectorate, a recommendation of the Pacific Locomotive Committee accepted by the Legislature, was given effect to in May 1941. Under this, the Railway Inspectorate is independent of the Railway Board and of the Railway administration. The latter have been divided into five circles, each in charge of a Government Inspector. The Chief Inspector who has his headquarters with the Government of India, will be responsible to the latter in the Department of Communications.

MENAKA'S DANCE ACADEMY

Madame Menaka, who has done so much to put India on the dance map of the world, has started a dance academy. "Natyalayam" for the preservation and propagation of our traditional classical dance. Khandala, where the academy is situated, is an idyllic spot, an hour's journey from Poona and far from the madding crowd. Here she has proposed to teach, with the aid of accredited masters of the authentic traditional kind, the different variations of Indian classical dance technique, such as Kathakali, Manipuri, Dasi-attam (Bharata Natyam) and Kathak. Menaka's special contribution has been to give a new vigour and life to the magnificent technique of the Kathak by arranging it as the basic technique for a ballot. An institution of this type will be welcomed by all art lovers who are anxious to keep alive the traditional art of India, which is apt to disappear for want of encouragement.

BALINESE ART

Dr. Cousins observes in the *Travancore Information*:

A collection of 16 paintings of the life, scenery and belief of the Balinese people executed by paddy workers and fisher people form as part of a recent upsurge of creative enthusiasm. Under the remarkable strength and solidity of the paintings, which in some instances looked as if they were copies of reliefs carved in wood instead of painting on the flat, there could be seen a considerable affinity with the paintings of the 16th century and later in Northern India. In these and other features the collection, though small, was exceedingly rich in materials for enjoyment and comparative study.

BENGAL ART

The Bengal school of art compared with contemporary European art is traditional. It branches off in new directions, but all the time clings to the old roots. Modern European art represents a definite break-up in the historical development of the arts. The European artist's personality has been disintegrated under the stress of problems which elude solution. The Indian artist maintains the integrity of his personality.

CLUB HOUSE FOR INDIAN TROOPS

The Maharaja of Patiala has laid the foundation-stone of a new 15,000 dollars club house, which is being built at the Raffles Reclamation ground for Indian troops now stationed in Malaya.

The club house will provide Indian troops with opportunities, the Maharaja hoped, for social meetings which would further the cordial relations existing between the people of Malaya and the soldiers of India, who are unitedly guarding the shores of this very important land. The Maharaja announced a donation of 2,000 dollars.

It was proposed to make the new club house available to Malaya soldiers as well since they had none of their own.

THE INDIAN DERBY

The *Racing Calendar* of the Royal Western India Turf Club of July 3, has the following notice:

The Indian Derby. Winner Rs. 30,000; second Rs. 10,000; third Rs. 5,000; and 10 per cent. in addition of the advertised value of the winning stakes to the Breeder of the winner. For Indian Colts and Fillies 4 years' old. Distance.—1½ miles.

Ever since the licence to the Royal Western India Turf Club was renewed by the Congress Government in 1938, the stakes for Indian-Bred horses, which till then hardly formed 7½ per cent. of the total stakes, have steadily risen and by 1943 they will reach 45 per cent. of the total sum to be given away in a season.

AMERICAN TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIP

Bobby Riggs, former American champion and last winner of Wimbledon singles, lost in quarter-final of the Eastern Grass Courts Tennis Championships to Wayne Sabin who won 8-6, 6-6, 6-3, while the other upset at this stage was Bryan Grant's 6-4, 6-2 win against Frankie Parker, the American Davis Cup player.

GUNDER HAEGG

The Swedish long-distance runner, Gunder Haegg, established a new record for 1,500 metres flat race of 3 minutes 47.6/10 seconds. The previous holder was the New Zealander Jack Lovelock, whose time was 3 minutes, 47.8/10 seconds.

SIR C. V. RAMAN'S NEW DISCOVERY

Lecturing to the South Indian Science Association last month on "Crystals and the Infra-Red Spectrum", Sir C. V. Raman announced that recent investigation by himself and collaborators on the newly discovered type of X-Ray reflection in crystals had resulted in a revolutionary output of new knowledge regarding the solid state of matter.

As an example of the impact of the new ideas, Sir C. V. Raman mentioned the generally accepted theory of the specific heat of metals due to Debye. According to his theory, the heat energy of a metal consists entirely of the mechanical energy of elastic vibrations in the solid having a continuous spectrum of frequencies from zero upwards to a certain assumed high limit. The X-ray investigations show this theory to be erroneous and indicate that the greater part of the thermal energy, three-fourths in many metals and half in some others, consists of a vibration of a sharply defined frequency, the existence of which is experimentally demonstrated. In diamond, instead of the whole thermal energy being of the nature suggested by Debye, only one-eighth of the energy or less appears as elastic vibrations, the rest being due to specific infra-red vibrations, the existence and frequency of which is demonstrable in a variety of ways. In the vast majority of actual substances, the Debye contribution to the thermal energy is even smaller and indeed quite negligible except at the very lowest temperatures.

MARVELLOUS NEW MICROSCOPE

A new electron microscope developed in the laboratories of the Radio Corporation of America, New Jersey, will magnify up to 100,000 diameters, 20 to 50 times more than ordinary microscopes.

The instrument may throw new light on causes of disease. With its aid more is expected to be learned about the structure and habits of bacteria. Already it has enabled photographs of biological specimens magnified up to 57,000 diameters to be taken.

One photograph of tuberculosis bacillus enlarged to 40,000 diameters, shows the tiny organism's "armour plate", a waxy coating which protects it from enemies.

THE GEMINI STUDIOS

The Movieland in Mount Road, Madras, where the Gemini studios are situate, was crowded with film producers, distributors, studio owners and their staff and artistes in response to Mr. S. S. Vasan's invitation to a recent tea-party. The function was intended to acquaint those connected with the film industry and the public generally with the facilities provided there for the production of pictures.

Mr. Vasan, it may be mentioned, came into the property in January and in three months, through an intensive effort at organisation and programme of construction and equipment, converted it into a veritable movieland studded with buildings equipped with the latest sound recording appliances, R. C. A. Selsyn driven re-recording mechanism and modern cameras. Three huge sound-proof stages stand out prominently to which are attached make-up apartments claimed to be as good, if not better, than the average make-up rooms in the Hollywood studios. The Gemini Studios have already to their credit some pictures, now in the editing room and awaiting release shortly. Several more pictures are stated to be with script writers, production arrangements therefor being well in hand.

FILM AS CAREER

Mrs. Sarojini Naidu, speaking at the preview of the film "Sister" at Bombay last month, said that the art of the cinema was one of the greatest among the arts with an appeal that was universal in scope. The emotions depicted in a film were equally potent to move the human heart, whether the picture was shown in America or Europe, in Asia or Africa. The cinema was also one of the greatest educational forces of the modern world, the potentialities of which were being slowly exploited.

Mrs. Naidu appealed to young men and young women to take the cinema as a profession following the example of America and Europe, where members belonging to the highest families were freely taking up film careers.

SECOND-HAND CARS

There is no appreciable change in the general position as regards motoring in Great Britain, and it is estimated that at least 500,000 cars, many of which are almost new, have been permanently laid up by their owners. Naturally, of course, there is no object in paying heavy taxes upon a car which can hardly be used.

One of the minor sensations of motoring in Great Britain at the present time continues to be the very high prices being fetched for the second-hand car, in view of the fact that the manufacture of new cars for home use has been entirely suspended. Since, of course, a limited amount of motoring is absolutely vital and cars continue to wear out, there is a great demand for the second-hand car in good condition, and agents are scouring the country to find owners who will sell them. Already prices such as 10-15 per cent. above the original sale price are being paid, and according to some statements it is expected that eventually before the war is over, the price of a good second-hand car will actually reach double the figure of the value when it was purchased in 1933 or 1939.

PETROL SUPPLY TO U. S. A.

A joint plan for the construction of a 1,820-mile oil pipe-line system has been submitted to Mr. Harold Ickes, Petroleum Defence Administrator, by eleven large oil companies. The system would be capable of delivering a quarter-million barrels of oil daily into New York area from the south-west. The plans call for an immediate start and completion within nine months.

A formal agreement would become effective as soon as Mr. Ickes approves the plan and the President proclaims the line necessary for national defence. A proclamation to this effect from the President would clear the way for the creation of a jointly owned eighty-million dollar "National Defence Pipelines Inc.," the financing of which is being arranged through private placement of five-year notes. Field surveying by aerial photography is already under way. This will ensure the start of the initial project with minimum delay.

INDIA'S CONTRIBUTION TO R. A. F.

Three new Spitfire squadrons have been named after Indian Provinces and States which have sent money for the purchase of aircraft.

The second fighter squadron is named after the Punjab, which has already sent nearly £200,000 and is still sending.

Baroda and Bhopal have sent £104,000 and a new squadron of Spitfires now carries the name "the Baroda and Bhopal Squadron".

Mysore has sent a £100,000 and a fighter squadron which, while still under training, destroyed two enemy planes, has been named "Mysore".

With previous gifts from various provinces and states, India has now contributed nearly £3,000,000 for fighters.

FIRST INDIAN AIRCRAFT

The first aircraft assembled in India the "Harlow", is expected to do its test flights shortly at the Hindustan Aircraft Factory, states a Press Note.

The "Harlow", an aircraft designed in America, is a trainer. It is an up-to-date type of aircraft and has the same characteristics as modern fighters and bombers. It is a low-wing, single-engine monoplane, with constant speed propeller, flaps, and retractable under-carriage.

The building of "Harlow" trainers in India is a big step forward. Our pilots will be trained to fly the modern fighter and bomber which, thanks to American help, will soon be seen in the Indian skies.

NEW SUPER-BOMBER FOR U. S.

A new super-bomber, which is expected to render all others obsolete in the next two or three years, is in its initial construction stages for the United States' Army Air Corps, according to the New York *Herald Tribune*.

The plane which may not fly for two years, combines and surpasses the best features of the latest army bombers. It will have the approximate maximum range of the present day 200 miles per hour-machine but with a speed of 350 miles per hour.

IMPORT CONTROL

In view of the increasing necessity for conserving exchange in respect of countries outside the sterling area and also reducing adverse balance of trade with certain countries, particularly Japan, the Government of India have issued a further notification extending the existing system of import control to a number of other commodities; viz., cotton twist and yarn ribbons, artificial silk and staple fibre yarn cotton piece-goods and fents and artificial silk piece-goods, pure and mixed, and coral. The full list appears in the *Gazette of India*.

Imports from China will also be subjected to the same restrictions as those from other foreign countries outside the sterling area but imports of goods produced and manufactured in China that have been imported into Burma across the Burma-China land frontier will be allowed freely and an open general licence for this purpose is being published in the same *Gazette*.

In the same *Gazette* a notification is being published under Section 4 of the Indian Tariff Act, raising the alternative specific duties on artificial silk manufactures not of British manufacture, import-tariff schedule items 48 (1) (B), 48 (5) (B) (11), from five annas to seven annas per square yard and item 48 (5) (A) (11) from four annas to five and a half annas per square yard.

SAND IN GLASS MAKING

Bulletin of Indian Industrial Research No. 22 ("Purification of Indian Glass-Making Sands" by B. J. Hegde, M.Sc., B.Sc. Tech. published by the Government of India) explains a method of treating sand whereby the appearance of Indian-made glass can be improved and the transport of suitable sand from a long distance obviated. The treatment involves the use of sodium oxalate sulphuric acid and ferrous sulphate at an estimated net cost of Rs. 2-4-0 per ton of sand. Experiments have resulted in the reduction of the iron oxide content of sand from 0.49 per cent, to 0.037 per cent in one case. Other samples have also shown an appreciable reduction after treatment.

AGRICULTURAL PROGRESS IN THE

N. W. FRONTIER

In the Malakand Agency, a thousand rupees were advanced in loans to cultivators in 1939-40 mostly for land improvement and also for the purchase of sugar-cane crushing mills. Twelve new private orchards have been laid down in the protected area and oranges, apricots, plums, mangoes and guavas planted. Two thousand fruit trees were pruned by the Agricultural Assistant and two hundred private orange trees were budded with stock of Red Blood Malta. Spraying demonstrations were also conducted. Experiments are being made with five varieties of wheat and four of maize.

A wide variety of crops are grown in the Kurram Agency—wheat, barley, rice, clover, cotton and pulses. The Kurram river runs through the valley and irrigation is general. The fruit grown includes apricots, apples, oranges, pomegranates, peaches, plums and pears. Of the vegetables tomatoes, potatoes, onions, peas, cabbages, turnips and cucumbers are the most important. Hailstorms are the main cause of poor crops, but the yields were above the average.

AGRICULTURE IN ASSAM

Reports in agriculture in Assam include details of much interest, says the *Statesman*. Vegetables are becoming more important. The cultivation of country and English vegetables is becoming popular. Many middle-class families near towns find it a means of livelihood. Gentlemen farmers grow in number. In Britain, the term often implies men of some substance who interest themselves in farming until the substance is gone and they are left with only experience. In Assam, educated men take to agriculture seriously, especially to vegetable and fruit growing. From the Assam Valley comes the report that the growing of English vegetables has spread to the remotest corners of the districts. Bee-keeping receives attention and arrangements are made for the supply of boxes and colonies. With all this a new industry is developing the nursery and seedman's, through which improvement of strains can be effected.

INDUSTRIAL WORKERS

Below are the average number of workers employed daily in large-scale industries of India (pre-war) :—

Cotton spinning and weaving	..	569,000
Jute Mills	..	309,000
Cotton ginning and baling	..	182,000
Rly. and Tramway works	..	111,000
Eng. workshops	..	111,000
Sugar factories	..	79,000
Tea factories	..	67,000
Rice mills	..	41,000
Printing and book-binding	..	41,000
Jute Presses	..	36,000
Ordnance factories	..	23,000
Dockyard shipbuilding engineering	..	19,000
Cement lime and potteries	..	17,000
Matches	..	16,000
Rope works	..	16,000
Bricks and tiles	..	16,000
Leather and shoes	..	13,000
Woollen mills	..	12,000
Tobacco	..	11,000
Dyeing, bleaching, etc.	..	10,000
Carpentry, cabinet making	..	8,000
Coffee works	..	8,000
Paper mills	..	8,000
Glass Works	..	8,000
Stone dressing	..	8,000
Rubber	..	8,000
Hosiery	..	8,000
Silk mills and filature	..	7,000
Coachbuilding, motor repairing	..	7,000
Flour mills	..	6,000

WORKERS IN WAR EFFORTS

The constitution of an anti-Fascist All-India Trade Union Council for assisting the world democratic alliance against Fascism and achieving effective and conscious participation of workers in war efforts in this country, was decided upon at a conference held in Bombay of representatives of thirty Trade Unions in the City.

Among the Unions represented were the B. B. and C. I. Railway Workers' Union, the G. I. P. Railwaymen's Union, the Dock Workers' Union, the Parsi Textile Union, the Mint Workers' Union and the Municipal Workers' Union.

WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION

Fifteen lakhs of rupees were paid during 1939 as compensation to workmen in India, under the Workmen's Compensation Act. The total number of cases admitted for compensation was 38,700 and the average sum paid per case was Rs. 39 as against Rs. 40.9 in 1938. The compensation paid on Railways fell from Rs. 3,90,000 in 1938 to Rs. 3,62,200 in 1939.

AIR RAID SHELTERS

The building of air-raid shelters is to begin at once in the towns classified as vulnerable. The numbers and types of shelter to be built will be decided by the Provincial Governments to suit local conditions. The Government of India have, however, provided the Provincial Governments with complete specifications of various types of shelter.

The minimum standard of protection, which is to be afforded, is protection against the blast and splinter effect of a 500 lb. high explosive bomb falling not less than 50 feet away, and protection against the fall of debris should the superstructure or any building close to the shelter collapse.

The Government of India, in a letter to Provincial Governments authorising them to begin the provision of shelters immediately, urge that full use be made of existing buildings by strengthening those which are suitable. If there is not a sufficient number of such buildings to meet the needs of the population, new shelters will be built.

ANCIENT ANDHRA TOWN

The site of an ancient Andhra town has been discovered in the course of excavations, which are being carried out by H. E. H. the Nizam's Archaeological Department since April last. It is situated at Kondapur about 41 miles N. W. from Hyderabad City.

The clearing operations have exposed to view a number of architectural remains, such as the bases of *Chaityas*, apsidal temples, *stupas* circular relic-chambers, *viharas* and monasteries.

The most notable among the finds is a large number of terracotta figurines representing gods and religious personages of the Hinayana School of Buddhist faith and also some worldly characters having a striking resemblance in a few cases to the European sculptures of the classical period in points of technique and general expression. No Brahminical relic has been found so far.

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RUSSO-GERMAN RELATIONS

A RETROSPECT AND A PROPHECY

BY SIR J. C. COYAJEE

It seems to be the destiny of some countries to alternate periodically, in their relations towards each other, between intense antagonism and great cordiality. The relations of Russia and Germany through the ages form a particularly interesting case of such a tendency. The important and abrupt developments and turns of that tendency might be traced with interest and advantage over the last three centuries.

During the seventeenth century, we find Germany supplying Russia with statesmen and generals like Ostermann and Munnich; for at that time Russia was only starting on its mighty career. The eighteenth century witnessed two or three abrupt turns and changes of feeling between the two countries. To begin with, Frederick the Great felt the full force of Russian hostility and sustained disasters at Kunersdorf and Zorndorf. Indeed, nothing but the death of the Czarina Elizabeth saved Prussia from complete and irretrievable ruin. But Prussia was taught a useful lesson, and in the latter part of the century learned to be the confederate of Russia in its designs on Poland. However, for their share in this nefarious transaction both Prussia and Russia received condign punishment in the success of the French Revolution and in the rise of Napoleon who occupied in time

both Berlin and Moscow. That lesson ought to have been remembered by Hitler as well as Stalin in 1939.

Throughout the nineteenth century German influence continued to grow in Russia—mainly at the expense of that of France; for the invasion of Russia by Napoleon had caused a great hatred of France. The Czar Alexander I could never forget that the French Emperor had occupied the Kremlin and had threatened to liberate Poland. Hence the zealous help given by Russia in the German war of Liberation and in the proclamation of the gospel of German unity and nationality. At the Congress of Vienna too, Russia and Germany found themselves on the same side working against the policy of Talleyrand. Similarly Russia was grateful for German neutrality in the Crimean War half a century later. Bismarck was, therefore, enabled to make a Russo-German Alliance the corner-stone of his foreign policy; and he rightly hoped to guarantee his conquests through the friendship of Russia.

Meanwhile, Russia had become the pupil of Germany in cultural matters as well. The influence of Voltaire and other French philosophers and literary

men was passing away. German professors were being summoned to teach in Russian universities, and Russian students flocked to German centres of learning. Russian philosophy of history came to be based on Schelling and Hegel. The influence of German poets like Lessing, Schiller and Goethe dominated the youth of Russia. Turgenev put the matter in a nutshell when he observed that "the German intelligentsia plunged out of its depth into the German sea of philosophy". And no doubt, Hegel, Feuerbach and Schopenhauer greatly influenced Russian philosophy, while Karl Marx moulded revolutionary Russia. In fact, the German idealist philosophy was thrusting into the background Voltairean Liberalism; while Hegel and Feuerbach tended by their teaching to moderate the traditional mysticism of Russia.

However, as the nineteenth century approached its close, signs began to appear of a parting of ways between Germany and Russia. Even as early as the treaty of Berlin (1877), the Czar felt that he had not received the full and expected measure of support from Germany as against England and France. Nor, on the other hand, did Bismarck fully trust Russia, but began to rely more and more on an agreement with Austria. Thus, and with the rival ambitions of Russia and Austria in the Balkans, the seeds of the first World War were sown. Neither did Russia thank Germany for encouraging her to embark on a war with Japan, so that France might be the better isolated. Then came on the first World War, when Russia and Germany were locked in a deadly embrace. And yet the peace of Brest-Litovsk left a smaller legacy of hatred than might have been expected;

for Lenin was less of a patriot and more of a revolutionary. To quote Herzfeld, "the ideas of Revolution were more easily comprehended by the people of Russia than that of victory over the Germans".

Between the two World Wars, too, the vicissitudes of Russo-German relations have been as abrupt and remarkable as in any other period of history. The first phase was obviously that of friendship, on account of the pivotal fact that Germany was burdened by the terms of the Versailles treaty and by the consequent reparations. It was the obvious strategy of Russia to back the weaker powers on the Continent as against the stronger and dominating ones—Germany against France, and Turkey as against Italy. This general and prudent policy did not, however, stand in the way of occasional flirtations with France. France, on her part, wanted a definite alliance with Russia which was believed, on good grounds, to be a stronger partner than Poland. It was also believed to be not impossible that, at some early date, Russia could be brought back to the fold of Democracy. But there was one great obstacle to any complete understanding between France and Russia—France would lend no more gold to Russia, while Russia on its part was not ready for a definite alliance. Indeed, there were many factors working against any rapprochement between Russia and the Western Powers. In France, leading politicians like Poincaré were highly suspicious of Russia, and were for avoiding alike economic understandings, debt agreements and political rapprochements with it. In fact, they hated Russia quite as much as they disliked Germany. Similarly in England, politicians like

Chamberlain and Birkenhead would have preferred an alliance with Germany to one with Russia on account of their dislike of Socialism. The result was the rupture with Russia on the part of Great Britain in 1927. The warning voice of the veteran Lloyd George sounded only as a voice crying in the wilderness; for the great majority of French and English politicians were firmly convinced that by the Locarno pact they had isolated Russia and that they had nothing more to fear from it. France, therefore, followed in the footsteps of England, having been assured that they had weaned Germany from Russia.

However, these expectations of Poincaré and Chamberlain were disappointed; and there followed what they had never foreseen—a rapprochement between Russia and Germany. By such a policy, Germany won the opportunity of evading the military control of the Western Powers and of establishing its munition bases in Russia. Nor was this the only advantage that the rapprochement brought to Germany. It could also now circumvent the Polish allies of France. Nor was Germany in any mood to appreciate the advantages that the Locarno pact had brought to her. Consequently Germany as well as Russia took care to keep up their friendly contacts with each other. It was due to this understanding that Germany mediated for Moscow in the Kellogg pact. It was another sign of the times that at Geneva, Litvinov, representing Russia, worked hard for a general disarmament. For such disarmament at the time would have suited the book of Russia and Germany equally well. Germany was already disarmed and wanted to see other Powers go through a process of disarmament; while Russia would have been glad to

disarm *paripassu* with other Powers, so as to be able to devote all her energies and resources to the Five-Years' Plan.

Nothing is easier than to be wise after the event; and in the light of subsequent events many have pronounced an unmitigated condemnation of that Franco-British policy which tended in the event to bring Russia and Germany together for a time. But it must not be forgotten that, at the time, there were many considerations to be urged against a Russophile policy. Even if Russia disarmed in the military sense, she would still retain her strong weapon of Communistic propaganda. Moreover, Great Britain could not overlook either the share of Russia in bringing about a Communist revolution in China or her intrigues with Amanullah. Above all, it was only after the fall of Trotsky, and the complete triumph of Stalin, that Russia dropped the idea of a world revolution. It must also be remembered that while the Communist ideology had manifested its full terrors at the time the Nazi-Fascist ideology had yet to show its cloven hoof.

Finally we have to note the entry of Hitler upon the scene, as also the fact that it is during his regime that the most abrupt and unexpected turns of relations between Germany and Russia have taken place. The first phase brought out his deadly hatred for Russia and is, therefore, to be considered the least insincere. That hatred of Russia colours—or discolours—every page of "Mein Kampf" and appears also in many of Hitler's later pronouncements. Thus he declared in 1936 that the leading idea of German policy was to be "a march to the East", and that the seizure of "Vienna marked only the first step in the process. The colossus with the feet of clay must be

destroyed and Russia must cease to be a European power". Hitler also expressed the view that, if only England left him a free hand in the East, he was ready to renounce his project of the restoration of the German colonies and of enlarging the German fleet. He firmly believed that "an alliance with England would render Germany the mistress of Europe". On the other hand, as he told General von Frisch, "an alliance between Germany and Russia would not only be the signal for war; it would be the beginning of the end for Germany". Not in vain has Rauschning designated Hitler as "the rejected suitor of Great Britain".

If, however, Hitler is not a great political genius, he has proved himself a masterly opportunist. This fact he showed conclusively when he turned his back on all his early views and allied himself with Russia in the year 1939. Since the German army refused to enter a war on two fronts, Hitler had to swallow his fulminations against Marxism and Bolshevism. On its part Russia was delighted to see great capitalist countries entering on a mortal combat—to the ultimate advantage of Communism, as was then devoutly believed in Russia. Moreover, the Russian statesmen hugged another fatal illusion to their breast—that by making friends with Hitler, they could keep off Germany from the Eastern and South-eastern countries of Europe. A still more charitable interpretation of Stalin's policy of the day has been advanced by John Gunther in his "High Cost of Hitler". It was contended that as a result of the German alliance with Russia, "Hitler would be able to force some settlement of the Danzig question without a war".

But whatever the hypotheses and speculations on which Stalin's alliance with Hitler was based, it turned out to be an extraordinarily "fruitful error". For after circumstances had enabled Hitler to overrun France and the Balkans, he lost no time in turning most abruptly and savagely on his former ally. Only the Fuhrer has found an enemy in Russia, very different from those whom he has hitherto had to encounter; for all the older traditions of holy Russia have still survived to help Stalin in his stout resistance. There need be no fear that even the fall of individual cities like Kiev or Leningrad, or the approach of the Germans to the Caucasus region will decide the great struggle. The sources of Russian man-power and the centres of Russian war industry stretch far back to the Ural Mountains and even beyond them. When the blood of a great nation is up and its morale is at its highest, the loss of individual towns makes no great difference to the ultimate result. A century ago, Napoleon was master of all the big towns in Spain and of most strong places in Russia; and yet it was in these two countries that his armies found their graves. Moreover, the nearer the German armies approach the Caucasus region, the more they expose their flank to attacks from the powerful British armies concentrated in the Near East. That will be the real phase of co-operation between Great Britain and Russia.

What then is the long-period significance of this Titanic combat between Russia and Germany? To put it briefly, it is a struggle between the Russian dictatorship, which has divested itself of a great deal of its aggressive policy and opportunism, and the German dictatorship, which is the

culminating point of dictatorial aggrandisement and opportunism. It is, therefore, a struggle which is well calculated to arouse the deepest interest in the statesman, the sociologist—in all who are interested in the destiny of man. It forms, indeed, the turning of the tide in the fortunes and in the character of dictatorship. With the successful resistance of Russia to Hitler, the dream of Prof. Sarolea (as described in his "Impressions of Soviet Russia") seems about to be realised: "In a political and moral sense, Russia is likely to prove, in a not distant future, the mainstay of European law and order, and the most uncompromising enemy of all collectivist impostures." But, indeed, these anticipations go much farther back. Far back in the heart of the nineteenth century—Russian thinkers like Kirevsku spoke of Russia's "Messianic mission" which was to save the Continent from political ruin. According to them when the Continent will have finished her task of civilisation, Russia will come forward to help her and to repay the debt by saving civilisation from a total wreck. There have been Russian thinkers like Homjakov who rejected German philosophy in general and Hegelianism in particular. It may well be that at the end of this war, Russia might be weaned from a Marxism that was "made in Germany".

We cannot afford to forget the repercussions of the present war on the internal politics of Russia. The sledge-hammer blows of Germany cannot break up Russia, but they can unify and weld her together, Russians holding the new Bolshevik views and their more conservative compatriots are now fighting shoulder to shoulder and will thus learn to forget their differences. This will dull further the edge

of Bolshevik fanaticism which has been already dulled sufficiently by the moderate policy of Stalin. Thus will arise a new Russia at once stronger and more friendly to the democracies of the West.

What, again, can the present great struggle between totalitarian powers lead up to except to the final disillusionment—alike of Russia and Germany—with Totalitarianism in all its forms? It is in the name of victory over Russia that Hitler has won the allegiance of Germany and has ensured the domination of Nazism. When that victory fails to materialise, the process of disintegration of Nazism will have begun. With Hitler, as with Napoleon, a retreat from Russia will be the beginning of the end. For Nazism as a guide in politics and as a philosophy of life will have been proved to be a fatal mirage. Thus a regime of atrocities will ultimately disappear with the final failure of her supreme atrocity.

But as to Russia, she is now playing the role of the liberator, which had been marked out for her by her thinkers like Alexander Herzen and Homjakov. By contributing, in an important measure, to redeem Germany from its bondage to Hitler and Nazism, Russia will more than repay its political and cultural debt to Germany. Indeed, it had already wiped out much of this debt by raising up Germany from under the heels of Napoleon. With the removal of the Nazi incubus of Germany, Russia will constitute itself the creditor and benefactor of Germany—politically as well as ethically. Thus the final honours will remain with Russia in the long chapter of mutual influence and interactions between the two countries.

Strange that a country that has been ruled by autocrats, from Ivan the terrible to Stalin, should have always cherished the aspiration of playing the role of the liberator in Europe. Stranger still that the dream seems about to be fulfilled.

FIVE and twenty months ago, Britain declared war on Germany. It is well for us, at the threshold of the third year of the war, to recall the circumstances that led to Britain's intervention in a continental war. Britain was forced into the struggle by the tragic sequel of events, which step by step was dragging the whole of Europe, indeed, all the world into a veritable maelstrom.

It is well to remember, at the outset, that it was no desire for national advantage or territorial ambition that impelled England to take up arms against Germany. Britain, as we all know, plunged into the war of 1914 to save Belgium whose integrity she had pledged herself to defend. It was a similar pledge to Poland, and the compelling need to vindicate that pledge that decided Britain's fateful action on September 3, 1939.

Let us recall for a moment some of the stirring incidents of those breathless days. Hitler was bent upon a war of nerves and kept the world on tenterhooks by a series of alarmist declarations and denunciations. German bad faith and German aggression were increasingly evident since he became Chancellor in January 1933. For six years he went on threatening and denouncing in a sort of mock-heroic frenzy which was more amusing than otherwise. And in March 1939, he added to his numerous breaches of faith by the occupation of Prague and the suppression of the last remains of Czech independence. The next stage in aggression was Poland. A demand was put forward for the return of Danzig to the Reich and the grant of a wide zone across the Polish Corridor which would allow the construction of a military road and railway. The Poles refused. For as a writer in one of the Oxford Pamphlets observes:

If the return of Danzig to the Reich had been the sole question at issue, if the creation of 'a corridor across the corridor' had been merely a matter of economic convenience, or even of political sentiment, these concessions might have been granted. The Poles knew, the Germans knew, and the world knew, from previous experience, that such concessions were the first stage, for Poland, on the road down which the Czechs had been compelled to travel to their destruction.

Hitler replied by denouncing the ten year pact with Poland. Henceforth the danger of war was imminent. Every attempt on the part of Britain and France to ease the strain only tended to aggravate the tension. Stories of atrocities against Germans in Poland were invented to rouse the passions of the multitude. Goebbels' technique of lies and more lies made the situation tense with excitement. On August 23, Ribbentrop signed a non-aggression pact with the Soviet—of all countries. For the Soviet, as every one knows, was the sworn enemy of national socialism. But words to Hitler, as some one said, were counters. "His promises or pledges of non-aggression would be kept as long as and no longer than it suited German convenience to keep them." For the moment however the risk of war on two fronts was avoided by the pact with Communist Russia. Hitler's next move was an Anglo-German understanding on condition that he had his way in Poland. The British reply conveyed through Sir Neville Henderson, our Ambassador in Berlin, was plain and unequivocal:

The German Government will be aware that His Majesty's Government have obligations to Poland by which they are bound and which they intend to honour. They could not, for any advantage offered to Great Britain, acquiesce in a settlement which put in jeopardy the independence of a State to whom they have given their guarantee.

On September 1,

German troops crossed the Polish frontier, and German aeroplanes began the bombardment of Polish towns, while Hitler announced the reunion of Danzig to the Reich. The British and French Governments sent a warning note to Germany that they would fulfil their obligations to Poland unless the Germans suspended 'all aggressive action' against Poland, and were prepared 'promptly to withdraw their forces from Polish territory.'

On the morning of 3 September, Great Britain and France sent an ultimatum to the German Government to the effect that, unless the conditions laid down in the warning notes of 1 September were given effect, the two Governments would be at war with Germany in fulfilment of their pledges to Poland. Before nightfall the second war between Germany and the two western democracies had begun.

The rest of the story is pretty familiar to us. Two years of war has brought every independent country in Europe with the sole exception of England

under Hitler's domination. But the collapse of France in June 1940 is the greatest tragedy of all. And then the whole continent except Turkey in the South-East and Sweden in the North-West has come within the ambit of Nazi power. Even at this very moment we have reports of increasing German pressure on Turkey. We hear of German troop movements in south Bulgaria, of Italian "reconnaissance" down the border of Turkish Thrace, and of concentrations of troops and transports in the Greek Island of Samos. With German troops already established on the northern shore of the Black Sea, Turkey is being made to feel that she is surrounded.

Hitler's next objective was Russia, a friendly neighbour with whom he had made a pact of peace only the other day. Mr. Churchill promptly offered help to Stalin and the Anglo-Soviet agreement of July last marks a significant development in European polity. Thanks to British and American help, the Soviet is defending itself with a strength and tenacity which has disconcerted the prophets of easy victory. For close upon fourteen weeks the magnificent heroism of the Soviet troops has held up the German advance on Leningrad and Moscow. But it would be folly to underrate the strength of German arms as the Nazis have for years been secretly and deliberately preparing for this great adventure while other nations were resting on their oars. Any weakening of resistance would spell disaster. For already Kiev has fallen. Leningrad is seriously threatened and the pressure on Odessa has been intensified. The subjugation of Ukraine is well within sight and now the threat to the Don Basin and the Caucasus is developing seriously.

Hitler, however, is paying a heavy toll for whatever success he may have made in the endless plains of Russia. A tremendous battle rages along nearly a two thousand mile front. As the bulk of the Nazi forces are now thrown into the Russian cauldron, this is just the time when effective allied help should be rushed to the Eastern Front to strengthen Russia, which is as much as strengthening their own cause.

For the tide of war is now definitely turning. Already the rumblings of discontent in the conquered countries are ominous. Poles, Yugo Slavs, Greeks, Frenchmen and Czechs are all restive. Vichy's betrayal may prove a thorn on our side but it cannot be formidable. The attempted assassination of M. Laval and his friend M. Deat at Versailles is a striking demonstration of French hatred of such traitors in France. The battle of the Atlantic has proved the might of Britain on the high seas. The German navy is largely crippled or sunk. Nothing that Hitler can devise can exceed the ferocity of the battle of Britain from August to October of 1940. England has survived the horror and destruction that shook the world from Pole to Pole. Hitler can do no worse. The Luftwaffe has retired with broken wings. Italy has been swept off the shores of Africa and her squadrons are licking their wounds. Iraq and the Middle East are now in complete possession of Britain. The so-called Blitz has failed to cow down the British people while the R. A. F. continues to reach out in ever growing retribution upon the enemy. The lightning tactics of the Blitz has won many campaigns, but it is yet to win the war. The Allied front now runs in an immense crescent from Spitsbergen in the Arctic to Tobruk in the Western Desert, "and our section of this front," as the Prime Minister said, "will be held by British and Empire armies with their growing strength, fed and equipped by ocean-borne supplies from Britain, the United States, India and Australia." To adapt the words of Pitt on a historic occasion, England has, for the moment, saved herself by her exertions and may yet save Europe by her example.

Hitler, in his desperation, is acting in such a way as to force America into the war. His acts of piracy in the Atlantic have definitely stiffened American opinion against him. President Roosevelt will see to it that there shall be no more Nazi rattle snakes in the Atlantic. The President has thrown down the gauntlet and the next move, if Germany does not behave, will be war. He has bluntly warned Germany and Italy that their

warships henceforth enter American defensive waters "at their own peril". The gravity of his order to "shoot at sight" must make Hitler pause and consider. Germany has been definitely ordered out of the Atlantic; and as a shrewd observer has commented:

If she obeys, the Battle of the Atlantic is already lost to her. If she stays, the American Navy joins the British Navy in the work of destroying the German Navy and aircraft raiding the Atlantic sea-lanes between the United States and Iceland.

Japan's movements in the Far East are disturbing to a degree, but her own pre-occupations in China and the quiet efficiency with which the British convoy has reached the Eastern waters, not to speak of American alertness, must make her think twice before embarking on a hazardous adventure. Above all, the dramatic meeting between President Roosevelt and Mr. Winston Churchill in the second week of August and their joint declaration can hardly fail to impress the enemy of the spirit behind the democracies. Such complete understanding between the two great democracies and their resolve to throw in their united efforts to secure peace, freedom and security to a war-scarred world are of profound significance for the future.

It is a pity, however, that the great war minister of England has not seen fit to include India among the beneficiaries of the Atlantic Charter. If only he could see the difference that the immediate application of the fourfold freedom to India will make in her war efforts, he would regret the Himalayan mistake he made in excluding this country from the benefits of that declaration. There is no gainsaying the fact that his disappointing pronouncement has had an unwholesome reaction in this country. It is yet hoped that, in their own interests, the British Government had not said the last word on the subject.

Events have moved fast since the closing week of August. German intrigues in Iran had assumed menacing proportions. The usual technique heralding German penetration was in full swing—swarms of spies in the guise of tourists and insistent demands for this facility and that. No languid neutrality could stem

the tide; and an ill-equipped and meagre Iranian force would be helpless before a first class European power, dreadfully efficient in arms. Consider what Iran under German control with airfields and communications in German hands would mean. It would be a cause of deep concern to Russia, Iraq, Afghanistan, Syria and India. The oilfields of the Caucasus would be within reach and the oilfields of Iran would be at the enemy's use. It would be suicidal to wait for Hitler to make the first move.

It is, therefore, heartening to see that joint military action has been taken in Iran by British and Soviet Governments. Mr. Churchill and Stalin have done well to forestall Hitler. Russian forces crossed the frontier to Northern Iran from the Caucasus while British and Indian troops advanced from the Persian Gulf towards Teheran, the capital. The action is as much in the interest of Iran herself as of Britain and Russia. For neither of these countries has any designs on the territory of the Shah and their operations are entirely without any intention of interfering with the independence and integrity of Iran. H. M. the Shah, impressed by the magnitude of the forces arrayed, has chosen the way of peace, and abdicated in favour of his son, who has been helped to carry on the government with a due sense of realism. British and Russian advance into Iran has thus been transformed into peaceful co-operation.

It is not without significance that the British forces in Iran are under the direct command of Gen. Wavell, the Commander-in-Chief in India and the Naval forces in the Persian Gulf under the command of Admiral Geoffrey Arbuthnot, Commander-in-Chief of the East Indies. The war has thus come nearer home. Those who were under the soothing notion that it is a far away affair with which we need not much concern ourselves must have a rude shock, as they now realise how very near the brink of the abyss we ourselves are. It is a grim thought but we must brace ourselves up to face the fact that Iran and Iraq are now the outlying bastions of India.

THE WARDHA SCHEME OF EDUCATION

BY PRINCIPAL P. SESHADRI, M.A., M.B.E.

(Government College, Ajmer)

I

THE history of public life in India has rarely witnessed a more tragic disillusionment than what has happened about Wardha Scheme of Education. Trotted out so recently as in 1938, it seems to have collapsed with the rapidity with which it gained upon certain sections of Indian people, though it has not finally faded out of vision. When the scheme was at first enunciated by Mahatma Gandhi, it was hailed with an enthusiasm which seemed the beginning of a new educational revolution, sweeping people off their feet and making them almost blind to reason. The country was in no mood to give a hearing to any adverse criticism. Unfortunately it was carried to popularity on the crest of a wave of political excitement. It is not surprising that after some experimentation and a considerable expenditure of money, the scheme now stands in its utter nakedness of futile effort. The history of this scheme illustrates the unwisdom of linking education to politics and of the interference of amateurs without much of knowledge and experience in work which is that of highly specialised experts. And this is not the first time in India that such interference has resulted in serious misdirection and injury to education, the ill-advised movement to boycott colleges some years ago, for the public pose of getting Swaraj being another example.

II

The twin fundamental principles of the system were, that it made education self-supporting and some manual craft or other was to be the basis of all teaching. It was thought that the stumbling-block

in the way of compulsory elementary education in this country had been removed and the economic obstacle had disappeared once for all. What generations of educationists and statesmen could not accomplish was apparently solved by a single stroke of the pen and the scheme had only to be put into practice to usher in a new order of things. If the Hartog Committee came to the rough calculation, that an additional expenditure of twenty crores of rupees a year would be required to introduce a system of even universal elementary education, the sponsors of the new scheme promised to achieve the result without any additional expenditure and even went to the extent of saying that the standard of the High School course or even something higher for every citizen was to be reached by this process.

Even before the scheme had started functioning in certain areas, it was said that the self-supporting part of it was not meant to be an essential feature and gradually it was not heard of at all, cooling the enthusiasm of the people. It became a bastard child disowned by its own parents and it was refreshing to hear one of its enthusiastic supporters declare the other day, that he had worked it in his administrative charge and the only objection to it was that it was very expensive and cost much more than the present system. The material and equipment meant much expenditure and the capital outlay was almost beyond the means of any system of universal education. It was impossible to start, except at considerable expense, such a large number of schools which were to combine technical and vocational education, with the highest features of

cultural progress and the multifarious needs of modern citizenship. In any case it was not easy in India where there was no money even for ordinary schools. As for obtaining money from the work of little children, all the efforts made ended in dismal failure.

It is not that these dangers were not pointed out when the scheme started. It was urged that it would be an act of cruelty to strain children to work for their own education, and it was one of the primary duties of the State to make the necessary provision for it. It was not in the interests of the country that educational institutions should be run as factories for the employment of children. The very idea of feeding on the labour of children would be abhorrent to any teacher of self-respect. The educational end of a craft is very different from the commercial side of it and it would be impossible to reconcile the two, except in the case of advanced students who had acquired considerable skill. There would be the serious temptation of showing good commercial results, by what may amount to almost forced labour and the scheme was fraught with grave perils to the younger generation. The objections were brushed aside, till it was found that they were actually up against a stone-wall and it had to be abandoned. We have been spared the possible spectacle of little children working for their teachers and dragging on a cheerless life, turning the *charka* eternally and deadening their minds into a mechanical and lifeless routine. Any signs of freshness and spontaneous exhibition of genius should have been stifled effectively under this system.

III

The scheme has not fared better in its second principle of making some craft or other the basis of all education. The idea has got serious limitations as the sponsors did not realise. Such cultural subjects as Literature, History, Geography and Arithmetic cannot be taught in a large measure all through a craft, though some fringes of the subject could be touched in the process. The dreary task of turning the *charka* could, indeed, be relieved by the singing of a song or two, though the highest ends of literature transcend such limits. The planing of timber could furnish some occasion for the teaching of an infinitesimal part of Geography; with reference to the countries of its production and export—a method reminiscent of Arbuthnot who insisted on his child's knowing the country from which anything came before he could get it. In the higher stages of industries, some useful talk is possible on the history of crafts, though its connections with the realms of political and social history could only be the result of clever smuggling or irrelevant digression.

Acquiring culture through a craft is an ideal not easy of accomplishment except in rare cases, where a highly educated teacher has also the great advantage of having only a class of gifted pupils. It will never work in a general scheme of education with the level of culture which can be expected of our teachers in elementary schools, especially on the magnificent salaries promised by the exponents of the scheme. John Ruskin did not have opportunities of teaching young children, but if he had, we could have expected him to be successful in

using a craft for cultural teaching. And so also William Morris who was interested in different kinds of art and did admirably in them, while being a poet and a great story-teller. And Omar Khayyam might have used the potter's wheel as an illustration for philosophic wisdom of a certain type and the only medium through which the great Kabir acquired his knowledge and experience was undoubtedly the weaver's loom. But these are exceptional men of genius, whose creative inspiration could have started from almost anything. In the United Provinces, where alone the scheme is claimed to have been a success, children are said to have shown some artistic taste and sense of colour and have been trained to make their school surroundings attractive. It may be so, but intellectual education is still far away along the great highway of learning.

IV

There is ample evidence that the scheme is crumbling down, and it will not be long before there will even be more complete disillusionment. The Madras Presidency, in spite of the initial advantage of a powerful Congress ministry and the enthusiastic exposition of its education-minister, was quite lukewarm about it from the very beginning and the scheme has not found any popular support. In fact, it was even whispered that the leading members of the Cabinet did not believe in it and were only obeying the Congress mandate in trying to enforce it. The confession was made at a public meeting recently, that no system of education could get on without popular support,—not Government encouragement, let it be remembered, which was apparently not lacking. The Central Provinces found that the schools were expensive and have closed the Basic Training school in spite of the headquarters of the

Hindusthani Talimi Sangha being at Wardha in the same administrative area. Orissa is now sadder and wiser, as the result of the experiments it has carried on in spite of its slender resources. It is difficult to say what success it has attained in Bihar. Bengal, the Punjab and Assam have not even found it worth experimenting on it. Bombay did not give much encouragement even in the days of the Congress Ministry and now there is no chance of its revival. Curiously enough, hardly a single Indian State with the exception of Kashmir where the direction of education is in the hands of one of the leading exponents of the scheme has thought it proper to introduce it, though the scheme might have been expected to find a congenial soil in them, particularly in view of its professed solution of the financial obligations involved. The United Provinces are about the only area out of the extensive Indian continent, where it is said to be a success. It is somewhat puzzling that the experience of the Provinces should be so different from that of other parts of India, and one can only wait for further developments and clearer light. The disillusionment, however, is more or less complete and it will not be long before it is as dead as Queen Anne.

The dangers of mixing up politics with education and of allowing amateurs to interfere in the sphere of experts are, however, not the only lessons to be learnt from the failure of this scheme. It has at least served the useful purpose of drawing attention to the need for vocational education and the danger of pursuing a purely literary course, though industrial advancement is not entirely a matter of education and needs many other factors for its fulfilment. It has emphasised the need for universal education of a high standard for every citizen in the country, though the scheme has not provided a miraculous means as was fondly imagined. This had also led to a re-examination of the foundation of the Indian educational system and it is refreshing for those engaged in the work that nothing is seriously wrong with it though improvements are possible and desirable in many directions as in all human institutions.

ECONOMIC LEGISLATION IN BARODA

BY MR. M. H. SHAH, B.A. (Hons.), M.A.

ALMOST all the Governments now consider it a part of their duty to formulate laws for the regulation of the economic life of the community and for mitigating injustice caused by the evils of unrestrained competition. The Government of the Baroda State has also undertaken this task of securing economic justice to the people and has enacted certain laws. The economic legislation of the Baroda State is mainly the product of the present decade, *viz.*, 1931-40, during which the question attracted the attention of Sir V. T. Krishnamachari, the Dewan, who has shown concentrated and continuous zeal in improving the economic condition of the masses.

The economic legislation of the Baroda State can be grouped into two parts: (1) Tenancy, and (2) Debt.

The evils of rack-renting are very notorious in India. The tenant who cultivates a piece of land on the basis of rent has to pay a very heavy rent. Besides this, he is not sure that he will be allowed to cultivate his holding next year. This makes him indifferent to all the improvements in his holdings which leads to the continuous deterioration of land. The owners themselves are seldom interested in the improvement. In order to check all these evils, it is necessary that the State should enact some laws. The Baroda State has the following laws for the protection of the tenants:—

1. The Rent Regulation Act.
2. The Ankadia Villages Tenants' Act.
3. Backward Classes Khata Land Protection Act.

THE RENT REGULATION ACT

The Rent Regulation Act was passed on the 1st March 1934, to regulate rents payable by tenants of the backward class

to superior holders and was first applied to Vyara, Mahuva, Songadh and Mangrol talukas of the Navsari district in 1934. Later in 1936, it was extended to Sankheda Mahal and 30 villages of Tilakwada Peta Mahal of Baroda district.

During the year 1939-40, in all 1,991 cases were received under this Act. The majority of the cases were for fixing of rent by the tenants and for arrears of rent by landholders. Out of 1,991 cases, 1,949 cases were disposed of during the year.

The working of the Act during the last six years has shown that in regard to lands of superior quality, the prevailing rents were not more than five times the assessment and consequently few applications were received in respect of such lands. As regards lands of an inferior type, applications were received in large numbers except in Songadh taluka, where the people are too backward to avail themselves of the benefits of the Act.

The Act has had one important effect. Superior holders have themselves in many cases voluntarily fixed reasonable scales of rent based on its provisions. It may also be noted that in a large proportion of cases, naib subas have fixed rents with the consent of all parties.

THE ANKADIA VILLAGES TENANTS' ACT

The Ankadia Villages Tenants' Act was also passed on 12th April 1934. It is applicable to 33 villages in the State. The rules under the Act were promulgated on 20th September, 1934.

The object of this Act is to safeguard the interests of the tenants in the Thakrati villages and to regulate the relations between the Ankadedars of such villages and their tenants.

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Under this Act, six applications were received during the year 1939-40. Of these 6 applications, 2 were from Ankadedars for restoration of possession of land and 4 were from tenants for the same purpose.

During the previous year, *i.e.*, 1939-40, the number of applications was greater by 13. The decrease in the number of applications is a happy sign of the growing amicable relations between the tenants and Ankadedars.

BACKWARD CLASSES PROTECTION ACT

The Backward Classes Khata Land Protection Act has been applied to Songadh, Vyara, Mahuva and Mangrol talukas of the Navsari district and to Sankheda, Tilakwada, Dabhoi and Waghodia talukas of the Baroda district. The Raniparaj people and other backward classes are given protection under this Act. The object of the Act is to prevent the lands of such khatedars passing into the hands of others. Under the Act they are forbidden from transferring their lands without permission. Side by side with this, co-operative societies are organised for affording them the necessary finance. The Raniparaj people have benefited by the application of the Act.

The effects of the Act have been beneficial to the backward classes on the whole, and the tenants have now learnt to approach the proper authorities for removal of their grievances.

The second group of legislation is devoted to the reduction of rural indebtedness by amicable settlements between the creditors and debtors.

The problem of agricultural indebtedness is an ancient one. India is a land of small farms, of uncertain monsoons and of expensive social customs. The same observation holds good about Baroda. Most of the farmers of the State are

indebted, and the majority of their debts are incurred for non-productive purposes. According to the Baroda Banking Inquiry Committee, the Baroda peasantry is indebted to the extent of about 60 millions of rupees.

The seriousness of the problem attracted the attention of the Government and during the last decade various laws to regulate money-lending and redeem the debt of the agriculturists were passed. There are at present three such laws operating in the Baroda State: (1) The Agriculturists' Debt Regulation Act; (2) Debt Conciliation Act; and (3) The Record of Rights Over Lands Act.

AGRICULTURISTS' DEBT REGULATION ACT

The Agriculturists' Debt Regulation Act came into force on 26th December, 1935. The object of the Act is to give protection to the small agriculturists as owing to the fall in prices the real burden of debt on them has nearly doubled.

The Act affords relief to agriculturists whose income from lands is Rs. 750 a year or below. Where an agriculturist derives income from sources other than agriculture, such income should not exceed one-third of his total income and the total income itself from all sources should be Rs. 750 or below a year. The Act enables Courts to examine the history of the whole debt, reopen transactions and fix the amount due on equitable considerations.

The following table gives the details of the working of the Act during the five years for which it has been in operation:—

YEAR.	NO. OF SUITS RECEIVED.	NO. OF SUITS DISPOSED OF.
1936-37	7,608	5,316
1937-38	8,414	6,469
1938-39	8,102	5,712
1939-40	7,827	6,302

The majority of the cases received were disposed of by way of compromise. Every year about more than 2,000 cases are disposed of in this way. The second in importance are the cases in which payment by instalments has been ordered. The cases in which reduction in the amount of claim or interest is made, occupy the third rank.

The detailed examination of the suits shows that Patidars and Kolies are the foremost to avail themselves of this Act.

DEBT CONCILIATION ACT

Of even more importance as a contribution to the solution of agricultural indebtedness is the enactment of the Debt Conciliation Act in 1936. The primary object of the Act is to reduce the burden of agricultural indebtedness and to effect settlement of agriculturists' debts amicably.

The Act is applicable to debtor agriculturists only whose annual agricultural income does not exceed Rs. 750, or those out of whose total income of Rs. 750, the agricultural income is not less than Rs. 500. The amount of debt for which conciliation is sought, should not be less than Rs. 100 and more than Rs. 25,000. The Act is at present applied to certain selected areas, *viz.*, 16 talukas of the State.

The Debt Conciliation Boards set up under the Act consist of a president with usually four members: two from the money-lender class and two from the landholder class. The Vibhag Naib Suba works as president of the Board. The Board meets once or twice a month according to the volume of work and examines the accounts produced and attempts to settle debts amicably. If both parties fail to come to a settlement, the

Board files the application. If the creditor refuses to accept a settlement considered reasonable, a certificate is issued to the debtor, and the creditor loses his right to costs and to interest exceeding 6 per cent. in subsequent civil suits. If the creditor fails to present himself or does not produce his accounts within the given time, the debt becomes extinguished.

The following table shows the work done by the Debt Conciliation Boards during the four years for which it has been in operation:—

YEAR	NO. OF APPLICATIONS.	AMOUNT OF DEMAND FOR WHICH CONCILIATION WAS SOUGHT.	PERCENTAGE OF REDUCTION.
1936-37	207	Rs. 4,15,594	32 per cent.
1937-38	320	Rs. 7,71,902	36 "
1938-39	509	Rs. 9,04,327	35 "
1939-40	361	Rs. 5,74,037	38 "

THE RECORD OF RIGHTS OVER LANDS ACT

The last but not least is the Record of Rights Over Lands Act. Before a thoroughly efficient system of Agricultural Banking is introduced, it is necessary that there should be available a complete Record of Land Rights and Titles. The best security that a farmer can give for a loan is that of land and unless a clear and definite history of previous encumbrances and liens is available, it is dangerous to advance large loans against its security. The Sawkar who lives in the village and who has permanent clients handed down from generation to generation may have easy means of knowing the titles, but an outsider and specially an Institution like a Bank can have no means of readily acquiring the necessary information under the existing complicated system of landholding and ownership. The land may remain on the Government records in the name of one member while as a matter of fact the real ownership may have passed

to several others by way of inheritance, sale or mortgage. This information is known to very few persons in the village but is difficult to be obtained by an outsider. Therefore it has been found difficult for Agricultural and Co-operative Banks to advance loans freely.

In all the European countries where agricultural banks are opened, complete Records of Land Rights are to be found and on their strength the mortgage banks are doing good, safe and large business. It was, therefore, highly desirable that steps should be taken to establish a complete Record of Land Rights. Hence the Record of Rights Over Lands Act was passed on.

It has been applied only in Karjan taluka of the Baroda district. The question

of extending it to other parts of the State is being examined.

The working of the various Acts has been found satisfactory and congenial to the interests of both the debtors and creditors, or to tenants and the landlords. It is necessary to emphasize here the fact that the various Acts have been necessitated by the abnormal conditions of the decade owing to the great depression that started in 1929 and hence this legislation is purely temporary for meeting conditions of exceptional hardship, and it is understood that Government expect that with a return to normal level in prices, the necessity for interference with the ordinary credit machinery will cease to exist.

THE GITA IDEA OF DHARMA

BY MR. D. BHATTACHARYYA, B.A.
(Superintendent, Jorhat Gitanthi Schools, Jorhat, Assam)

WHAT is Dharma? What answer has the Gita to this question? In its seven hundred slokas, the Gita has mentioned the word Dharma thirty-six times only. Dhritarashtra has used it once, Arjuna eight times, and Sri Krishna twenty-seven times.

The word Dharma comes from the Sanskrit root Dhri, which means to hold. Hence Dharma means that which holds, or that to which we stick to. Dharma is, therefore, the Law. By law is meant here the eternal Law, that pervades the Universe, the Law that passes through and penetrates through all, the Law that binds all.

The very first word of the first chapter of the Book begins with the word Dharma.

The field where the fate of the two houses will be decided has been described as the Dharma-kshetra. Evidently then, the Gita points to the fundamental Law of man's duty on earth. Men are going to live on earth and how will they do so? The answer is plain and simple, it is by Dharma. In the fortieth, forty-first, forty-third and forty-fourth verses, the Laws of the Family and the Laws of the Race are referred to. Their importance is strongly emphasized. The destruction of the race of men on earth starts with the decline of Dharma on the part of the women. Thus the Gita binds the man and the woman, the husband and the wife, the father and the mother before any body or anything else by the eternal Law,

the Law of God, the Law of the self-creative Creator.

To this Law of all laws was Arjuna blind in the beginning of the second chapter. He was innocent and ignorant of what he had to do and how he had to proceed on. He, therefore, asked the question, 'tat may bruhi' tell me that. In the slokas that follow, in thirty-first, thirty-third and thirty-fourth verses of the second chapter, Lord God unequivocally presented to Arjuna that his Dharma was the immediate performance of his duties, to put his heart and soul in the fight that had already begun in spirit. Lord God did not mean inhuman bloodshed, no certainly not. He meant only that Arjuna was but an instrument in the ever-moving wheel of Karma.

In the third chapter in the thirty-fifth verse God speaks of 'swadharma' and definitely urges to stick to it at all costs. Looking at it from a psychological standpoint, it is the unshakable foundation on which a nation's or an individual's material or spiritual progress depends.

God refers to Dharma in the seventh and eighth verses only in the fourth chapter of the Book. The Nature of Nature is unchangable. We see it taking different turn with our mortal eyes. But God comes to our rescue and revealing Himself in one or other of the Avatars directs the course to its proper aim. He comes to the Earth to establish Dharma, the very essence of creation.

In the seventh chapter, we find God distinguishing Himself from the principle and the application of it; 'but,' says God, 'I am not opposed to fulfilment of desires in all living beings, provided that they are not antagonistic to the all-pervading Law.'

In the second, third, twenty-first and thirty-first verses of the ninth chapter, God has outlined the course of those who are definitely deviating from the path of virtue. They will turn round and round and shall never find Him who is the Source of all sources. His devotees know no destruction. Such is Dharma, such is the path of virtue as defined and chalked out by the Gita.

Who is the protector of this eternal Law? In the eighteenth verse of the eleventh chapter, God says that He is responsible for the maintenance of order and besides Him there is none. This idea is further corroborated by the twenty-seventh verse of the fourteenth chapter.

Wherein lies the clue to this Gita Dharma? The individual human nature is the first step upon which we can build up our long future after the manner of God's desire. The clear cut suggestion made in the forty-seventh, sixty-sixth and seventieth verses of the eighteenth chapter leaves no room for doubt about the definition of dharma, and its practical application as well.

The two mortals who speak and ask of Dharma are the old blind Dhritarashtra, now in the decline of his life and the other is Arjuna of indomitable spirit, with unrivalled power on earth. The old king though blind has realised it through experience, young Arjuna has mixed up matters with Truth. He is puzzled but fortunately has surrendered, when God comes to his rescue.

BHAGAVAD GITA. Text in Devanagari and translation by Dr. Besant in English. As. 4. (Four).

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BUDDHIST REMAINS IN INDIA

BY MR. U. C. CHOPRA

AFTER the death of Gautama Buddha, his relics—the pieces of bones found in the ashes after he was cremated and even the ashes themselves—were buried at several different places in order to enshrine them. Mounds were also raised to mark the graves of tribal chiefs or other prominent persons. Some were merely memorials to record some special event, or the visits of holy men to particular places.

Originally heaps of earth, these stupas or topes as they are sometimes called, assumed more portentous forms when brick and subsequently stone masonry came to be used. They in time rose in height to the more elongated and tower-like structures of the Sarnath stupa near Benares, and their rock-cut types found in the cave temples. Flat hill tops were favourite sites.

These stupas became objects of worship and pilgrimage to which the faithful brought their offerings. At such times the priests moulded votive tablets in clay which the pilgrims purchased and laid before the stupa. These generally had stamped upon them the Buddhist sacred formula and a representation of the Buddha himself or of one or more stupas. They have been found in great numbers beside the ruined mounds with coins interspersed among the debris.

BUDDHA'S IMAGE

In the early days a convention prevailed among the monks belonging to his faith that the Buddha's figure was too sacred to be copied and attempts at decoration of these mounds had to be confined to carving the various symbols which tradition prescribed to represent the events in his life. As, however, time robbed that convention of its binding character and the art impulse asserted itself, outstanding episodes from the Buddha's life were carved in rocks and scenes of an allegorical character, incidentally depicting the life of the time, were painted upon the walls of the shrines and monasteries.

Until one has seen these shrines, one cannot realise the magnitude of the toil

involved in creating them. They constitute India's most unique and oldest art treasures. Only hands inspired by a faith, which refused to be daunted by the gigantic nature of the self-imposed task could have chiselled away hundreds of thousands of tons of rock in the days before explosives were invented.

WORK OF RESTORATION

For centuries these art treasures remained hidden. Dynasties rose and declined, and through all the warfare and pillage that raged round them, the monuments escaped devastation from invading armies. Each succeeding era dealt gently with them, so that up to a century ago they stood in a wonderful state of preservation. It remained for modern man to play havoc with the work of the architects and artists of old. The rumour spread that articles of priceless value were buried at these places. Lured to the spots, treasure-hunters completely demolished some and badly damaged others. Fortunately during the viceroyalty of Marquis Curzon, a great lover of ancient monuments, arrangements were made by the Archaeological Department of the Government of India to undertake the work of restoration.

There is so much to say about these ancient treasures that one can write volumes on the description of the relics found only at one of these places. I will confine myself to a brief description of the relics found at Taxila, Kushinara, Sanchi and Ajanta.

STUPAS AT TAXILA

The ancient and historic remains at Taxila lie in a well-watered and fertile valley within a girdle of hills, about 20 miles to the north-west of Rawalpindi. The principal places to visit are: Dharmrajika Stupa, Monro Morado Jaulian and Sirkap.

In the Dharmrajika stupa, one of the most interesting relics yet brought to light in India was unearthed, a vase containing a small gold casket in which were some minute bone relics and an inscribed scroll setting forth that the relics in the casket were those of the Lord Buddha. This stupa has also yielded

complete specimens of glass tiles—the first yet discovered in India—which are azure blue in colour, about ten inches square and one and a quarter thick; the interesting point about these is that according to a Chinese tradition glass-making was first introduced into their country from Northern India.

The monasteries and stupas at Monro Morado and Jauliam are interesting and have some well-preserved groups of figures in high relief, principally Buddha and attendants.

At Sirkap, where the high street and palace sites are most clear, there are numerous temples. One called the temple of the double-headed eagle specially attracts the attention. Among the numerous detached monuments and stupas, one comes across a very spacious building—a temple dedicated beyond doubt to fire-worship.

KUSHINARA, A CENTRE OF PILGRIMAGE

Kushinara, now known as Kasia, is situated at the crossing of two unmetalled roads 37 miles east of Gorakhpur town in the United Provinces. Buddha died in 550 B.C. and was cremated here. A fight took place over his relics. The armies of the rival claimants advanced to Kushinara and besieged the place until the Chief of Mallas, who had taken possession of the precious pieces of bones, gave to each of them a portion keeping some for himself.

Kushinara is a small village but derives its chief importance from its Buddhist associations. For over 1100 years Kushinara was a place of great importance and sanctity and a centre of Buddhist pilgrimage. It was visited by the Chinese pilgrim, Fa Hian, in the fifth, and Hsien Tsiang in the seventh, century. The latter informs us that Buddha died in a Sal forest more than half a mile from the city, at a short distance from the Agitavati river, the modern little Gandak.

On the scene of his death were erected three large stupas, all standing in Hsien Tsiang's time; the largest 200 feet in height having been built by Asoka in 250 B.C. That monarch also erected here a pillar describing the Nirvana of Buddha and a large Vihara of monastery,

which is south-west of the modern village of Kasia. The monuments are a lofty mound of solid brickwork styled Devistan or Ramabhar-Bhawanti, sacred to the wife of Siva, an oblong-shaped mound with brick stupa; a colossal statue of Buddha, seated under the sacred fig-tree of Gaya, and a number of low grassy barrows regarded by General Cunningham as tombs, although his excavations did not result in many discoveries of human remains. These are the existing remains of Kasia. A new building has been erected in which a sculpture 18 feet long, depicting the death scene of Buddha is placed.

THE GREAT STUPA AT SANCHI

Sanchi is a small village, a few miles from Bhopal and derives its significance entirely from the most remarkable monuments of old Buddhism. The monuments are not only found at Sanchi; but the whole stretch of the country between Sanchi and Bhilsa, lying partly in Bhopal and partly in Gwalior on either side of the G. I. P. Railway. It is rich in antiquities of deep interest to Buddhism. At Sanchi, there is the small well-known tope, probably the biggest in this country. There is also a smaller tope, a Buddhist church and some shrines. All these are situated on a flat-topped hill rising about 300 feet above the surrounding plains, and up to the end of the last century few persons other than pious pilgrims and archaeologists knew the place.

The great stupa is the principal object of interest standing conspicuously in the centre of the hill. It is a large dome-shaped mound built of bricks and mortar surrounded by a high stone balustrade. The exterior of the stupa is made of finely cut blocks of red sand stone. It appears that at one time the exterior was covered with smooth plaster on which were painted in relief scenes from the life of the Buddha. As the pilgrims walked round and round reciting their prayers, they learned from the pictures the history and tradition of their religion.

The stone-railing surrounded the old stupa, it is said, was built immediately after the erection of the stupa at about 280 B.C. in the reign of Asoka the Great. Each rail bears an inscription showing it to be the gift of a different individual.

Massive stone gateways pierce this railing at four cardinal points and give entrance to the processional path. They are cut in a white sand stone rather softer than the red sand stone used in the stupa. Any one of these mighty exquisitely decorated portals is worth travelling thousands of miles to see. Each gate measures about 23 feet and with the ornamentation about 31 feet.

The visitor is held spell-bound by the wealth of carving. Most of it represents scenes from the Jatuka (birth stories) relating events which are believed to have occurred in the precious life of the great Teacher before he attained enlightenment. It also includes scenes illustrating the tales and legends of early Buddhism. The fight which took place at Kushinara over the relics of the Buddha is depicted with great realism and power.

The remains of the Chaitya Hall or Buddhist Church are of great architectural beauty and is the only structural building of its kind known to antiquarians, the other known examples of the Chaitya Halls being rock cut. Several relic caskets and epigraphical records have been discovered in the ruins of topes and great interest attaches to the numerous inscriptions on the gates and railings.

BUDDHA AT AJANTA

At the end of the Deccan plateau, overlooking the flat fields of Khandesh 200 feet below stands the village of Ajanta. Near Ajanta is situated the most ancient and the most priceless art heritage handed down to India of our day.

Some three centuries after Gautama Buddha had discovered the way to Nirvana, his monks selected the place for their cloister. For a thousand years they toiled in erecting lofty well-lit shrines and monasteries. There is no big stupa here as at Kushinara or Sanchi. However, against the end wall of each shrine chamber, sometimes separated from it by a professional path, there invariably is a hemispherical mass of rock, shaped to resemble a stupa. The figures of Buddha are carved against these mounds and the walls are decorated with statues of historical or allegorical significance.

Some of these chambers are so designed that they produce a cathedral-like effect.

These are large chambers and there are also smaller ones. The latter are the cells in which the monks slept, and contain stone-beds with raised pillows. The chambers are so constructed that a flood of light pours into them at certain hours of the day. This is because that they are cut in a hill and the sun shines into some of them in the morning and into others in the afternoon.

The ceilings and walls of the rooms are covered with a profusion of statues, statuettes and figures in base relief cut in the solid rock. Human emotions are portrayed as faithfully as if life were reflected in a mirror. So great is the variety of subjects treated that it is almost impossible to conceive of a phase of life which has been overlooked. The carvings and paintings constitute a record of nearly every phase of life for a period of about a thousand years.

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April '42.

SELECTION AND DISCRETION IN DIET

BY DR. A. SREENIVASAN

DIET AND HEALTH

THE importance of adequate diet and nutrition for the efficiency of growth and maintenance of health has long been recognized. For centuries, restricted diets of a monotonous character have been known to produce diseases in man. But, although the idea that pathological disturbances could result from deficiencies in diet, the truth of this conception was not fully realised until very recently. Today, it has been established, as a result of careful painstaking researches extending over several years, that a host of diseases such as beri-beri, pellagra, scurvy, rickets, dental caries, tender gums and pyorrhoea, night blindness, keratomalacia, xerophthalmia, angular stomatitis, gastro-intestinal disorder, anaemia, etc., owe their origin to improperly constituted food. Lack of resistance due to inadequate growth and development is the chief reason why scores of people succumb to scourges such as malaria, kala-azar, dysentery, cholera, etc.

DIET AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

One reason for the prevalence of deficiency diseases is of course poverty of the masses; for, diet is, to some extent, intimately bound with the social condition of the individual, there being a spontaneous tendency to make good the shortcomings in the diet when the family's purchasing power increases. Increase in prosperity naturally tends to improve food habits and *vice versa*. The average individual is thus conscious of the fact that the problem of raising the standard of physical fitness is intimately connected with the task of bringing rich and nourishing food within reach of every purse. Indeed, the problems of nutrition are intimately bound up with the many other problems facing social workers who aim at improving the condition of the poor. All social activities directed towards bettering the lot of the labourer aid in overcoming malnutrition.

BALANCED DIET

It must not, however, be supposed that malnutrition is confined only to the poorer classes of people alone; the rich and the well-to-do alike suffer from it. This,

together with the fact that there are many poor families with their members in an excellent state of nutrition, is sufficient proof to show that what is required on the part of the average individual is a proper sense of selection and discretion in diet and that even with a moderate income, it is possible to ensure a diet without any serious deficiency. . . .

Careful experiments carried out over a number of years with different foodstuffs have established that all that is needed for adequate nourishment of the body and for physical efficiency are present in whole cereals, pulses, milk and milk products, green and leafy vegetables and occasionally fruits, egg and milk. What is eaten beside these is more a matter of taste or luxury than of necessity. It is an axiom in dietetics that in variety lies safety.

DEFECTS IN INDIAN DIETS

In spite of this simple make-up of a perfectly balanced diet, there has been an appalling lack of knowledge or, sometimes, discretion in the matter of selection in food. Diet surveys have been carried out during recent years in different parts of the country with a view to finding out the deficiencies in the typical diets of the provinces. In a series of classical experiments in 1932, Col. MacCarrison fed groups of young rats for a period of two months on typical diets of the Sikh, the Punjabi, the Maharashtra, the Madrassi, the Kanarese, and the Bengali. The increases in growth rate were found to be in the order stated above. The cycle of life in the albino rat is about sixty times faster than that in man and hence, MacCarrison's experiments were equal in effect to a period of ten years on human individuals. The results are only too well borne out by the average stature, health and incidence of disease among the people of the respective provinces. More recent surveys carried out by Dr. Aykroyd of the Coonoor Laboratories and by Dr. Wilson of the All-India Institute of Hygiene and Public Health have shown that the chief faults of the deficient Indian diet are a lack of protein of high biological value and of calcium, iron and the vitamins. In general, the Indian diet is lacking in the

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protective foods rather than in the energy-giving or starchy foods.

Among the practical methods of improving the Indian diet may be mentioned the increased use of legumes or pulses, the use of two cereals in place of one, especially among rice eaters and increased consumption of milk and of green and leafy vegetables. It is particularly desirable to increase the milk supply of the country and to make it easily available in sufficient quantities even to the poorest among us.

DIGESTION OF FOOD

Improvement in food habits is not the only prerequisite for perfect health and well-being. It is equally important to secure their proper assimilation in the system. This fact has not been as well realised as it ought to be. The food we take by way of proteins, carbohydrates and fats are in most cases incapable of being utilized directly by the body tissues. They undergo certain alterations in the digestive tract which renders them fit for absorption by the blood and assimilation by the various tissues. The proteins are digested to simpler break-down products known as amino acids, the carbohydrates to sugar (glucose) and the fats to fatty acids and glycerine. The substances that are instrumental in the digestion of these food constituents are known as ferments or enzymes. The vitamins control or regulate the body processes while the minerals provide building materials for the fabric and regulate the various functions of the body.

The efficiency of digestion is influenced chiefly by the extent of mechanical grinding of the food or mastication and by the chemical action of the enzymes secreted by the glands located either in the lining of the alimentary tract or adjacent to it and with ducts emptying into it. Among the more important digestive fluids are saliva, gastric juice, pancreatic juice, and intestinal juice. Bile does not contain any ferments but it facilitates the digestion and absorption of fats.

PSYCHIC STIMULUS

In addition to the physiological process of digestion, there are certain other

external and predisposing factors in digestion which govern health and well-being. It is said that "animals feed, man eats, the man of intellect alone knows how to eat". Too many of us are simply *feeding* and it is best to remember that the normal functioning of our digestive apparatus may be easily upset by dietary indiscretions. Digestion is, perhaps, the most important of all bodily functions that affect the temperament or the moral state of an individual. We become sad, gay, talkative or morose according to the condition of our digestion and yet we least suspect the cause.

Taste and flavour in food, although vague entities scientifically, are nevertheless potent factors in promoting digestion. Thus, the very sight and odour or even the thought of a delicious food makes the mouth water. This secretion of the salivary glands takes place as a result of psychic stimulus. The glands of the stomach can also be similarly stirred into action. The appetite juice or psychically stimulated gastric juice serves to start digestion on its way. Its action may be compared to that of kerosene on a cold stove; without it, the fire would eventually start, but with it a half hour of blowing and waiting can be saved.

NERVOUS INDIGESTION

Even as secretion can be induced by pleasurable emotions, it can be stopped by unpleasant or distressing ones. Some of the effects of emotion on the digestive tract have been carefully studied by recent investigators and it is generally agreed that the secretion of the digestive ferments are largely controlled by nerves. The man who sits down for a hearty meal immediately after an exhausting exercise or work often suffers from some kind of stomach trouble or other. Similar failure of digestion can be observed when food is eaten under psychic strain as in homes overshadowed by illness or death. The most plausible explanation is that fatigue and excitement dry up the all important ferments. Since the secretion of the digestive ferments are controlled by nerves, such indigestion is referred to as nervous indigestion. It can be got over only by getting sufficient rest and sleep, by

avoiding worry and annoyance, by securing outdoor exercise, fresh air and mental relaxation and by eating slowly and thoroughly chewing one's food. Frequently it is advisable to postpone one's meal until strong emotion has passed, fatigue lessened and the psychic juice restored.

APPETITE, NORMAL AND PERVERTED

It is absolutely essential to treasure our appetite and thus promote the secretion of the physiological and psychic fluids. At the same time, it should be kept within limits by neither denying nor satiating nor satiating it. Appetite may however become abnormal when it is lessened, increased, or perverted.

Among the chief causes of lessened appetite may be mentioned worry, irregular eating, loss of condition from overwork, lack of exercise or loss of sleep, ill-balanced diet, gastric abuse by excessive indulgence in alcohol or use of other irritants and general disease. Loss of appetite, indigestion and distaste are only friendly warnings which, if neglected, will result in serious disorders. Diminished appetite can be corrected by proper attention to one's food habits.

A definitely increased appetite occurs in some diseases such as diabetes and goitre. Apart from this, a number of people develop the habit of eating much more than they really need. This is especially so with sedentary workers at or past middle age when creature comforts and pleasurable indulgence come to appeal more and more. Of these latter, eating is one of the foremost. Coupled with this development is often a growing disinclination for active exercise. Thus it is that those who have never been worried by a lack of appetite become sometimes a prey to the insidious fault of overeating. Overeating is an important factor in the causation of high blood pressure, diabetes, gout and kindred ailments. Even if these diseases do not develop, a state of impaired health and decreased efficiency is bound to result. The tendency to drop off to sleep after lunch is also due to this, although a certain laxity of the mind is normal after a meal. Moderation or restriction in food habits should be rigorously advocated for middle aged people with

sedentary occupations. Diet with a preponderance of highly refined and starchy foods should be substituted by others containing more of the protective foods.

Appetite may become perverted especially when one gets fussy about his food or thinks too much of how it will affect him. Rigorous exclusion of a particular food or excessive indulgence in some favourite dish also leads to perversion of appetite. Some individuals get hypersensitive to certain articles of food. Hypersensitivity or allergy to foods is more frequently the cause of disturbances in health than is commonly realised. The most common food articles that produce allergic reactions in many individuals are raw milk, eggs, fish, coffee, wheat, onions, cucumber, tomato, melon, cabbage, nuts, etc. The ideal method of controlling allergy will be to avoid completely all contact with the specific allergens and also through a total change in environment.

Perhaps the best example of perversion in appetite is the modern craze for slimming by dietetic restrictions. It is reasonable to control food intake for people who, by obvious overeating, have gained much weight. Apart from this and especially for younger people, slimming in itself is a bad and often dangerous practice. All are not—luckily—cast in the same mould and there are people who are perfectly healthy in spite of remaining slim while there are others who are naturally stout and yet strong. In the former, to fatten up would mean a change in their make-up or definite overeating while slimming for the latter would necessitate a process of starvation. Many are the disasters to be attributed to this bad practice not the least of which is said to be a predisposition to tuberculosis. There is one rule which these people may well bear in mind, *viz.*, the minimum amount of weight for a given diet is gained if the diet is perfectly balanced and a perfectly balanced maintenance diet is the minimum amount of food that can be taken with safety.

One other instance where appetite may be endangered by environment relates specially to the child. Malnourishment is often observed among children, and this condition is generally attributed to heredity. How often have we not heard

it said "he is just like his father" or "thinness runs in the family". This is incorrect. Family thinness can often be explained by the fact that all eat at the same table. The child of a nervous mother may also be thin and nervous and be a light eater. He may even like and dislike the same foods but environment rather than heredity may be the entire explanation. Another important fact that must not be overlooked is that through excessive attention and consequent over-urging on the part of the parents, the child may develop a "negativism" towards food in general or towards some particular food, because of an invincible desire to do just the opposite of what he is told to do.

SOME GOLDEN RULES

There is, of course, no royal road to health nor any hard and fast rules; yet, hearty appetite and good digestion can be promoted by regular habits and by carefully chosen diets. Thus, it is desirable to cultivate a cheerful frame of mind as well as peaceful and pleasant conditions

at meal times. Meals should be taken at regular intervals. It is usually well to make the midday meal somewhat lighter and the evening one heavier where the usual routine calls for physical and especially mental work in the afternoon and for relaxation in the evening. With children and adults whose afternoon schedule is not taxing, or who go early to bed, it is better to have the principal meal at noon. 'Picking' between meals should not be done. In conditions of impaired digestion, strain of fatigue, only liquid foods or small amounts of easily digestible foods should be taken. A smooth diet, free from coarse foods, is advisable on such occasions. The food must be chewed well and eaten slowly. There must be at least an interval of two hours between meal time and going to bed. Plenty of exercise and fresh air are essential. An occasional variation from the regular, dietary habits will do little harm. One should never be led away by single-idea enthusiasts. Moderation should be the guiding principle of all food habits.

The Patriot Poets of Maharashtra

BY MR. J. G. KARANDIKAR, B.A., B.T.

(Headmaster, Sulakhe High School, Barsi, Sholapur District)

THE rise of the twentieth century opens a new era in the patriotic poetry of Maharashtra. A hundred years before that period what were called the Powadas or the war songs used to stir the patriotic sentiments of the warlike Mahrattas. But the composition of such songs ceased as a result of the British ascendancy in the land. The genius was as it were stifled for a time, only to express itself on a wider scale, with a change in the circumstances. For, with the rule of the British established only at the middle of the 19th century in Maharashtra, the All-India consciousness was developed among the patriot poets of Maharashtra; and they now sang not only for the freedom of their land of hills and dales and rivers but for the liberation of their 'Motherland'—India. A galaxy of national poets poured forth their patriotic songs at a time marked by

an acute conflict, suffering and struggle carried on by a subject nation for its emancipation. The beginning of the twentieth century was, indeed, such a period and it was but natural that the sensitive and vigorous nature of the poets keenly felt the slavery of their country and responded in song to the immense joys of freedom, like a lotus bud to the stimulating rays of the dawn. Their patriotic songs, with their freshness and spontaneity heralded a new epoch. Reverend N. V. Tilak, P. M. Bapat, Barrister Sawarkar, Damale alias Keshawasuta, Govind and Anandarao Tekade may be mentioned as the most inspired patriot poets in the first two decades of this century.

Reverend Tilak, who lived from 1868 to 1919, was a saintly poet of Maharashtra. But he was like the great Ramadas fired with an intense feeling of love for this land which found expression in his

beautiful songs. In his illustrious national song "Beloved Hindusthan", he sings of this land as "an ornament of the globe, incomparable fount of all pleasures, delightful abode of our pride and our glory". But he does not simply eulogise its greatness. He also hints at another message in his "Beloved Hindusthan" "where, he says, paths of duty shine and where" the flame of devotion burns and sacrifice is life's goal." He expects us all to remove her (Motherland) sorrows, ever keep her free from pain, consecrating our body, soul and mind.

P. M. Bapat commonly called in Maharashtra as Senapati—the Commander—is another reputed patriot poet of Maharashtra. He is a profound scholar and an idealist. He had been to England for higher education more than thirty years ago, but he subsequently became a co-worker of Barrister Sawarkar in England, and after his return to India, he had to live as an exile for several years. Even after the period of exile, he passed a major part of his life in undergoing several terms of imprisonment on political grounds, and even yet he is in jail. In his great poem "Gawa Geeta", he sings of the dignity of labour, self-help and self-sacrifice as the sign-posts on the road to freedom. He is an advocate of Loka-Rajya or democracy and says that this system of administration is the only panacea for all the evils that are eating into the vitals of this country. He appeals to the kshatra or the gallant spirit of the Mahrattas, reminds them of their past glory and stimulates them to remain faithful to their illustrious ancestors. He has, therefore, a great confidence in the glorious future of this country.

Barrister Sawarkar's patriotic poems are mostly autobiographical. A man of great daring and energy, he had to undergo severe tribulations in the Andamans as a prisoner in the prime of his youth. His poem "Saptarshi" scribbled by him on and then rubbed out from the walls of the jail was composed in 1911. It is a diary of his prison life; yet it is an index of his vigorous optimism. To the patriotic spirit of Sawarkar, stone walls did not

make a prison, nor iron bars a cage. His warm emotional temperament and aesthetic nature made him compose immortal songs even in the prison-house. His another poem "On death-bed", written in blank verse metre in 1921 before his release, was composed by him in his serious illness. He says in it that he welcomes death. He is glad to embrace death because he is to die for his country.

The poet Damale alias Keshawasuta lived from 1866 to 1905. In his poem "Trumpet", he stirs the sons and daughters of the country to be up and doing and elsewhere also he voices the same message in his peculiarly powerful style.

Anandarrao Tekade, the poet of Nagur, has composed a number of patriotic songs, which he himself sings in the public with his melodious voice. The effect of these songs can be best realised by those who have heard him sing. The most famous of his songs is "This Hind is mine". It has become almost a household song in Maharashtra and is sung as a national song in many schools and on public occasions. In one of his poems, he says that even the God of Destiny cannot hinder the march of India towards freedom.

Lastly may be mentioned the poet Govind of Nasik and Tiwari of Jalgaon. The former was a friend of Sawarkar and Bapat. Physically a cripple, he was a poet of great genius and very sharp intellect. He says that the Motherland longs for complete liberation—liberation in the field of politics, religion and knowledge.

The poet Tiwari died prematurely a few years ago. His historical poem "The Ranee of Jhansi" is his masterpiece. He has also written other inspiring poems which have immortalised him as a patriot poet.

Thus, in short, is the history of the modern patriotic poetry of Maharashtra, and the purpose of this article will be served if it stimulates the readers to go through the works of these patriot poets.

ART AND ITS ENVIRONMENT

BY MR. K. P. APPAJI RAO

ART is a thing which all men, save those imperfect or perverse minds, have always readily appreciated. The contemplation of artistic productions excites a pleasurable sensation, even among the uninitiated which is nothing else than the gratification of that remarkable passion for beauty and perfection, the heritage of humanity.

But the artistic aspirations of men in different parts of the world have sought their fulfilment in lines so utterly divergent that what in some countries are considered the most exquisite representations of beauty would be regarded by other nations as the consummation of ugliness. In our age we exercise a certain amount of toleration towards all opinions, but what do you think would have been the criticism of a connoisseur of the Graeco-Roman period had he been miraculously transported to the interior of a Buddhist pagoda in China? He would probably have classified the grotesque paintings, the elaborately carved ivories, the intricate reliefs as the work of primitive savages. Yet Chinese art has been developed to a far more advanced degree of perfection than that of Greece and Rome.

This great difference in the conception of beauty in various countries is largely due to a difference in the national or racial characteristics, but its fundamental and primary cause is undoubtedly geography.

Let us consider for one moment the particular aspects of artistic impulse amongst the oldest civilised people of the earth, the Egyptians. Egypt consists of the lengthy and narrow tract watered by river Nile. On each side it is bounded by vast, almost unbroken stretches of desert. The endlessness of these sandy plains, emphasised by the clear atmosphere and the general flatness of the soil, must have at an early period profoundly impressed the natives with the immensity and grandeur of Nature. Hence their passion for beauty must needs find its satisfaction in the colossal. Thus they erected those mighty pyramids, those towering obelisks which have caused the astoundment of all succeeding generations.

Turn your attention now to the characteristic specimens of the art of Assyria. The bas-reliefs of ancient Nineveh represent for the most part scenes of combat, of hot action, the sacking of cities, the torment of captives, the collection of booty. It is a formidable display of vigorous human action, full of fierceness, of cruelty, of exultation. This again is the product of geographical conditions. Assyria, the upper valley of the Tigris, is a land bordered by mountains, provided with an uncertain, irregular supply of water and exposed moreover to cold winds. The stony nature of the soil, unfavourable to agriculture, exacted from the Assyrian peasant stern and resolute toil. Thus he grew hard and wiry, an energetic fightingman, insensible to fear and pity. And his nature was reflected in his art pervading its details and imprinting on it a particular stamp.

Consider India, the marvellous continent of luxurious vegetation, of inextricable jungles haunted by innumerable species of wild animals, of virgin forests, whose intertwined boughs form the sporting-ground of chattering monkeys, of swamps infested by monstrous reptiles. Everywhere the eye is met by testimonies of the manifold wealth of Nature. And India has faithfully reproduced the multifarious bounty of her soil and climate in her art. Her complicated statues of many incarnations of her gods, her vast subterranean temples attest the spirit inculcated in the native by his surroundings.

The idealisation of the beauties of Nature has undoubtedly found its noblest embodiment in the art of ancient Greece. The azure sky, the emerald foliage, the rocky inlets and promontories formed ample material for the inspiration of the poet and the sculptor. And it was not merely the outward scenery which attracted their fancy. Popular imagination attributing the phenomena of the earth to the agency of particular deities, peopled the landscape with supernatural beings. The woodland became the sporting-ground of Satyrs, every tree the home of a Deryad who watched over its growth and pervaded its foliage.

As the natural beauties of Greece surpassed those of all other countries, so did Grecian art acquire an incontestable superiority over that of all other nations.

The sculptors of Egypt and Assyria attained their limit of endeavour when they had succeeded in producing an exact resemblance of outward contours. But the Greek sculptor went farther. Not content with the absolute reproduction of external features, he acquired the power to engrave upon them the desirable expression or mood of thought. The blocks of marble which passed under his chisel assumed not only the forms of life but also its inner spiritual essence. This is the highest summit of perfection to which art can aspire.

In the course of ages, however, the standard of Grecian art depreciated. The stern virtues of the early republics gradually giving place to a general moral laxity and enervation, the virile beauty of the ancient statues was supplanted by a new type of looser build and effeminate aspect.

The fall of Grecian independence completed the ruin of the art, and although Greece remained for many centuries after the school wherein artists throughout the civilised world sought guidance and inspiration, yet the decadence of her models became more and more evident as time passed and the ancient ideals were steadily departed from.

This denotes the influence of history upon art, an important factor which must not be overlooked.

The ancient Romans call for no special mention. Efficient in administration and statecraft, invincible in the field, they betrayed no particular originality in artistic pursuits and were content to acknowledge the Greeks as their masters and teachers in this branch of culture. We, therefore, turn our attention to the mediaeval and modern periods.

The civilisation of the ancients had been confined to the limited population inhabiting the shores of the Mediterranean Sea. The remainder of Europe consisted of untitled wilderness, swamps and forests, when scanty settlements of semi-savages won their uncertain means of subsistence by the pursuit of primitive occupations.

These wild tribes had on numerous occasions given token of their war-like capacities in the many and frequent incursions, which famine or greedy ambition had caused them to make on their southern neighbours. So far these invasions unsupported by large numbers had been easily defeated; but in the early centuries of our era, inter-tribal commotions in the great plains and steppe-lands of Asia and Europe had driven vast barbarian hordes against the natural barriers of the Rhine and the Alps. The degraded Roman Empire, unable to restrain the aggression of the invasions, was submerged by a flood of barbarian conquest.

Europe at this period presents a remarkable aspect. It is a maze of different nations of every race, language and grade of culture engaged in almost unceasing strife. The territories of the Empire were parcelled out amongst the various units and a conglomeration of different states arose upon the ruins of the Old World.

The predominant feature in the mind of the Middle Ages is a grotesque and fantastic conception of the factors of life derived from this confusion of nationalities. It reveals itself in the intricate designs, the elaborate sculptures, the curiously embroidered tapestries which decorate the Gothic cathedrals of the Golden Age of mediaevalism.

At first, however, this peculiar characteristic did not assert itself so boldly as at a later period. In the early part of the Middle Ages, the formidable supremacy of the Church of Rome retained the popular mind in unquestioning subjection. Art was enlisted in the cause of religion and restricted to the servitude of ecclesiastical purposes. The earliest style of mediaeval architecture accordingly presents a sombre and barren aspect indicative of the overwhelming power of the priest. The characteristic semi-circular arch is the attestation of hierarchical severignty.

It was the influx of new ideas and notions resulting from the crusades and the corresponding contact with the refined culture of the Saracens, which tended to emancipate the popular spirit. The architect shook off the rigid fetters which had hitherto bound his art and undertook

new and fanciful enterprises. The Gothic style arose, rich, graceful, complicated its lofty steeples remindful of the minarets of the East. The gorgeously-tinted window-panes, resplendent with the figures of Saints and Knights, produced within the place of worship a mysterious twilight gloom. The illuminated missal, decorated with brilliantly coloured designs, testified to the skill of the painter.

The ideal which inspired the mediaeval artist was totally different from that of the ancient world. The Grecian sculptor had delighted in shaping the outlines of perfect and heroic manhood. The warrior, the athlete furnished him with sufficient material for the prosecution of his masterpieces. But the introduction of Christianity gave rise to a new conception of human virtue.

The stern patriotism of the Spartan, the devotion of the Athenian to his fatherland, respect for antiquity and the sanctity of the hearth, indomitable courage in the field—such were the ideal virtues of the ancient world. Christianity, on the other hand, emphasises moral purity, faith in the Divine, and passive mediaeval art finds its ideal in the pious endurance of suffering and persecution. Hence the Knight, the humble and saintly servant of God. And it finds its type of beauty, not in the noble and masculine expression of the ancient heroes, but in the delicate and effeminate figure of the angel radiant with complacent beatitude.

The civilisation of ancient Rome had been swamped in Western Europe, and almost every vestige of her culture and learning had disappeared. The learned men of the Middle Ages had but imperfect notions of the glories of the antique world, acquired partly through tradition and partly through the medium of Arabian translators.

The works of the classical writers were still current, however, amongst the scholars of the Byzantine Empire. This last remnant of Roman sovereignty had long maintained a precarious existence in the face of the perpetually growing power of the Turks. The impregnable fortifications of Constantinople had hitherto baffled the ambition of the Ottomans. They had,

however, seized her provinces, restricting the domain of the emperors to the walls of their capital.

At length the inevitable fall occurred of the imperial city. On the 29th May 1453, Sultan Mohammed the Second stormed her defences and established his throne upon the ruins of the Metropolis of Eastern Christendom. The wholesale emigration of learned Byzantines to the hospitable shores of Italy resulting from this event, gave rise to a general curiosity regarding the wisdom of the vanished Graeco-Roman world.

Diligent inquiry gradually revealed the wonderful civilisation of the ancients, and a passionate desire sprang up amongst the artists of the period to emulate their achievements. The barbaric ideals of the mediaeval world were discarded. The zeal of the Renaissance produced masterpieces unrivalled in human history.

In Italy, Michael Angelo created the gorgeous allegorical frescoes so remarkable for the splendour and magnificence of their conception, and Raphael depicted in colours of marvellous brilliancy the pure and harmonious lineaments of the Divine personages. The works of the Italian school are distinguished by a wonderful abundance of bright colouring. The spectator seems to contemplate a wealth of dazzling sunshine. We recognise in this feature the influence of Arcadian climate of the Land of Olives.

Beneath the colder skies of the north, the German and Flemish masters cultivated a more sombre art noted, however, for the methodic precision of its execution.

It were futile to dwell upon further examples in support of the assertion which forms the title of this essay. The inquiring reader must use his own observation. But whilst demonstrating the all-powerful influence of external circumstances upon art, we have left unmentioned the problem of its original cause.

For art is like a tree, whose ever-increasing foliage, absorbing life from the surrounding atmosphere, delights the eye by its waxing beauty, whilst the roots remain buried in obscure concealment. The mystery of its origin lies within the mind of man, that unfathomable source from which so many miracles have sprung.

India and the Atlantic Charter

MR. CHURCHILL has at last broken his studied silence about India. The speech will cause no surprise in this country which is pretty familiar with his strong Tory bias, especially with regard to India. Those who had hoped that the war which has made him so dynamic a chief at this crisis, would find him equally great in his handling of the Indian problem are disappointed and disillusioned. He is still the old Churchill for India. But to tell the world that the August offer is in tune with the spirit of the Atlantic Charter is more than it can swallow. If the August offer really stands, the Charter goes overboard.

Mr. Churchill echoing Mr. Amery says coolly that

the joint declaration does not qualify in any way the various statements of policy which have been made from time to time about the development of constitutional Government in India, Burma and other parts of the Empire.

What then is the significance of Mr. Attlee's unequivocal exposition that the joint declaration would be applicable to all races including Asiatics and Africans? It is now plain that the Prime Minister has attempted a studied and belated repudiation of the First Lord's interpretation of the Atlantic Charter. But it is too much to expect British Labour to take up the challenge on behalf of India.

Mr. Churchill's exclusion of India from the rights of the Joint Charter can hardly be expected to enthuse Indian aspirants for freedom. His declaration is as unhappy as it is ill-timed. For it will no doubt confirm the widely held view that war or no war, Britain does not intend to part with power in India. Indeed, so great has been the disappointment that even a member of the Viceroy's Expanded Council has been impelled to make a statement deploring the Premier's foot-note to the Atlantic Charter. "In India," states the *News Chronicle*

"this nebulous foot-note is interpreted as a warning that the Charter in its application is little more than a piece of rhetoric and that what the British Government will gladly concede to Yugoslavia, it will be withheld from the 'jewel of the British Empire' the Atlantic Charter will

become for hundreds of millions a symbol of hypocrisy."

The better mind of England is thus convinced that those in authority have blundered and the only way to retrieve the situation is to make a new approach through new men. The *Manchester Guardian* goes on to ask:

Since those who are responsible for India—which means in the first place the Viceroy and Mr. Amery, the Secretary of State—cannot find a way to peace and are at the end of their resources, is it not desirable that a new approach should be made through new men?

Indo-Burman Agreement

The scope and provisions of Indo-Burman Agreement are subjected to strong criticism in the weighty representation made to the Government of India jointly by the Committee of the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce, the Committee of the all parties meeting in Madras, and the Council of the Imperial Citizenship Association. The document refers to "the universal feeling of keen disappointment and grave concern of the Indian public" and resents "the universal and extraordinary procedure adopted by the Government of India in negotiating the Agreement. It deplores the withholding of the Baxter Report which is supposed to form the basis for negotiations until publication with the Agreement itself, despite repeated requests from several public and commercial bodies.

In fact, it would appear as if the negotiators had set about definitely to undo the work of the Baxter Commission. The joint representation points out how very unfair and inequitable is the Agreement to India; it demands stay of order-in-council and pleads for *de novo* consideration of the whole problem.

As we go to Press, we are glad to learn that the restrictions imposed by the unwanted Indo-Burma Immigration Agreement are not likely to come into force from October 1. This is good, but it is also hoped that the position will be reviewed *de novo* and an Agreement more satisfactory to the parties concerned will be reached.

The League Imbroglio

With a keen sense of the melo-dramatic, Mr. Jinnah has created quite a furore over the appointment of certain League members to the Defence Council. He called upon the Muslim Premiers to resign from the Defence Council because the Viceroy happened to refer to them as representatives of the great Muslim community. He complained that they had been induced to join the Council over the head of their leader. And who else could represent the great Muslim community but the President of the Muslim League? There has been some wobbling on the part of the Premiers too. Mr. Amery himself to appease Mr. Jinnah went out of his way to explain that they were appointed in their capacity as Premiers, Mr. Jinnah dismissed the suggestion as an "after thought" and compelled their resignation.

The result is a curious situation which must have half gratified and half wounded his vanity. The Premiers of the Punjab and Assam resigned in obedience to the command, though the former disowned responsibility for the vulgar suggestion that the Viceroy was double crossing. Mr. Fazlul Huq, after long cogitations, resigned both from the Defence Council and the Council of the League. The Nawab of Chhatari resigned but got himself re-nominated as a State representative. Begum Shah Nawaz declined as she accepted the office as representing the women of India and not the League. Sir Sultan Ahmed excused himself from obliging Mr. Jinnah by drawing an ingenious distinction between the original Council and the Expanded council.

It all looks like a great feat in rope walking. Mr. Jinnah permitted active war effort on the part of the League members as Premiers, but he wouldn't tolerate them in the capacity of mere advisers! The fact is there is no question of principle involved in this scramble for advantage. It is so true to type—the Fascist type that is so insidiously growing in certain groups. Whatever Mr. Huq's failings, there is ample justification for his complaint that the principles of democracy and autonomy in the League are being subordinated to the arbitrary wishes of a single individual who seeks to rule as an omnipotent authority.

Sir M. Visvesvaraya

Sir M. Visvesvaraya, the veteran engineer and statesman, is 81, and it is fitting that the completion of four score years of a great, strenuous and beneficent life should be marked by public rejoicings in many centres. Sir Visvesvaraya has done great and enduring things for Mysore, but his services to the rest of the country for many years past are no less notable. In a recent tribute to his "practical genius", Sir Visvesvaraya has been described as "one of the greatest sons of India, a patriot of the first magnitude and a gentleman of high intellectual power and sense of devotion to duty."

As an appropriate memento of the occasion, we commend Mr. Y. G. Krishnamurti's study of his life and many-sided activities published with a Foreword by Sir Purushotamdas Thakurdas (Popular Book Depot, Bombay, Rs. 2). It is a fine appreciation of a great character, which brings in relief a vivid and interesting personality, as modest and punctilious in his private life as he has been in a public career extending over half a century. India may well be proud of this son of Mysore, and we join Sir Purushotamdas in his wish that Sir Visvesvaraya may live long and well to continue his great and good work for India.

Surendranath's Statue

Surendranath Banerji died sixteen years ago but his position as one of the makers of modern India remains secure. That is the meaning of the permanent memorial in the shape of a statue that was unveiled the other day at Calcutta by one of the leading public men of our own day, Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru. For over 50 years, Surendranath dominated the public life of Calcutta and Bengal and was an all India figure of undoubted popularity throughout his life. Few of the present generation can have any idea of the tremendous power of his eloquence. As orator, journalist and politician he swayed the hearts of the young and old alike. But it was as orator that he was best known to the Indian public and it is fitting that the statue should show him in that characteristic pose as if still declaiming with that trumpet voice of his.

The Two Voices

MR. ATTLEE

SPEAKING about the Atlantic declaration at a reception given in his honour by West African students in London, Mr. Attlee, Deputy Prime Minister, said:

You will not find in the declarations which have been made on behalf of the Government of this country on the war any suggestion that the freedom and social security for which we fight should be denied to any of the races of mankind.

We the Labour Party have always been conscious of the wrongs done by the white races to races with darker skins. We have been glad to see how with the passing of years the old conception of colonies as places inhabited by inferior people, whose function was only to serve and produce wealth for the benefit of other people has made way for juster and nobler ideas.

He emphasised that the declaration of principles applied to all the races of the world, coloured as well as white.

The Shah Abdicates

The Shah of Iran has abdicated and is succeeded by his elder son, the Crown Prince. This announcement was made by the Prime Minister, Mr. Farughi, to a special session of the Iranian Parliament.

According to the Teheran Radio, the Shah's abdication is due to "ill-health," which is clearly an euphemism for pressure. The ex-Shah is reported to have left Iran for Argentine.

The new Shah is in his 22nd year. He was born in Teheran on October 26, 1919. On March 15, 1939, he married Princess Fawziyeh, eldest sister of the King of Egypt. He is Shahpur Mohammed Risa.

MR. CHURCHILL

Speaking in the House of Commons, Mr. Winston Churchill, Prime Minister, said:

At the Atlantic meeting we had in mind primarily the sovereignty, self-government and national life of the states and nations of Europe now under Nazi yoke and the principles which would govern any alterations in territorial boundaries of countries which may have to be made. That is quite a separate problem from the progressive evolution of self-governing institutions in regions whose peoples owe allegiance to the British Crown.

Referring to India and Burma, he said, 'the joint declaration does not qualify in any way the various statements of policy which have been made from time to time about development of constitutional govt. in India, Burma or other parts of British Empire.

Roosevelt's Warning to Hitler

In the gravest words listeners have ever heard him use, President Roosevelt warned Axis Powers over the radio on Thursday the 12th September that their warships henceforth would enter American defensive waters at their own peril. United States' patrol vessels and planes in American defence waters would no longer wait for their attackers to strike first. He said:

"The orders which I have given to the United States' Army and Navy are to carry out that policy at once. The sole responsibility will rest on Germany. There will be no shooting unless Germany continues to seek it.

Our patrolling vessels and planes will protect all merchant-ships, and not only our ships, but the ships of any flag engaged in commerce in our defensive waters."

President Roosevelt told his listeners that the blunt fact was that the German submarine fired first at the U. S. destroyer Greer with the deliberate design to sink her. This was piracy legally and morally. He said that the incident was not isolated but part of a general plan.

President Roosevelt added:

We have sought no shooting war with Hitler and we will not seek it now but neither do we want peace so much that we are willing to pay for it by permitting him to attack our naval and merchant ships while they are on legitimate business.

The President added: "Nazi submarines are the rattle-snakes of the Atlantic. The time for active defence is now." He carefully detailed Nazi attempts to establish Fascist Governments in South and Central America and said that Nazi attacks in the Atlantic were

part of the Nazi designs to abolish freedom of the seas and to acquire absolute control and domination of the seas for themselves. With control of the seas in their hands the way can become clear for their next step—domination of the United States and the Western Hemisphere by force.

President Roosevelt concluded:

The United States' Navy is invincible only so long as the British Navy survives and added that United States' vessels in United States' defence waters would no longer wait for Axis attackers to strike first. It was time to say: "O, you have attacked our own safety. You shall go no further.

Franco-German Peace

Recent *pourparlers* between Vichy and the German Government are disquieting to a degree. A despatch from the French frontier to the independent French News Agency quoting "information from official Vichy sources" reveals that Vichy will grant Germany the use of military and naval bases in France and Africa under the terms of the peace treaty now being discussed between Vichy and the German authorities.

In return for the loan of the bases, German occupation troops will be partially withdrawn and the remainder will occupy France as a "friendly country," similar to the system now in force in Italy.

After the war, British possessions in Africa, notably Nigeria, Sierra Leone and the Gold Coast will be attached to the French Empire, which will be exploited jointly by Germany and France.

It is pointed out that these terms mean that Germany would gain almost complete control over the French Empire and its naval and military establishments.

America and Japan

No news is available about the progress of American-Japanese talks but the Japanese are trying to strengthen their hands by winning local victories in China. At the same time, says a Press correspondent, they have been sending reinforcements to the Manchurian frontier against Russia. This is probably in fulfilment of the bargain with Hitler that they should hold the attention of Russians in the Far East just as Italians held the attention of the French in the south during the Battle for France. There is complete confidence in Britain that the Japanese are on the retreat and that they are in a weak position *vis-a-vis* China, Russia, America and Britain.

Britain's Warning to Finland

A warning to Finns that if they invade purely Russian territory, Britain will have no option but to treat them as a belligerent enemy has been sent to Helsinki from London, according to newspapers' diplomatic correspondents.

The message is said to have indicated, however, that if Finland ceased fighting on her former frontiers, Britain will be prepared to see what could be done to improve Russo-Finish relations. The British message, it is added, was sent after close consultation with the Soviet Government.

Inter-Allied Conference

Speaking at the Inter-Allied Conference held in London convened to consider the Atlantic Charter, M. Van Kleefens, the Netherlands Foreign Minister, said that the words "with due respect for their existing obligations", in point four of the Charter appeared to be a reservation. He said that existing obligations should not be perpetuated if they would seriously impair or diminish the effect of the rule.

At the end of the last war the same principle found solemn expression in almost identical terms, he said, and they all know what became of it when the snowball of protection was set rolling until it became so large that it was a serious obstacle in the path of international trade.

The conference, attended by representatives of allied Governments, including Russia, adopted the Charter. M. Maisky said that Russia stood by the Charter in its fundamental principles.

Slavery Abolished in Abyssinia

Slavery has been abolished in Abyssinia by Emperor Haile Selassie and the Ethiopian Government in Addis Ababa has issued a statement to that effect.

The Emperor, who had long wanted to emancipate his subjects, took the first step some years ago but his reforms, which were to be gradual, were interrupted by the Italian conquest of Abyssinia. On his return to Abyssinia, says the *New Times* and *Ethiopia News*, the Emperor decided that the time had arrived when he could enact the law abolishing the legal status of slavery. The process of emancipation will be gradual so as not to create chaos in the social system. Under the new law, a master may retain his slave if the slave so desires it, but every slave may without legal formality assert his freedom and his master cannot prevent him doing so or recapture him.

Red Cross Gift of £250,000

The British Red Cross has allocated £250,000 to deal with the immediate needs of Russia and Britain's other Allies,

DIARY OF THE MONTH

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- Aug. 30. Hitler meets Mussolini on Eastern front.
—Russians wreck the Dnieper dam.
- Aug. 31. Dr. Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru unveils Sir Surendranath's statue in Calcutta.
- Sept. 1. Roosevelt's spirited appeal to American labour and businessmen.
—Moscow warns Ankara of treacherous German attack.
- Sept. 2. Battle for Leningrad.
—Bengal Assembly demands early modification of Indo-Burma Agreement.
—Indian delegation leaves for Colombo.
- Sept. 3. Second anniversary of the war. Exhortation by Viceroy, Commander-in-Chief and Provincial Governors.
—M. Petain's request to Hitler for definite terms of peace.
- Sept. 4. Chinese troops occupy Foochow.
—Big battle round Leningrad.
- Sept. 5. Sir Sultan Ahmed assumes charge as member of Viceroy's Council.
- Sept. 6. Indian delegation welcomed in Colombo.
—R. A. F. raid on Oslo harbour.
- Sept. 7. Severe fighting in Leningrad area.
—Madras reception to Indian delegation from Burma.
- Sept. 8. Travancore Bank case prisoners released.
- Sept. 9. In the Commons, Mr. Churchill explains implications of the Atlantic declaration.
—Mr. Fazlul Huq resigns from Defence Council and also from the League Council.
- Sept. 10. Mr. Dixon is appointed Dewan of Cochin.
—Burma Government creates a department of war supply and economic warfare.
- Sept. 11. Commons pass India and Burma postponement of Election Bill.
—Molotov warns Bulgaria.
- Sept. 12. Roosevelt in his broadcast warns that Nazi raiders in the Atlantic will be shot at sight.
- Sept. 13. Axis nationals are ordered to leave Teheran.
- Sept. 14. Sir Shafaat Ahmad Khan is appointed High Commissioner for India in South Africa.
- Sept. 15. Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar unveils a portrait of Sri C. Rajagopalachari at the Hindi Prachar, Madras.
- Sept. 16. The Shah of Iran abdicates.
—Sri Bhulabhai Desai is released for reasons of health.
- Sept. 17. Allied forces occupy Teheran.
—New Shah promises to be a constitutional monarch.
- Sept. 18. Gandhi Jayanti week inaugurated in Ahmedabad.
- Sept. 19. German troops enter Kiev.
—Amery's tribute to India's war effort.
- Sept. 20. Slavery is abolished in Ethiopia.
—Gandhiji advises rejection of Bajpai agreement with Burma.
- Sept. 21. Russia and Japan move up reinforcements.
- Sept. 22. Ceylon delegation returns to India.
—Viceroy's term is extended to April 1943.
- Sept. 23. Gen. de Gaul forms Free French National Committee.
- Sept. 24. Inter-allied Conference in London approves the Atlantic Charter.
- Sept. 25. Mr. Churchill is appointed Lord Warden of the Cinque Ports.
- Sept. 26. Scientists' Conference in London.
—German threat in Crimea.
- Sept. 27. Ex-Shah of Iran leaves for South America.
—Sri M. S. Aney meets Mahatma Gandhi at Wardha.
- Sept. 28. Gifts and charities worth Rs. 8½ lakhs are announced in connection with the Sashtiabdapurti of Raja Sir Annamalai Chettiar.
- Sept. 29. German pressure on Bulgaria and Italy to attack Russia.
- Sept. 30. State of Emergency proclaimed in Czecho-Slovakia.



The WORLD of BOOKS



MAULANA ABUL KALAM AZAD. By Mahadev Desai. Foreword by Mahatma Gandhi. George Allen and Unwin.

The Maulana is a great Muslim divine and a profound Arabic scholar; he is also at the helm of Congress affairs in what is admittedly the most critical juncture of Indo-British relations. Now that the Hindu-Muslim question is causing grave concern as it threatens to undo the fabric of national unity, and the political dead-lock has created an extraordinary situation, an intimate interpretation of the mind and attitude of the Muslim President of the Congress must be particularly valuable. And who could write of the Maulana with more knowledge or understanding than Mahadev Desai, Mr. Gandhi's Secretary, who has had undoubted opportunities of studying the Muslim patriot at close quarters. Mr. Desai is in an exceptional position to appreciate the Maulana's many-sided character and his fascinating memoir is a revealing document, throwing a flood of light not only on the character and personality of a great leader of men but on the many intricate problems of contemporary affairs in India.

ARGUMENT OF BLOOD. By Julian Huxley. Macmillan War Pamphlets. 8d. net.

The Macmillan War Pamphlets, like the Oxford Pamphlets, are authoritative little books written by scholars of repute. In this book, Prof. Huxley whose achievements in biological science are enlivened by a glowing humanism, exposes the crudities

of the so-called racial theory of the Nazis. Science in contemporary Germany is prostituted to the service of political and military cliques, and Prof. Huxley easily disposes of the fantastic absurdities of the Nordic claim with an array of facts and arguments; he shows how scientific work in Nazi Germany has deteriorated in quality as in volume. "She has lost even the philosophic dignity of her own great exponents of the nature and art of war, such as Scharnhorst and Clausewitz. That way madness lies, and the Nazis have infected science with their own insidious disease that must ultimately prove fatal to them and this system."

INDO-CYLON CRISIS. By K. Natesa Aiyar, Member, State Council, Ceylon. Ganesh Press, Hatton. Rs. 5. (Available of G. A. Natesan & Co., Madras.)

The much regretted failure of the Indo-Ceylon talks at Delhi has led to the appointment of fresh delegations by the two Governments to resume the talks, preparatory to a final and satisfactory settlement of outstanding issues in dispute. Mr. Natesa Aiyar's book on the 'Crisis' giving authentic facts and figures, together with a running commentary on the history of the problem is, therefore, a very timely publication.

Indians claim full citizenship rights on proof of a prescribed period of residence and of a permanent interest in the island. The Ceylon delegation insist on a substantial reduction of the size of the Indian population by measures including pressure. How to reconcile the conflicting aims of either and bring about a settlement?

That is the crux of the problem; and Mr. Natesa Aiyar furnishes ample facts for a reasonable and joint understanding of the problem. Journalists, publicists and legislators will find in it a wealth of valuable and authentic information, not easily accessible to them in one volume.

BOMBAY MURDER. By S. K. Chettur. G. A. Natesan & Co., Madras. Rs. 2.

Probably, if Girija Singh's wife had not gone on a short visit to her parent's house and left that very impressionable young man at a loose end, nothing particular would have happened. And, in that case, we might not have had this altogether delightful story by a very promising literary craftsman; a story told in such a facile and trenchant style, with a keen eye to graphic representation and a sure grasp of brilliant characterisation; a story abounding in witty dialogues and brilliant repartees.

As it was, Girija Singh was a very able and efficient Deputy Chief Engineer, but he had a lot of spare time on his hands. His was a loveable character and an attractive personality. He had many and varied accomplishments—tennis and swimming being his specialities. He was a quick and terrific lover and could not always resist feminine charms. He preferred "hell with plenty of company and a swimming bath". He started enjoying the "blessings" and tasting the "compensations of loneliness" in the midst of a colourful bunch of friends, all bent on making the best of this unhappy existence.

True, there were moments of philosophising under the shower bath, evaluating the tempestuous primeval passions with the chill frustrations of civilised life and debates on communism with fiery enthusiasts as to whether it really does not amount to a "large scale attempt at survival of the unfittest". But even innocent befriending of "ladies in distress", let alone *demi-mondes*, might lead to dire consequences.

Tete-a-tetes with charming wives of insurance agents "who might not be above

capitalising their wives' beauty"; dancing with girls of "perfect figure and perfect face" with hot-headed and jealous fiancées in the background; swimming with attractive "mermaids" whose mundane husbands watch the playful "dolphins" through the surrounding trellis work; going to pictures with lovely young governesses who draw lover like a powerful magnet—may all tend to accumulate, and one fateful day or night, a veritable tornado may burst on the head of even the most valiant man with disastrous results, of which a black eye or a broken nose or a hastily propelled exit are but mere preludes to the terrible tragedy of being stabbed to death.

But a man stabbed and a woman strangled in one night in a luxurious flat in the most fashionable quarter of the town calls for yet other and more strenuous qualities. And there appears on the fast moving stage the *deus ex machina*, Ram Mohan, a bright lad, a newspaper man with a remarkable flair for investigating crimes, "though no mere arm-chair detective who thinks life is like fiction". He saves the police from apparently logical but serious blunders, unravels the complicated occurrences of that ghastly night and walks off the stage, happy, arm in arm, in lawful wedlock with a most charming young lady.

The author says in his introduction that he seeks but to "unfold a tale of love and jealousy, of intrigue and crime". It is the first published full length novel by him, though many readers would be familiar with his earlier short stories.

When such an interesting story is so delightfully told, need there be any moral to it? But, if moral there should be to the story, it seems to be this—never mix your drinks, or your company, without certain necessary restraints and, above all, beware of pouring new wine into old bottles.

INDIA SHALL BE LITERATE. By Frank C. Laubach. Sponsored by the National Christian Council, Nagpur, C. P. Re. 1-12.

This is a book of first-rate importance to the welfare of the country. The facts and details collected in the book were gathered in three extensive tours by the author who lives in the Philippine Islands. The tours proved fruitful in the highest degree because of the co-operation of local people. This co-operation was also evidenced by over a hundred conferences held for the purpose.

The book is easily an inspiration to the progress of social service and rural improvement. Adult education should go side by side with the education of children.

The book mentions that the great awakening in recent years is due to the influence of Mahatma Gandhi. The experience gained so far, which is detailed in the present book, is a great asset for future progress.

THE HINDU HOME REDISCOVERED. By Dr. B. Pattabhi Seetharamiah. Published by Nammalwars, Madras. As. 8.

In any reconstruction of society, the family as an integral unit of Life must be fully recognised. The cardinal features of a Hindu Home are:—its quadrangular home, its joint family, its intense domestic affections, its religious basis; the high status in family accorded to its women, the equity with which the laws of heritage work and, above all, the spirit of tolerance and hospitality that pervade the home. The learned author deals with every aspect of the Hindu Home, with true insight and in vigorous language, sifting the good from the bad in the Hindu family life, indicating the strength and exposing the weaknesses in the system. A book which should be read and deeply pondered over by every Hindu.

BOOKS RECEIVED

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REPORT ON THE WORKING OF THE IMPERIAL LIBRARY, CALCUTTA, 1939-40. Government of India Press, Calcutta.

LEGEND OF LOST RING AND OTHER POEMS. By B. Rama Rao, M.A., F.G.S., Director, Mysore Geological Department.

MARXISM: Is it Science? By Max Eastman, George Allen & Unwin Ltd.

ESSAYS ON MAHATMA GANDHI: MAHATMA GANDHI AND TRUTH; MAHATMA GANDHI AND AHIMSA. By K. R. Menon. Greater India Publishing House, 415, Race Course Road, Singapore.

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Hyderabad

THE NAWAB OF CHHATARI

Speaking from the Hyderabad broadcasting station, Hon. the Nawab of Chhatari, the new President of H. E. H. the Nizam's Executive Council, said:

In view of the full confidence with which our Ruler has been pleased to honour me, I shall try my best in accordance with his wishes to do justice to every individual and every section of His Exalted Highness' subjects. In your honour shall henceforth lie my honour, in your interests my own interests, in your progress my progress, and in your weal my own welfare. I shall share with you all the vicissitudes of your joys and sorrows. Your economic, intellectual, physical and social welfare and progress shall in future be the object of my life. In being true to my salt, I shall dedicate to you and to your service the last drop of my blood.

The Nawab Saheb hoped that in the discharge of his sacred duty, he shall enjoy the willing co-operation of every one of the faithful subjects of His Exalted Highness without distinction of caste or creed.

THE NIZAM AND SIR AKBAR'S SERVICES

His Exalted Highness has graciously been pleased to issue a Firman-e-Mubarak to the following effect:—

A pension of B. G. Rs. 8,000 per month is granted to the Rt. Hon'ble Sir Akbar Hydari. As Sir Akbar did not avail himself of leave during the tenure of his office as President of the Council, seven months' privilege leave with full pay has been granted and this amount is directed to be paid in a lump sum of B. G. Rs. 50,000 as gratuity. Sir Akbar's grandchildren who are five in number are granted O. S. Rs. 100 each as Mansab. "Dilkusha," Sir Akbar's present residence in Somajiguda, which is a Government building, is placed at Sir Akbar's disposal for life so that on his visits to Hyderabad, he may reside in the building.

Baroda

LAND MORTGAGE BANK ACTIVITIES

The Baroda Land Mortgage Bank, which has been doing very useful work by supplying long term finances to its members, issued debentures of the value of Rs. 3 lakhs in 1939 (25 years). Of these debentures worth Rs. 1,69,250 were subscribed by the public and the rest by the Government. The work done till now can be assessed from the fact that upto January 1941 the Bank advanced loans to the extent of Rs. 5,89,290.

The Bank has now been authorised by Government to issue further debentures of the value of Rs. 5 lakhs at 3½ per cent. interest redeemable within 25 years. The Government have guaranteed the principal and interest on these debentures and agreed to purchase debentures upto half the amount as and when necessary. These debentures are issued in small sums of Rs. 10, Rs. 50, Rs. 100 and Rs. 250 to facilitate their purchase also by men and societies with small capital.

RECRUITMENT TO SERVICES

The Baroda Government have arrived at a reciprocal arrangement with the Government of Bombay in regard to recruitment to public services. According to this arrangement, persons domiciled in the Baroda State will be eligible for recruitment to the Government service in the Province of Bombay and candidates from that province will be eligible for admission to State service. In the Civil Services Classification and Recruitment rules issued by the Government of Bombay the term "native of the Province of Bombay" has been defined as including also a person who has a domicile in the Baroda State.

Mysore

INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH BOARD

At a meeting of the Mysore Industrial Research Board held under the presidentship of Mr. A. V. Ramanathan, Minister for Law and Industries, directions for the development of industries for the purpose of helping in the war effort and for needs of the country in respect of essential articles, which were till now imported and were restricted in supplies, were investigated.

The main directions were the development of the activities of industrial and testing laboratories, where large number of medicinal items are being manufactured.

MACHINE TOOL CONTROL

The Government of Mysore have promulgated the Machine Tool Control Order, 1941, and Aluminium Control Order, 1941. It is directed that no person shall be engaged in the import into Mysore, the production or the sale of any scheduled machine tool except under and in accordance with a licence granted by the Machine Tool Controller. No person shall be engaged in the export out of India of any scheduled machine tool except under and in accordance with a licence granted by the Machine Tool Controller for British India appointed by the Central Government of British India. The Government of Mysore have appointed the Director of Industries and Commerce as the Controller.

MYSORE SANSKRIT ACADEMY

Rajamantrapravina N. Madhava Row, the Dewan of Mysore, declared open the Mysore Sanskrit Academy at a public meeting held at Sir K. P. Puttanna Chetty Town Hall Bangalore, on September 15. Sir S. Varadachari, Judge of the Federal Court of India, delivered the inaugural address.

Travancore

TRAVANCORE BANK CASE

Messrs K. C. Mamen Mappillai and K. M. Eapen, who were convicted in the Travancore National and Quilon Bank Case and sentenced to imprisonment and fines and who were undergoing their sentences in the central prison, Trivandrum, had sent up memorials expressing regret for errors committed by them and consequent collapse of the bank and praying that on account of the state of their health, especially that of Mamen Mappillai who is stated to be suffering from severe attack of heart disease, they may be released.

After taking all circumstances of the case into consideration, the Government ordered remission of the unexpired portion of their sentences including fine and released them on September 8.

TRAVANCORE LAW REPORTS

To remedy the existing defects in law reporting in Travancore and to improve the system of publication of law reports, the Government of Travancore have issued orders for publication of the reports monthly on the I.L.R. model and for this work being entrusted to a body composed of an editor and a reporter, who will both be practising advocates, working under the control of a Council consisting of the Chief Justice and another Judge of the Travancore High Court, the Advocate-General and one senior advocate.

FINANCIAL SECRETARY

Mr. A. Lakshmi Narayana Iyer, Assistant Accountant-General, Madras, has been appointed Financial Secretary to Travancore Government. He will take charge of his office shortly.

Burdwan

THE LATE MAHARAJA

The death of the Maharaja of Burdwan has been deeply regretted. Sixty years of age, the Maharajadhiraja Sir Bijay Chand Mehtab Bahadur of Burdwan leaves behind two sons, Maharajkumar Uday Chand Mehtab Bahadur, M.L.A., and Maharajkumar Abhoy Chand Mehtab Bahadur, and two daughters, Maharajkumari Sudharani Devi and Maharajkumari Lalita Rani Devi. Both the sons were by his bedside when he breathed his last.

He was very intimately connected with the British Indian Association, the premier landholders' organisation in Bengal, and was for the last few years its President. He was a member of the Bengal Executive Council for a number of years and was a delegate from India to the Imperial Conference, London, in 1926.

Cochin

THE NEW DEWAN

His Excellency the Crown Representative has accorded sanction to the employment of Mr. A. F. W. Dixon, I.C.S., as Dewan of Cochin for two years.

Mr. Dixon, who is now on a month's leave, was Secretary to the Government of Madras in the Local Administration Department. Mr. Dixon is expected to take up his new office on the expiry of his leave.

Nabha

PRIME MINISTER OF NABHA STATE

Mr. E. B. Wakefield, I.C.S. who was for the last few years the Prime Minister of Nabha, has now been called for a war appointment and has been succeeded to the office by Sardar Shivdev Singh, a premier State Sardar.

Bhopal

SALARIES IN BHOPAL

His Highness the Nawab of Bhopal has ordered the State Finance Department to carry out an immediate investigation of salaries of all low paid State servants, with a view to revising the scales of pay where necessary so as to enable State servants to maintain themselves adequately under present conditions.

This information was supplied to the Bhopal Legislative Council when the Honourable Mr. K. F. Haider, Finance Member, intervening in the debate on the non-official resolution recommending the grant of specified dearness allowance to all State employees earning less than a hundred rupees monthly in view of the rise in the cost of living.



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April '42.

INDIANS OVERSEAS

—(o)—

South Africa

INDIANS IN SOUTH AFRICA

There was little change in the position of the Indian community in South Africa during the year, according to the Report for 1940 of the High Commissioner for India in the Union of South Africa.

The outbursts of colour feeling which in 1939 culminated in the presentation of a petition to Parliament with nearly 250,000 signatures, has to some extent died down due mainly to preoccupation with the war. South African Indians are taking a share in the Union's war effort. An Indian Corps was raised and within a few days of the opening of a recruiting campaign, 500 Indians enlisted at Durban. Before the end of the year, two Companies were with the South African troops in the North.

A survey, carried out by the Agency in connexion with the education of Indian children in Natal, a province in which over 80 per cent, of the Indian population is located, revealed that there was a general lack of accommodation, long waiting lists in most schools and a noticeable shortage of facilities for recreation. The Agent-General appealed to the Provincial Executive, stressing especially the need for compulsory education. He also asked for free education for girls and for medical and dental inspection in Indian schools.

The Provincial Executive agreed only to make a beginning with secondary education at Ladysmith in Northern Natal and to effect slight improvements in the scale of pay of teachers in Indian schools. The Report comments on the unsatisfactory nature of the response

and adds that so long as one out of two Indian children never goes to school, and very few of those who do reach a secondary school, the community is bound to remain in a state of economic subjection.

During the year the Union Government decided to implement the findings of the Wage Board for unskilled workers (the poorest section of Indians) in Durban. A minimum wage of 4s. a day for daily labourers was introduced. Many Indian casual labourers had previously been employed by the Durban City Council at wages ranging from £2 to £3-10 per month with rations valued at 10s. per month.

Ceylon

INDO-CEYLON DELEGATION

At the request of the Government of Ceylon, the Government of India have agreed to a resumption of the informal conversations which came to a close in November 1940. The meeting is now taking place in Ceylon.

It is hoped that as a result of these exploratory discussions, a solution of the various outstanding problems may be found which will help to re-establish on a firm basis of understanding and co-operation the traditional friendship between the two countries.

The following constitute the delegation of the Government of India:—

Sir Girja Shankar Bajpai (Leader).
Sir Mirza Ismail.
Mr. T. R. Venkatarama Sastri.
Mr. T. G. Rutherford.

The official advisers to the delegation are: Mr. G. S. Bozman, Joint Secretary to the Government of India, and Mr. A. V. Pai, Additional Deputy Secretary to the Government of India, who is acting as Secretary to the delegation.

Mr. T. N. S. Raghavan, Agent of the Government of India in Ceylon, is also assisting the delegation,

Burma and Malaya

BURMA AND MALAYA

The Indo-Burma agreement was subjected to severe criticism at an all-parties' meeting held at Gokhale Hall, Madras, on September 6, when a reception was accorded to Mr. Vallayan Chettiar and Mr. R. G. Iyengar, members of the Indian delegation from Burma, and to Mr. N. Raghavan, President, Central Indian Association, Malaya.

They were entertained at a tea party by a committee of hosts prior to the meeting. Leaders of all shades of public opinion attended the function.

Mr. G. A. Natesan, who presided over the function, said that

it was a matter of deep humiliation that the iniquitous Indo-Burma Agreement had been sponsored by an Indian who had been associated with the Indian Overseas problem for nearly 25 years. Ever since Lord Hardinge's time, the Government of India had been identifying themselves with the aims and aspirations of Indian nationals abroad; the recent Burma Agreement, therefore, baffled them all. They must do their utmost to see that the terms of the agreement were not given effect to. After all, this problem of Indians abroad was, to a great extent, bound up with the question of India attaining a position of equality with other nations of the world. So long as India remained a subject country, they would not be in a position to effectively solve the problem of Indian nationals abroad. He hoped that the Government of India would not lift the ban on emigration of labour to Malaya until the demands of the Indians there for equality of status had been conceded.

He finally assured the delegation that Indians overseas could always count upon the sympathy and support of India in their efforts to remove their disabilities and safeguard their interests abroad.

Mr. Vallayan Chettiar said that the very fact that they had come over to India to protest against the agreement was proof positive that the Indian community in Burma had neither been consulted in regard to the agreement, as

was promised, nor were they agreeable to the terms of the agreement.

Mr. R. G. Iyengar pleaded for the postponement of the consideration of the agreement till the war had ended as every one at present was—as it should be—preoccupied with war efforts. In the alternative he pleaded for the removal of all objectionable clauses in the agreement which vitally affected the interests of Indians domiciled in Burma and were contrary to the terms of the Government of Burma Act.

Mr. Raghavan, who briefly dealt with the conditions of Indians in Malaya, pleaded for equality of status and equal opportunities for Indian settlers in Malaya with the Malayan citizens. He also emphasized that the ban on emigration of unskilled Indian labourers to Malaya should not be lifted until fair wages and fair conditions of labour were assured to them.

INDIAN AGENT'S PLEA

"Goodwill is essential and we can ask the people of Burma to extend that goodwill with as sound a claim as we can tell the Indians in Burma to deserve it; but goodwill is not enough, there must be the actual determination to do justice," observed Mr. R. H. Hutchings, Government of India's agent in Burma, in a speech on "Indian Problems in Burma".

The Indian problem in Burma, said Mr. Hutchings, was really one for Burma and not for India. The safety and welfare of Indians in Burma was primarily the concern of the Government of Burma. Explaining the constitutional position, he said that Indians being a minority community in Burma, the safeguarding of their legitimate interests was a special responsibility of the Governor. The constitution did not speak of Burmans or Indians or Britains. They were all British subjects. Their standing in the constitutional scheme was not determined by nationality but by domicile.



TOPICS From PERIODICALS



THE REAL ISSUE IN INDIA

In the course of an article on "India and the Empire," the *New Statesman and Nation* recounts the circumstances that led to the conflict between the Congress and the Government resulting in the dead-lock which still persists.

The consent of India was not asked. Although India contains three-quarters of the population of the British Empire, has become during the last 20 years far more nationally conscious and has been promised Dominion Status, yet she was brought into the war as if she was of no more account than Fiji or British Honduras. The reply of Congress, which represents the bulk of politically conscious India, was a resolution which condemned Fascist aggression, deplored the British assumption that India would fight irrespective of the aims of the war, and said:

"If the war is to defend the *status quo*, Imperialist possessions, colonies, vested interests and privilege, then India can have nothing to do with it. If the issue is democracy, then India is intensely interested in it. If Great Britain fights for the maintenance and extension of democracy, then she must necessarily end Imperialism in her own possessions, 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 without external interference and must guide their own policy."

In that case, India would "gladly associate herself with the other democracies for mutual defence against aggression and for economic co-operation."

This offer, continues the journal, was treated with contempt by the Chamberlain Government and after the formation of Mr. Churchill's Government, which included labour members pledged to self-determination for India, no improvement was made. Negotiations have drifted on from that day until this day. Pandit Nehru and four thousand Congressmen are in prison. All that Britain has offered is an enlarged advisory council to the Viceroy. Congress now demands complete independence. Thus, says the Journal:

The dead-lock appears to be complete. Of all the blunders of Britain's rulers, none appears so flagrant or, in the long run, more disastrous than Britain's refusal of the offer of Congress at the outset of the war. Though Ireland was catastrophically handled in the last war, there was at least the excuse that the extreme party in Ireland was never willing to fight for the British cause. No such excuse exists in the case of the far greater and more serious question of India. For Congress was bitterly anti-Fascist, and it had realised the basic fact of our age that "independence" without arms had become impossible. It was willing to throw itself on to the British side. Perhaps our rules believe that mass opinion in India does not matter. Since India has been allowed few officers and since the mass of Indians are not fighting men, they are accustomed to feel contempt for threats of Indian revolt. They can always buy enough Indians to carry on the administration. India's poverty ensures that labour will be forthcoming for the war factories and Indian capitalists are usually willing enough to produce goods for which we will pay. Nothing could be more short-sighted.

German propaganda is making capital out of this dead-lock. Germany can point to 150 years of British rule and, ignoring the positive assets that Britain has brought to India, can point out

that the mass of Indians remain abjectly poor, that 92 per cent. of them are still illiterate and that Britain has used India as a country for investment, from which she still draws 50 millions in interest alone each year and treats her as a colony to be administered by civil servants whose pensions the Indian people pay.

By mishandling, a simple issue has been made complex and what could have satisfied India two years ago is apt to be rejected as inadequate today. Mr. Amery's attempts at tinkering with the problem will not do.

They mean little today if Britain is to attempt to use India merely as a dumb arsenal during the war, a country from which Princes send money, poverty provides soldiers and wealth provides goods—one in which, in Mr. Thompson's words, subordination is taken for granted as a substitute for that comradeship in a democratic cause of which we once boasted. If in Britain's greatest hour of need, India proves an embarrassment and not an ally, if the common people under the flag find that their rulers' talk about freedom is merely so much verbiage to hide the fact they are locked in a struggle between Pluto-democracy and Totalitarianism, then the Empire would disintegrate as soon as danger touched its centre.

IS INDIA A NATION?

Can India be a Nation? asks a writer in the *Round Table*. It is true that a third of her area and nearly a quarter of her population belongs to autonomous Indian States, mostly governed on "old fashioned autocratic ways". Mr. Jinnah, the autocratic leader of the Muslim League, declares that "Islam and Hinduism are not only profoundly different cultures but separate nations which can never be joined under a single political government". Are we then to accept the conclusion that the unity of India is merely artificial product of pressure from without incapable of surviving once that pressure is removed?

The answer lies largely in the domain of geography. India is one and indivisible. There are no such internal frontiers as those which in Western and Southern Europe have fostered the growth of separate nations. The Indian States correspond to no such natural divisions.

They represent in the main little more than the crystallisation at moments convenient to the practical, illogical British mind, of the state of affairs left when the chaos resulting from the break-down of the Mogul Empire gradually gave place to the extension of British power, direct or indirect, over all India. Their territories sprawl everywhere across India's natural lines of communication and, while that is of minor importance so long as the general control of Indian affairs is in British hands, the elimination of that control, leaving the States and the Provinces of British India to fight out their relations over tariffs, railways, defence or foreign policy as entirely separate and unco-ordinated political entities, would lead to indescribable confusion if not actually to war.

The deepest division between the inhabitants of India, that between Islam and Hinduism, has similarly no boundary

to express it. Nowhere indeed except in the extreme north-west is there an exclusively Muslim population.

The North-West in a wider sense, including the Punjab and Sind with the North-West Frontier Province, has an almost two-thirds Moslem majority. In Bengal and Assam the majority is under 55 per cent. Elsewhere in British India, Islam is a minority nowhere exceeding 20 per cent. In the States the one great Moslem dynasty, that of Hyderabad, rules over a population nearly 90 per cent. Hindu, while the only major State with a Moslem majority, Kashmir, is ruled by a Hindu dynasty. In the Punjab, the Sikhs, though only 20 per cent. of the total population, are not likely to forget that less than a century ago they were the military rulers of that great province or that there are martial Sikh States outside it. Conversely, in the United Provinces the correspondingly small Moslem minority still has the traditions of the age when their province was the centre of a Moslem Empire which, for centuries, ruled all Northern India; if India were once to be broken up between Moslem and Hindu, they would clamour for a political reunion with their Moslem neighbours, east and west, in order to restore that Empire. The execution of Mr. Jinnah's Pakistan policy, in fact, is calculated to reproduce in India the same sort of conditions as those which followed the break-down of the Mogul Empire, to revive the internal strife and lawlessness and devastation from which the Indian peoples were rescued by the expansion of British rule. Nor would it only be a question of internal peace. An India thus broken up would be incapable of defence against the outside world. A Muslim North-Western State could not defend itself unaided even against the Afghans and, with the recent record of the Balkan States in mind, can any one be sure that other Indian States, Moslem or Hindu, would aid it?

Disunion would likewise wreck the prospect of that industrial development on which, almost literally, the future life of India depends.

The lay out of the transport system, the local distribution of raw materials, the present low purchasing power of the population as a whole, these and many other factors in the economic situation would make it impossible for India to advance, or indeed to escape a decline in her scale of production and her standards of living if she were to be divided into two or more rival nations, born of a political and communal antagonism that would inevitably extend itself into the economic field.

The fact is that geography and history have made India a unit for the fundamental purposes of external and internal peace and economic development.

SIR NORMAN ANGELL'S APOLOGIA

Sir Norman Angell, the well-known author of "The Great Illusion" now appears in a queer role—that of an apologist of British rule in India. Writing in the *Survey Graphic*, he tells the American people that Britain does not own an inch of ground in all the vast range of territories scattered all over the world.

The British people do not even govern the greater part of their overseas "possessions". For during the last 70 years, Britain has carried on a process of de-imperialisation so that what was originally an Empire has, for the greater part, ceased so to be one; what were originally colonies have become independent states. They have attained without war the independence for which the thirteen American colonies had to fight.

That may be true of the Dominions and Colonies, but what of India? Only the wearer knows where the shoe pinches, but Sir Norman has no hesitation in telling the Americans that

for 20 years India has made her own tariff and has used that tariff-making power again and again to exclude British goods; and that, even when Britain controlled India's tariff, the Indian market was open to the whole world on equal terms, Britain claiming no advantage for herself.

Every one in India knows how this tariff-making power actually works in practice. For twenty years, India has been promised Dominion Status which is as far away now as ever. Sir Norman, like the average bureaucrat, has no difficulty in finding excuses for the non-fulfilment of a definite pledge. He has evidently taken his clue from the "Talking Points" supplied by the British Ministry of Information. The usual argument of disunity is urged and then, in defiance of all history and tradition he tells his kinsmen over the Seas that "before the British came there was no such unit as India. The Indians did not know the word".

That is Sir Norman's reading of Indian history and he consoles himself with the reflection that

these indubitable facts bear on Britain's hesitation to grant India Dominion Status in existing conditions of the world. There would follow a partition of India between, say, Russia and Japan, just as Russia and Germany have recently partitioned Poland.

That would be terrible indeed, but could be no excuse for perpetuating an unnatural domination.

It is a pity that a philosophic thinker like Sir Norman should adduce to the credit of British rule such elementary things as the extension of Railways and Irrigation. They are at least as much in the interests of British capitalists as in those of the Indian masses. And then there is no sense in attributing to British rule the natural results of modern civilisation. British propaganda in America should be on more rational and firmer basis if they are to carry conviction to an intelligent public.

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THE NEGRO IN THE U. S. A.

There are sixteen million negroes in the United States and the fact that for the first time one of them has been promoted to the rank of General by President Roosevelt is hailed as a landmark in American history. For, General Davis, who now holds one of the highest posts in military life, has demonstrated his competence by the brilliance of his career. That a negro could be first in any human activity was something inconceivable to the American mind three or four decades ago. For, the whites never dreamed that a negro could equal them in anything.

But things have undergone a spectacular change since then. Negroes have distinguished themselves in different spheres of life. The *World Digest* gives the following facts culled from a journal published in Buenos Aires.

First came the fists of the negro boxers with Jack Johnson as outstanding star, and then the music of the first jazz bands in Chicago headed by "the crazy Brown"; all of which made the whites take notice of the negroes and come to consider them as something more than simple laboring machines. Between infallible uppercuts and diabolical "Charlestons", the negro began to stand out as something that at least was different. And this marked the beginning of a dawn which, after a very few years, blossomed into the fullest and most glorious mid-day.

For the negroes were not alone important as boxers and rug cutting artists. The public soon realized that they also served as poets or singers, as legislators or military officers. Rapidly for the first time in the history of the United States had become wide-spread. And, although in the majority of cases there was not actually more than one negro represented in each of the activities which make up the formidable medley of energy in the great Northern democracy, it still could very well be said that many of these representatives of a former slave race are truly outstanding stars in the world today.

Then follows an interesting list of names of negroes who have so distinguished themselves.

Marian Anderson, the contralto who a short time ago sang in Buenos Aires over Station L.R.-1. Radio "El Mundo", is considered by many as the foremost singer of our days. Joe Louis, world champion boxer, has no rivals for the present. Duke Ellington is the gifted director of the best jazz band in existence. Langston Hughes, Countee Cullen, and Claude McKay, writers and poets, stand out as leaders of their race and as poets of high merit. The motion picture has carried everywhere the voice of Paul Robeson, extraordinary baritone. Many members of the House of Representatives in Washington have more than once found themselves at a loss to reply to the only negro Representative in the United States, Mr. Arthur Mitchell, elected in 1934. In the World's Fair in New York, there was a beautiful sculpture by Augusta Savage, negro artist educated in Paris, who had won this distinction in competition with more than two hundred other contestants.

The scientific world has a high regard for Dr. George Washington Carver, ex-slave, and Director of the Agriculture Department of Tuskegee Institute, and for Dr. Louis T. Wright, Director of the Harlem Hospital. The Philharmonic Society of New York felt honored one day at the visit of William Grant Still, the composer, on the presentation of his admirable Afro-American Symphony. In the Olympic Games of 1936, Jesse Owens demonstrated his insuperable athletic abilities. Beaufort Belaney is a negro painter for whom no white person in New York would be unwilling to pose. Professor W. E. B. DuBois, of Atlanta, founded and for many years edited the magazine *Crisis*; and he made himself one of the staunchest pillars of his race's recovery.

The list is fairly representative of different branches of culture and achievement and shows that the negro is in no way inferior to the white, that is to say, if equal opportunities are afforded for his improvement. Hence the inspiring exhortation:

"The day of the negro has arrived. Now we are equal to the whites in fitness and respectability. Let us try to deserve these blessings. Let us work; let us learn; let us be men. . . ."

—an exhortation to which millions of negroes respond with enthusiasm.

THE POLITICAL SITUATION IN INDIA

In a lengthy survey of the present political situation in India, Sir Jagdish Prasad urges in the columns of the *Twentieth Century* the release of political prisoners to bring about a change in the atmosphere to end the dead-lock in the country. One possible solution, he says, may be a National Government in the provinces for the period of the war without prejudice to ultimate party claims after the war.

Before such a solution could be thought of, political leaders will have to forego insistence on purely party governments on the one hand and Governments based on the two-nation theory on the other. The preliminaries of such proposals cannot, however, be mooted so long as all the Congress Premiers and a number of other eminent men such as Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru are in prison. Moreover, their continued incarceration is the occasion for much ill-feeling among large sections of the people which makes calm consideration difficult.

The treatment of political prisoners inside jails, which varies between province and province, helps to keep up the tension. In some provinces, the sound principle is adopted that nothing should be done inside the jails to make a political prisoner feel more bitter when he comes out than when he goes in. In others, the dominant note of policy is, that the man has deliberately hampered war effort at a time of great peril to the whole Empire and therefore deserves no special consideration.

The argument will no doubt be advanced that, unless there is a previous guarantee that the Civil Disobedience movement will be abandoned, those who are released prematurely will have to seek re-imprisonment almost immediately, and all that the policy of premature release would have achieved would be renewed public excitement and increased bitterness of feeling. It would be idle to deny the existence of such a possibility but the risk is worth taking as the Government are strong enough to take it. Political happenings do not always conform to logic. If logic had always prevailed, the General who was among the last to surrender to the English in the Boer War would not to-day be a Field-Marshal in the British Army and one of the staunchest supporters of the British cause.

It is not beyond the range of possibility that events may have brought a change of view in those now in prison, and that their meeting together as freemen to take stock of the situation may effect in it a much desired improvement.

So much for the two alternatives. As regards the third alternative of an intermediate form of Government between Autocracy and Responsible Government, it would be well to postpone its

discussion till such time as it becomes clear that one man rule is to continue indefinitely.

Referring to the position in the Congress provinces, Sir Jagdish Prasad says:

It is admitted that not once during the Congress regime did the Governors find occasion to exercise their powers to protect Minorities and that on the whole their relations with their Congress Ministers were friendly and helpful. And yet, so suddenly had the British attitude hardened that it was asserted by persons in authority that it was not necessary for condemning the Congress Governments that they should have done any actual harm to the Muslims and that it was enough if the Muslims should harbour a feeling that they had been wronged. Influential men did not hesitate to express the view that if the Congress went back to office without coming to a settlement with the Muslims, the whole of Northern India would go up in flames. It is against this background that Mr. Amery's utterances should be judged.

He concludes with the following pertinent observations:—

The Government of India Act is still on the Statute Book. It has not so far been repealed. If it can be improved or replaced by consent within a reasonable time, well and good. If not, the British Government must act, as it acted in 1935 in spite of strong opposition from powerful men in its own party. It should redeem the pledges it has so often made to the people of India and proceed to establish a Government at the Centre, united and strong and based on those principles of freedom which have been so successfully applied to the British Dominions, which have proved of such immense value whenever the security of British people has been threatened and which have brought America to its side in this war. India has for centuries experimented with despotism and autocracy. She yearns for freedom and free institutions. Let the British people who have discovered parliamentary institutions for the world give India a reasonable chance of experimenting with them.

INDIA IN PERIODICALS

INDIA AND THE AMERIAS IN THE FUTURE. [The Aryan Path, September 1941.]

SWAMI VIVEKANANDA AND MODERN INDIA. By Swami Jagadiswarananda. [Prabuddha Bharata, September 1941.]

THE NEWARS OF KATMANDU. By "A Nepali". [The New Review, September 1941.]

THE STALEMATE IN INDIA. [The Round Table, June 1941.]

THE INDEPENDENT HINDU KINGDOM. By S. N. Sen. [The Modern Review, September 1941.]

THE INDIAN POLITICAL CRISIS. By Sir A. P. Patro, K.C.I.E. [The Calcutta Review, August 1941.]

INDIAN LITERARY TRADITION. By N. M. Kulkarni, M.A. [The Journal of the Benares Hindu University No. 3.]

CULTURE AND MASS RELIGION

Culture and mass religion present strong points of contrast. For culture is an individual achievement and a cultured society is a collection of cultured individuals. Whereas mass religion builds upon group consciousness and it deals with a certain type of people as distinguished from individuals. Dr. A. C. Bose, writing in the September issue of the *Modern Review*, suggests the following safeguards against the degeneration of culture when dealing with the masses:

By giving culture in a diluted and often somewhat coarsened form to the masses, the teachers, perhaps, took the risk of impairing its dignity and delicacy. Sometimes there was a deliberate sacrifice of the more delicate and spiritual qualities in the interest of mass appeal, but against this risk and the sacrifice, what a service did they render to culture by winning over vast masses of people as admiring followers who, in a severe detachment from it, would easily have turned its enemies?

The remedy for the loss of the finer qualities lay with culture itself. History bears witness to the fact that culture was not satisfied by merely evolving and spreading a mass religion, but, as it happened with the more advanced countries, engaged itself frequently in purifying and improving it. What is reformation but the impact of culture on mass religion? In fact, the test of a mass religion is, how often and how completely it can pass through not only a reformation but also a renaissance; in other words, how vital is its contact with the life of higher culture.

If a religion like Hinduism has lived for millenniums, it is because at frequent intervals the tenets of its belief have been tested and re-stated through the experience of men of high culture and the rigidity of its forms has been overpowered through the expansion of the spirit.

Culture is *finis*, but certainly not great enough till it has found means to translate itself to the language of the masses of the people and reach down to their understanding and at the same time keep itself vigilantly engaged in upholding its true nature. For, even in order that a few should be enlightened, the many must be persuaded to prefer light to darkness.

PHILOSOPHY, SCIENCE & RELIGION

This is the heading of an article in the September issue of the *Vedanta Kesari* by Dr. Sateshchandra Chatterjee. While both science and philosophy are the intellectual pursuit of truth, religion, says Dr. Chatterjee, is a mode of life. To be a scientist or a philosopher is to think in a certain way and know certain things, but to be religious is to adopt a certain mode of life. He continues:

Science is an intellectual attempt to know physical phenomena, philosophy is a similar attempt to know reality. Science rationalizes our sense-experiences of the physical world, while philosophy tries to rationalize our supersensuous experiences of reality. Religion is not so much an attempt to rationalise any experience as to attain certain forms of supersensuous experience. It consists in man's effort to attain and maintain the experiences of a supersensible reality and to live a life in conformity with them. It affects and transforms the whole of our life. While science and philosophy make us especially to think in certain ways, religion makes us think, feel, and will in certain specified ways. Religion is based essentially on the experiences of a supersensible reality beyond the visible world. While philosophy tries to rationalise these experiences and justify them in relation to the world of our ordinary experience, religion consists in the training of the body and the mind so as to realise the supersensuous in our life and in the world. Moral purification, devout meditation, and renunciation are the keynotes of the religious life. In religion we think of the supersensuous reality as a personal being in whom the highest ideals of truth, goodness, and beauty are realised, and by whom the whole world is created, maintained, and destroyed at will.

Dr. Chatterjee concludes by saying that philosophy justifies the religious faith in God when it rationalizes our experiences of supersensuous reality in relation to the world of sense and science. In view of this, we find some truth in Hegel's statement of the relation between philosophy and religion although it is put a bit paradoxically when he says: "Philosophy, therefore, only unfolds itself when it unfolds religion and in unfolding itself it unfolds religion."

CHRISTIANITY AND INDIA

Mr. Anil Chandra Ganguli, writing in the latest number of the *Calcutta Review*, says that Christianity came to India during a period of transition. For in its wake followed a number of other cults professing to replace religion as Theosophy, Positivism, etc. The Christian Church was disunited. Further the policy of attacking non-Christian religions pursued by the Missionaries "was un-Christian in spirit" as pointed out by C. F. Andrews "and opposed to the words of the Master—He came not to destroy, but to fulfil." Just at that time India came in contact with the Western scholars who discovered unbounded wealth in Sanskrit language and who began to praise Hinduism to the skies. This was a set-back to Christianity. The writer concludes:

India at last re-discovered herself. Study of her history and philosophy inspired confidence in the Indian. He was awakened to a sense of duty to defend his own culture; to understand the truth of Hinduism and to interpret them; at any rate, to venerate them where comprehension failed. . . .

The Hindu Idol, the target of the Missionary, is but the symbol of that One Infinite Soul; each religion is but an independent path leading to that one God, whatever be His name. The artificial distinctions of dogma are born of a false sense of values—the means hindering, rather than helping, the end in view.

This spirit of catholicity and tolerance reflected the true genius of India. Hindu Renaissance with this universal note successfully overcame the symptoms of decadence and stemmed the rising tide of Christianity.

Formal conversion ceased, and the Hindu discovered that the Missionaries had really brought no new message, nothing indeed that was unknown to India. Centuries before the birth of Christ, the same spirit of God had manifested itself through Indian prophets who had anticipated the teachings of the Bible. Indeed, in the philosophical and religious experience of India, all human experience has had its echo. In her long history of 5,000 years, India has often been the victim of political ambition, but the foreign conqueror has never been able to conquer the people's mind. Hinduism with its broad vision and traditional vigour has assimilated new truths, if any, in foreign culture and has preserved the integrity of its spiritual evolution. Neo-Hinduism is but the flowering of the genius of India, a philosophy of life, eternal and the universal.

BATTLE OF THE ATLANTIC

The *Magazine Digest*, quoting from a Toronto Weekly, observes that, perhaps, the most crucial battle of the present war is being waged in the Atlantic. It is not so well publicized as the campaigns in other regions, but all the same it is the bloodiest, most merciless and most important phase of the war.

Food supplies from abroad are the mainstay of the un-self-sufficient British Isles, whether carried in tramp vessels or proud ocean liners. It is the number of these vessels actually reaching harbor which will decide whether Britain can maintain her precious life-line across the Atlantic.

In the third year of the last war, German naval officials confidently predicted the immediate collapse of Great Britain due to the ruinous destruction of her merchant marine. In this, the second year of the present war, Nazi officials are jubilant over reported success in the campaign against merchant shipping. Recently within the space of 48 hours, the German Admiralty triumphantly announced to the world the sinking of 224,000 tons of British shipping.

That is why this grim Battle of the Atlantic may be the "spring offensive", which Hitler has been promising Great Britain for many months.

The crisis in the Balkans, the affair in the Mediterranean—although these may be more spectacular from a news point of view than cold figures of ship sinkings—may only be devices of Hitler to spread Britain's fleet thin over a large area and thus be able to strike a fatal blow at her shipping.

The fate of the Empire, continues the writer, may conceivably hang upon the output of American shipping-yards. If all goes well, one million tons are expected to be sent forth this year, with well over two million tons by next year, and, perhaps, five millions in 1943. Much depends on the ability of Britain to weather Nazi attacks these coming months until United States ship-building can throw the balance definitely on the British side.

THE IDEA OF REPRESENTATION

Representation is one of the most complicated questions of modern politics, and Dr. E. Asirvatham discusses the growth of that idea through the ages in the course of an article in the *New Review* for September.

The principle underlying representation is the consent of the governed.

This was a relatively simple affair in the democracies of ancient Greece which were direct democracies. All free men met together in a common assembly to frame policies, decide upon laws, elect magistrates, receive ambassadors and listen to reports from their representatives returning from abroad. There was no question of having proxies or deputies to represent them. They were themselves personally present to conduct the affairs of the State.

Owing to the changed conditions of the world today, such direct democracy is no longer possible except in some of the small cantons of Switzerland.

The principle of the consent of the governed as the basis of any stable and successful form of government became so firmly fixed by the eighteenth century that when England tried to tax her American colonies without giving them representation, the American War of Independence was the result with its battle-cry of 'No taxation without representation'. The French Revolution was fought about the same time with a view to establishing the rights of liberty, equality and fraternity for everybody. The value of every human being came to be gradually realized, and Jeremy Bentham, the founder of English Utilitarianism, summed it up in its mechanical side in the well known formula: 'Each to count for one and nobody for more than one.'

From now on, it was widely recognised that common interest could be best served by giving the vote to every adult person.

One man one vote became the clarion-call of all democrats. A series of Parliamentary Acts in England in 1832, 1867, 1884, 1918 and 1928 have removed step by step most property and sex qualifications for voting, and the franchise has been established on a wide basis although plural voting has not been totally eliminated. A person, for instance, can vote as a member of his constituency as well as a registered graduate of his university both in England and India. Such advanced democracies as France and Switzerland do not extend the franchise to women even to-day.

Some argue that the accident of residence is not a satisfactory basis of representation and that a man has more

in common with members of his own profession or occupation than with those who happen to live together in the same constituency.

It is, therefore eloquently pleaded by some that territorial representation should be replaced by functional representation and that Parliament should become representative of the various professions and economic interests in the country.

While attractive at the outset, this scheme raises more difficulties than it solves. It is not easy to decide what the vital interests are which should be represented and there is nothing to prevent these interests from dividing and subdividing themselves till society becomes completely atomized.

A system peculiar to India is the representation of religious communities through separate electorates.

Some consider it to be a negation of nationalism while others regard it as a necessary evil until caste exclusiveness, religious preferences and differing personal laws and social customs either disappear from the country altogether or are brought within reasonable bounds.

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NOTES

Questions of Importance

POSTPONEMENT OF ELECTIONS

The India and Burma Postponement of Elections Bill passed its third reading in the House of Commons on September 11.

The Bill extends for the duration of war and 12 months afterwards, the maximum life of the House of Representatives in Burma and the Legislative Assemblies in the 11 Provinces in India.

"The communal feeling is unfortunately running pretty high in some parts of India at present and might be seriously aggravated by election meetings and speeches," said Mr. Amery and added:

In certain Provinces, there is the further feature that the Constitution has been suspended due to the withdrawal of Congress Ministries and Members. I think it would be little less than farcical at any rate so long as that position continues, if elections were held merely in order to afford an opportunity of ventilating Mr. Gandhi's policy of negation without any prospects of returning to constitutional government after the elections.

Mr. Silverman (Labour) said that the measure was an act of autocracy, it was an act of dictatorship and an act preventing the people from expressing their own views. The communal feeling was not caused by the war and would not be ended by the war.

Mr. Sorensen declared that it would be more in agreement with the principles of democracy to hold the elections than to postpone them and advance sorry, shallow and untrue arguments in defence of that action.

Mr. Cove (Labour) asked the Government to make a complete change in regard to

India and apply the Atlantic Charter fully to Indian conditions.

Mr. Amery in reply said that it was the genuine desire of Britain to see India find her position as soon as possible as a free and equal partner in the British Commonwealth.

That is a matter of principle in which we have taken a lead before the Atlantic Charter which introduced no new principle as promulgated.

INDIA AND THE ATLANTIC CHARTER

"The Joint Declaration does not qualify in any way the various statements of policy which have been made from time to time about the development of constitutional government in India, Burma or other parts of the British Empire," declared Mr. Churchill in the course of a statement in Parliament explaining the implications of the Eight-Point Declaration.

"We have pledged, by the Declaration of August, 1940, to help India to obtain free and equal partnership in the British Commonwealth of races subject of course to the fulfilment of the obligations arising from our long connection with India and our responsibilities to its many creeds, races and interests.

Burma also is covered by our considered policy of establishing Burma's self-government and by measures already in progress.

At the Atlantic meeting, we had in mind primarily the extension of the sovereignty, self-government and national life of the States and nations of Europe now under Nazi yoke and the principles which should govern any alterations in the territorial boundaries of countries which may have to be made. That is quite a separate problem from the progressive evolution of self-governing institutions in regions whose peoples owe allegiance to the British Crown. We have made declarations on these matters which are complete in themselves, free from ambiguity and related to the conditions and circumstances of the territories and peoples affected. They will be found to be entirely in harmony with the conception of freedom and justice which inspired the Joint Declaration."

PANDIT MALAVIYA ON BRITISH PLEDGES

Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya, addressing a large gathering at Benares, in response to his appeal, referred to the dreadful and devastating war which had deprived so many countries of Europe of their freedom and sovereignty and reminded his audience that in the last war Indian troops had been sent to France to help the Allies.

"In the words of Mr. Asquith, the then Prime Minister of Great Britain," he added, "they were heartily welcomed as joint and equal custodians of their common interests and fortunes." "We hail," Mr. Asquith said, "with profound and heartfelt gratitude their association side by side and shoulder to shoulder with the British and Dominions troops." At the end of the war, Mr. Lloyd George said: "You are entitled to rejoice, people of Britain, that the Allies, Dominions and India have won a glorious victory. It is the most wonderful victory for liberty in the history of the world." Indians had hoped that in view of such whole-hearted appreciation of the contribution made by India to the cause of freedom, India would be raised to the status of an independent country, but this has not happened.

Twenty-two years have passed since these opinions were expressed and the deadliest war known to history has been going on for over two years. India has made a magnificent contribution to the success achieved by Britain in the several theatres of war. India has been clamouring since the beginning of the war that Britain should declare that India shall cease to be regarded as a dependency of England and that her status shall be recognised as one of equality with Great Britain at the end of the war. Many statements have been made by the Secretary of State and the Governor-General of India. But it seems that the British Government has not made up its mind to part with power in India. In the joint declaration of President Roosevelt and Mr. Churchill, it was stated that "Britain and America would respect the right of all peoples to choose the form of Government under which they will live, and they wish to see sovereign rights and self-governments restored to those who have been forcibly deprived of them". This made many people to think that India would be included in the sphere of the Declaration but they have been disillusioned.

After referring to Mr. Churchill's speech on India, Pandit Malaviya said:

"This clear unambiguous statement has dashed the hopes that some people cherished, that at the end of the war India would have equality of status with the Dominions and Britain.

Are you my countrymen, to be content with the position to which Mr. Churchill wishes you to be confined? Do you want freedom such as Britain enjoys? If you do, you are not to be

depressed by anything which Mr. Churchill has said. You have only to be determined to obtain your freedom, to be united among yourselves and to make such sacrifices as you may be called upon to make."

Concluding, Pandit Malaviya exhorted his audience to organise and discipline themselves for the service of their motherland.

MR. AMERY ON INDIA'S WAR EFFORT

A tribute to India's war effort was paid by Mr. Amery, Secretary of State for India, broadcasting to Latin America.

"While it is true," Mr. Amery said:

"that there is much political agitation in India—even more between rival elements than against the existing Government—it is not surprising that the peoples of India, regardless of these difficulties, are unanimous in their detestation of the Nazi system, whose victory would be the destruction of all their hopes and are worthily contributing not only by their wishes, but by their efforts and sacrifices, to the common cause. For this contribution, India enjoys a unique strategic situation at the centre of the vast arch of British territories and interests that extend around the Indian Ocean and equally near to meet any threat against our position in the Middle or Far East.

Indian reinforcements were, at the very beginning of the war, hurried to Egypt, Aden and Singapore. Since then Indian troops have played a decisive part in the conquest of Eritrea, Abyssinia and Syria. Their prompt arrival at Basra checked the German designs upon Iraq, as their action in Iran has more recently forestalled a similar German enterprise and opened a line of communication by which British and American help can be sent to Russia. A powerful Indian force stands side by side with British and Australian troops in Malaya, ready to defend against all possible attack the great Naval Base at Singapore.

Indian troops have won renown in many wars of the past. In the present war, they have shown how to adapt their traditional valour to conditions of modern warfare and their skill and heroism have won the admiration of all who have fought alongside them or against them. In less than two years, a peace time Indian Army of some 200,000 men has been increased to nearly a million.

Every one of these men is a volunteer, for there is no conscription in India and recruits are still coming into depots at the rate of a thousand a day, as fast as they can be equipped.

Mr. Amery concluded by stating that India to-day was a great arsenal of war and over 250 factories were turning out munitions. Over three and a half million pounds have been subscribed through the Viceroy's Fund for war relief and over three million pounds by the Indian States and the Provinces and by Burma for the provision of Fighter Squadrons for the Royal Air Force.

SIR C. P.'S. TRIBUTE TO C. R.

Eloquent tributes were paid to Sri C. Rajagopalachariar by Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar, Dewan of Travancore, when he unveiled a portrait of the ex-Premier at the premises of the Hindi Prachar Sabha, Madras, on Monday the 15th September. The portrait was executed by Sri S. N. Chamkur, and the residents of Thyagaroyanagar, who had formed a Committee and organised the function as a token of their deep love towards Rajaji, presented the same to the Dakshina Bharat Hindi Pracharak Sabha. Mr. Chamkur's full size painting in oil, showing C. R. in his characteristic posture and costume is a brilliant work of art which extorted instant admiration for its fidelity to the original. The suburb of Thyagaroyanagar has honoured itself in the possession of so fine a picture of its distinguished citizen.

Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar spoke eloquently of the qualities of leadership which Sri Rajagopalachari displayed and also referred to his high sense of public duty combined with a sense of devotion to the "primal essences of the world" which he portrayed in his works and short stories.

As a politician, said Sir C. P., Sri C. Rajagopalachariar is a born leader of men. He felt he should lead. He managed to acquire a position in which he did great work for his country in leading. He believes in the message of Mahatma Gandhi and is willing to incur any odium and to go through any sacrifice without questioning in the spirit of a soldier—a Field-Marshal.

"In Sri Rajagopalachari," Sir Ramaswami Aiyar said in conclusion,

India has a great asset. Inflexible and strong, he is nevertheless a man with a sense of humour,—a Puckish, playful sense of humour—one who could differentiate between outward differences and see

congruences and the unity underneath. Such men are rare. In these days of controversies, personal, communal and otherwise, such men are the salt of the earth. Such men are needed. Such is Sri Rajagopalachari. I perform this function with the utmost joy and with the utmost gratitude.

Messages from friends and leaders from different parts of the country showed its deep appreciation of Rajaji's character and achievements. Mrs. Sarojini Naidu wrote:

Rarely have I seen such rare and brilliant intellect allied with such impressive and inspiring simplicity of life and such genuine courtesy of spirit alike to friend and antagonist. His achievements are in the unspectacular but enduring freshness among our national assets.

The warm esteem which C. R. enjoys beyond the frontier of the Province was expressed in Sir M. Venkata Subba Rau's message from Hyderabad. The message which praised the constructive statesmanship of this "dreamer and realist" added:

Tender to a fault, yet in matters of conscience, firm as a rock, of great personal charm yet of inflexible courage, extremely simple yet bafflingly subtle, Sri C. Rajagopalachariar has been a dynamic force in the political life of resurgent India. By his dedicated life, by the sacrifices he has made without counting the cost, his large humanity, piercing intellect, seductive eloquence, he has become one of the finest statesmen of this generation.

Yet another of the many hearty tributes to Rajaji's talents was from Dr. C. R. Reddy of the Andhra University. Honouring C. R. both as man and statesman, Dr. Reddy wrote:

I have always admired the great gifts of Sri Rajagopalachari and the grand example of an efficient, uncorruptible, clear-headed public life and service that he has set. In his intellectual grasp of problems and realistic vision of India's needs and possibilities, he shines forth as one of our master-minds. He is one of the big types that are indispensable to India.

It must do C. R.'s heart good to know that he is held in such esteem by his countrymen who deeply appreciate his great gifts and services.

A HIGH SCHOOL JUBILEE

To have survived 50 years of trial and tribulation in this land of infant mortality is no small achievement for an institution; and it is fitting that the Golden Jubilee of Sir M. Ct. Muthiah Chettiar's High School in Vepery, a suburb of Madras, should be celebrated with great eclat. The institution owes its origin to the enlightened generosity of the late Sir Muthiah, and it has grown from strength to strength by the continued patronage of his son, Hon. Mr. M. Ct. Chidambaram Chettiar, who has upheld the traditions of his house by his sustained interest in it. The occasion was appropriately marked by the opening of a new annexe to the suite of buildings, by Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar.

Sir Ramaswami Aiyar took this opportunity to pay a well-merited tribute to the generosity of the donor and went on to observe that there should be included in the curriculum of a school something which would contribute to emotional peace and uplift and make the boy or girl more alive to the joy of life.

Pointing out that the boys and girls of the present day were "wasted specimens of humanity", Sir Ramaswami Aiyar stressed the importance of physical perfection and the need for "capturing and renovating" indigenous exercises. In the matter of vocational education, he said that Gandhiji was essentially right when he stressed the charka and khaddar movement, but his technique, limited as it was, should be extended. Sir Ramaswami Aiyar also referred to the steps taken in Travancore for the inclusion of music and dance in the reform of education.

The Jubilee Souvenir published in this connection is a handsome volume of pleasant recollections of the old school which must serve as an appropriate memento of the occasion.

TRIBUTES TO REV. FR. CARTY

Warm tributes were paid to the work of Rev. Fr. Carty of St. Joseph's College, Trichinopoly, as an educationist and economist, at a public meeting held at the Senate House, Madras, on September 12 to celebrate his 65th birthday.

The Celebration Committee availed themselves of the occasion to have a portrait of Rev. Fr. Carty unveiled by Dr. C. R. Reddi, Vice-Chancellor of the Andhra University.

A large and distinguished gathering of educationists and citizens of Madras was present on the occasion to offer felicitations to Rev. Fr. Carty.

The Celebration Committee had brought out a Commemoration Volume containing articles on current political and economic subjects partly by his old students and partly by others. The Commemoration Volume was presented to Rev. Fr. Carty as a memento of the occasion.

Sir Mahomed Usman, Vice-Chancellor of the Madras University, presided over the function.

LUCKNOW UNIVERSITY

The Executive Council of the Lucknow University has elected Raja Bisheswar Dayal Seth of Kotra, Vice-Chancellor of the Lucknow University, in the vacancy caused by the recent resignation of Kunwar Sir Maharaj Singh. No other names were proposed, Mr. V. L. Pandit having decided not to contest the election. Raja Bisheswar Dayal, who is 40, is the youngest Vice-Chancellor in India.

THE VEDAS AS LITERATURE

The article on "The Vedas in Literature", which appeared in the last number of this *Review*, was a talk broadcast from the Madras Station of the All-India Radio by Mr. V. Narayanan. We regret the omission of these particulars at the foot of the article and hasten to rectify the same.

FUNCTIONS OF LAWYERS

Addressing the students of the Law College, Madras, Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar said it was essential for a legal practitioner to maintain close contact with his fellow-men and to understand human nature as his success depended largely on his being able to enter the other fellow's mind. In the normal life of a lawyer there was little room for oratory. A quiet, matter-of-fact, half-humorous style of speaking, which would keep the interest of the judge and enable a story being told in a straightforward manner was needed. It was essential for a law student to learn the art of compression.

Referring to the need for a specialisation, he said that in the United States and in England, the lawyers who earned the largest income were specialists in some branches or subjects. In India, signs were not wanting of specialisation in respect of income-tax, law or election law. It would be a good thing if students of law concentrated their attention on some such special subjects.

He commended to the students the system of 'family lawyer.' He looked forward to the time when such a system would spread here, so that attempts could be made to resolve disputes without recourse to law.

This country had produced most eminent lawyers and he ventured to think that South Indian intellect was peculiarly fitted to deal with the intricacies and mazes of the law. This excellence, said Sir Ramaswami Aiyar, should be developed not only in courts but also outside, so that a lawyer might serve as a creative and formative influence on society and help to stabilise it.

MADRAS SALES TAX—ULTRA VIRES

"Notwithstanding that the tax imposed by the Madras General Sales Tax Act is based on turnover, we hold that it is, in fact a tax on sales and that, in so far as it imposes a tax on the first sales of goods manufactured or produced within the province, it is *ultra vires* the Provincial Legislature," observed the Chief Justice of the Madras High Court, dismissing the appeal preferred by Government against the decision of the District Munsif, Vizianagaram, in a suit filed by some local ground-nut merchants that the tax on the first sale of goods was *ultra vires* the Provincial Legislature and that it was excise duty within the meaning of upheld the Government of India Act.

The appeal was heard by a Bench of the High Court, consisting of the Chief Justice and the Hon. Mr. Chandrasekara Ayyar, who upheld the decision of the lower court.

The Chief Justice added: "We consider that in calculating a dealer's turnover for the purpose of the Act, the sale by him of goods which he had manufactured or produced must be excluded."

It is understood that Government will be filing an appeal to the Federal Court against the judgment of the High Court.

NEW JUDGE FOR MADRAS

A press *communiqué* announces the appointment of Major James Alan Bell, M.C., BAR.-AT-LAW, to be a puisne Judge of the High Court of Madras in the vacancy that will occur on the appointment of Mr. Justice F. W. Gentle to be a Judge of the High Court of Calcutta.

ABOLITION OF CAPITAL PUNISHMENT

A Government Bill abolishing the death sentence for murder and substituting life imprisonment and also abolishing flogging has been read the first time in the New Zealand House of Representatives.

ORIENTAL LIFE ASSURANCE CO.

The Oriental continues to lead other Indian Companies in the volume of business turned out. The report of the Directors of the Company for the year 1940 states that new business for the year amounted to 35,764 policies assuring Rs. 748½ lakhs as compared with the new business of 39,965 policies assuring Rs. 773 lakhs for the previous year. The ratio of expenses including commission to premium income during the year was 20.6 per cent. as compared with 22.6 per cent. in 1939 and 22.0 per cent. in 1938. The average rate of interest realised during the year was 4.84 per cent. after deduction of Income-tax at the source as compared with 4.50 per cent. realised during the previous year.

The Directors recommend a dividend to the shareholders of Rs. 125 per share, free of income-tax for the year 1940 and a bonus equal to one month's salary to the officers and staff.

AMENDED INSURANCE ACT

That the amended Insurance Act had been the cause of much uneasiness in the insurance world and specially amongst those on whom rested the administration of insurance companies was admitted by Mr. N. R. Sarker, the new Member of the Viceroy's Council, while replying to felicitations at an afternoon party given in his honour recently by the President and members of the Indian Insurance Institute.

Mr. Sarker, who is a former President of the Institute, expressed no doubt that the framers of the Insurance Act were inspired with the best of motives. But as no man-made law was perfect, the Insurance Act, he said, had also its

defects, which its practical application would gradually expose. Mr. Sarker was also aware of the great anxiety which Section 27 of the Act had given rise to amongst insurance officials and in view of the prevailing tendency in the money market and the shrinking yield, Section 27 would appear to present really a problem to many of them. But knowing Sir Ramaswami Mudaliar and the broad outlook which characterised his activities, Mr. Sarker assured insurance men that they would not fail to find in him one who was always open to conviction, provided they were able to satisfy him that this Section was causing real hardship to insurance companies.

INVESTMENT IN MORTGAGES

Life insurance companies in the U. S. A. have for many years invested a good proportion of their assets in mortgages on real estate. There are two principal reasons why they favour investments in real estate mortgages. The first is their need for diversification of investments. The second is the somewhat higher rate of interest that may be obtained on mortgage loans compared to bond investments. Then there is the opportunity of selling additional life insurance as a result of mortgage loans placed in given locality.

NATIONAL INSURANCE COMPANY

The National Insurance Company maintains its position as one of the soundest of life offices in India. The soundness of its financial position will be evident from a perusal of its Balance Sheet as at 31st December 1940. The total assets in 1940 aggregated to Rs. 3,78,89,580 and the Company's investments are of an unimpeachable character.

The valuation results of the Company after every five years have been consistently satisfactory. "National" Policyholders have been for long enjoying handsome bonuses.

TRADE WITH SOUTH AFRICA

The creation of a post of Indian Trade Commissioner at Johannesburg was agreed to by the Standing Finance Committee of the Central Legislature at its meeting in Simla on September 9.

The Standing Finance Committee had approved of the appointment of six Trade Commissioners in 1930, including one in South Africa, but it was subsequently decided not to proceed with the creation of the latter post.

The decision has now been reconsidered, as it is felt that the present is an appropriate time to explore the possibilities of expanding trade with the Union. An important factor in arriving at this decision has been the necessity of finding alternative markets for Indian exports to replace those lost as a result of the war.

The new Trade Commissioner in South Africa will have his headquarters at Johannesburg, and his jurisdiction will include in addition to the Union of South Africa, Portuguese East Africa, Rhodesia and the British Protectorates of Batusoland, Bachuanaland and Swaziland.

Sir Shaafat Ahmed Khan has since been appointed as the first Trade Commissioner for India in South Africa.

ADULTERATED FOOD

The report of the Madras Government Analyst on the working of the Prevention of Adulteration Act is, as usual, an indictment of the enforcing authorities, says the *Mail*. "The outstanding conclusion is that adulteration of food in the Madras Presidency continues on a very large scale—a scale that, in my opinion, should not be tolerated. I think this can be directly connected with the fact that

the average fine imposed on convicted vendors, instead of steadily increasing to a deterrent figure—as it should do—has actually decreased." The highest average fine imposed in any local area is Rs. 55, the lowest Rs. 7. In one or two municipalities, the ridiculously low fine of Re. 1 was imposed. "To my mind," the Government Analyst declares, "the continuance of the highly proportion of adulterated samples one in three—shows conclusively that many vendors think, on balance, it is more remunerative to take the risk of being caught and having to pay a small fine than to mend their ways and sell genuine unadulterated food."

Mr. Hawley suggests that the maximum fine of Rs. 500 with the alternative of a substantial term of imprisonment should be imposed in some cases.

STEEL CONTROL IN U. S. A.

The office of Production Management recently placed steel in all forms under full Government priority control. The Defence Priorities Director has issued a control order relating to the alloy of steel owing to the growing shortage of certain types of steel products.

The order is designed to place all defence needs for iron and steel products before civilian requirements. It stipulates that defence orders must be accepted by steel companies with certain exceptions even if acceptance means deferment of non-defence orders already on the Company's books.

The reference extends to contracts for Britain and any other country securing material under the Lease and Lend Act as well as to the United States' army and navy.

TRADE COMMISSIONER IN CANADA

Mr. M. R. Ahuja, who has been appointed Indian Trade Commissioner in Canada has left Amritsar *en route* to Toronto. Mr. Ahuja was India's Trade Commissioner in Italy until her entry into the war.

TRAVANCORE'S EXAMPLE

Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar, Dewan of Travancore, presiding over the first anniversary and prize distribution of the National Girls' High School, Triplicane, referred to the part played by Travancore, in the cause of women.

"The first woman Surgeon-General in the whole of India was appointed in Travancore. We have appointed the first woman Sub-Judge in India. We have also a number of women professors in our men's colleges. Not a small proportion of our officers in the Co-operative and Educational Department consists of women. More than 50 women are employed in the Secretariat itself. We have proved that, given the opportunity and the necessary facilities and encouragement, there need not be any falling off on the part of women from the standards of efficiency demanded usually from what we call the sterner sex."

In Travancore today 42 per cent. of men and about 32 per cent. of women were literate—a percentage which was six or seven times more than that obtaining in the whole of the rest of India. That was the result, said Sir Ramaswami Aiyar, of the policy initiated by a great woman ruler 160 or 170 years ago, Maharani Parvathi Bai, who came to the conclusion that to educate men they must educate women. The rights of property enjoyed by women made it necessary that women should be literate.

BEGUM SHAH NAWAZ

The decision not to resign from the National Defence Council is announced in the course of a statement to the Press issued by Begum Shah Nawaz,

Parliamentary Secretary of the Punjab Government, who was called upon by the Working Committee of the All-India Muslim League to resign within 10 days.

She maintains that she did not associate herself with the constitution of the Defence Council as a member of the All-India Muslim League, but in her capacity as a representative of women in India. Begum Shah Nawaz says: "The offer made by the Viceroy expressly excluded any mention of my representative capacity of the Muslim interests or as a member of the League. The Viceroy stated: "It would give me great pleasure if you would serve as a representative of women and as representative also of the Punjab."

"I feel that the very recognition of the Indian women's right to have a voice in the military affairs of their motherland must be welcomed by every woman worker and this opportunity should be utilised by them not only to safeguard their interests but to further the aims and objects for which they are working."

SOVIET WOMEN

The women of Moscow, replying to the recent message from the women of London, said: "There is no power in the world able to shake the Soviet women's will for victory."

After thanking the women of London for their message, the reply continued: "The women of Moscow selflessly work at the factories, hospitals, offices and in the field of culture and art. We are deeply stirred and moved by the pledge you took in these historic days. We wish you success in your struggle."

"We are fully confident that the close alliance of the democratic countries will once for all do away with Fascism."

WOMEN'S COLLEGE

The Guntur Municipal Council decided recently to start a College for Women in the town.

WORLD'S DEBT TO TELLERS OF TALES

A lot of nonsense is talked about fiction, said Mr. J. W. Robertson Scott in a recent speech. "We know very well that because some books are biography, autobiography or travel they are not necessarily more elevating or more stimulating than a great many novels we could name. Some of the poorest books that have come my way during the last twelve months—worst in matter and manner—have been autobiography, biography, and travel."

"What a wonderful and helpful library could be made of fiction only! We must all of us have thought often of the vast debt the world owes before and since the invention of printing to the teller of tales. The notion that our borrowers, especially if other literature be readily available and they have the required guidance to it, will read far too much fiction is absurd. As well believe that the boy who is apprenticed to a grocer and given his run of lump sugar and currants is going to eat too much of them."



MR. S. K. CHETTUR, I.C.S.

A review of whose new book—*Bombay Murder*—appears on page 626.

VICEROY'S TERM EXTENDED

His Majesty the King has been pleased to approve that H. E. the Most Hon'ble the Marquess of Linlithgow, P.C., K.T., G.M.S.I., G.M.I.E., O.B.E., D.L., T.D., Viceroy and Governor-General of India, should hold office for a further period until April 1943.

DR. RAJAN RELEASED

Dr. T. S. S. Rajan, former Minister of Madras, who was the first satyagrahi in Tamilnad to court imprisonment, was released from the Trichinopoly Central Jail on September 22, on the expiry of his term of one year's imprisonment.



SIR M. VISVESVARAYA

retired Dewan of Mysore, whose 81st birthday was celebrated last month.

SIR SULTAN AHMED

Sir Sultan Ahmed took over charge of the office of Law Member in the Governor-General's Executive Council from Sir Mohammad Zafrullah Khan on September 5. In a statement to the *Associated Press* on the eve of his assuming the office, Sir Sultan said:

"In accepting the offer of His Excellency the Viceroy to succeed Sir Muhammad Zafrullah Khan, I did nothing that was at all in contravention of the decision of the League, nor am I even now convinced that I have done anything which will be in the least prejudicial to the best interests of the Mussalmans of India."

SIR REGINALD MAXWELL

The Governor-General has appointed Sir Reginald Maxwell to be the Vice-President of the Executive Council. The post was held by Sir Mohammad Zafrullah.

TO EASE PAIN

A new powdery substance called biodin extracted from common household yeast is said to ease pain in wounds and speed up healing, writes *Tit-Bits*.

The yeast powder is mixed with anti-septics to do something which medical science has long sought. It counteracts the harmful effects of the antiseptic and aids to attack the infectious germs.

Benefits are due to the ability of the biodin to produce the oxygen which injured tissues use in repairing themselves. The powder has been used most often on burns where its pain-relief is strikingly rapid.

U. S. MEDICAL MISSION TO BRITAIN

The United States are sending to Britain a committee of American medical men to try and find out why the people have come through the winter's "blitz" with better health than in the years of peace. Medical men generally are completely baffled by the nation's fitness. They feared that, after nights of crowding in air-raid shelters and exposure to all weathers on A. R. P. and fire-watching, epidemics would sweep the country like a prairie fire.

NURSES AND MARRIAGE

The Cochin Legislature passed a cut motion after several hours' discussion requesting the Government to allow nurses to marry by 30 votes to 16. The Government opposed it on the ground that there would be inefficiency in the nursing profession as it was not compatible with married life.

TUBERCULOSIS CLINIC

The Government of Bhopal have sanctioned Rs. 1,80,000 for the construction of a tuberculosis clinic and sanatorium in Bhopal. This information was supplied to the Bhopal Legislative Council by the Hon. Saib Qureishy, Minister in charge of the Medical Department.

MR. BHULABHAI'S RELEASE

The Government of Bombay has been advised that the health of Mr. Bhulabhai J. Desai is likely to suffer from detention in prison. The Government has, therefore, ordered his release on medical grounds.

PLAN TO IMPROVE PUBLIC HEALTH

The Board of Public Health, United Provinces, has circularised to all local bodies its proposals for the improvement of public health of the Province. It is pointed out that in view of the fact that very little money is allotted by local boards for the improvement of public health, a definite percentage of their revenue should be earmarked for this purpose.

A sub-committee, which had been appointed by the Board, has recommended that Municipalities should allot 30 per cent. of their income for the improvement of public health, and the district boards 15 per cent. of their income. Secondly, certain percentage of the expenditure incurred on public health measures such as drainage, wells, markets, slaughter-houses should be earmarked for the proper maintenance of the existing works.

The sub-committee has further suggested all applications for construction of buildings should be examined by the Medical Officer of Health in respect of sanitary requirements, ventilation, etc., and that an appeal against his order should be with the district magistrate and not the local Public Health Committee or the Board. It is suggested that the building by-laws should be strictly enforced.

PRECIOUS VITAMINS

Vitamins are food substances which exist in variable but always small quantities in certain foods. Some foods are almost or quite deficient in them. They are essential in nutrition. Vitamins are thus classified:

Vitamin A.—Essential to growth. Helps the body to resist infection. Found in animal fats, yolk of egg, milk, butter, and cheese. Green vegetables also contain it but in smaller quantities.

Vitamin B.—A group of vitamins which constitute a factor in normal growth. Found in milk and milk products, cereals, peas, beans and lentils, green and root vegetables, nuts and egg yolk.

Vitamin C.—Prevents scurvy. Found in fresh fruit and vegetables, carrots, potatoes, and so on.

Vitamin D.—Prevents rickets. Found in milk, butter, yolk of eggs, liver, animal oils and fats. Babies improperly fed become rickety because deprived of Vitamin D.

REGULATION OF BANKING

The report of the Central Board of the Reserve Bank of India for the year ended June 30, 1941, issued recently reveals a record net profit of Rs. 2,79,26,417-3-3, out of which a sum of Rs. 17,50,000 has been set aside for payment of a dividend at the rate of $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. and the balance of Rs. 2,61,76,417-3-3 is proposed to be transferred to the Government. The report contains a brief survey of the economic, financial and banking conditions in the country during the year.

Reviewing the international situation, the report states that the essential problem of war economy continued to be the same as in the war of 1914-18, namely, the necessity for the mobilisation of all economic resources for the prosecution of the war at a time when the real output of goods and services was reduced by the diversion of men to the forces. Though the introduction of the various war control measures immediately after the outbreak of the war facilitated economic mobilisation, the increased cost of waging war on a highly mechanised scale created financial problems of an unprecedented magnitude, which were reflected in the enormous increases in Government expenditure during the year.

THREE PER CENT. BONDS

The total face value of the 3 per cent. bonds 1941, tendered for conversion in terms of the offer contained in the Government of India, Finance Department Notification No. D/C 720-B/41, dated the 11th August 1941, was Rs. 8,26,13,800. Of this, Rs. 5,18,81,600 was converted into the 3 per cent. loan, 1919-52, and Rs. 2,77,32,200 into 3 per cent. loan, 1963-65. As the total outstanding was Rs. 10,67,31,700, the unconverted balance is Rs. 2,41,17,900.

STATE BANK FOR HYDERABAD

A Government *Communique* announces that H. E. H. the Nizam has given his assent to the Hyderabad State Bank Bill recently passed by the Legislative Council.

The legislation which is comprehensive in its scope, the *communique* says, is primarily designed to maintain the stability and security of the State currency and to provide the credit necessary for the economic life of the country.

COMPANY MANAGEMENT OF STATE RAILWAYS

The system of leasing India's State-owned railways to companies for management virtually amounts to this, that the people of India defray the costs and expenses of building up the property, while the profits and other advantages of ownership are shared and reaped by others, says a writer in the *Journal of Indian Merchants' Chamber*. In the early days of the railways when the traffic returns were low and did not pay the expenses, interest and other charges, the people of India defrayed all the deficits. When the time came for profits, the British Companies stepped in, and by the abuse of their influence over the Secretary of State for India, got hold of the railways, practically becoming masters of the same, sharing in the surplus profits and exercising autocratic powers over large expenditures and lucrative appointments.

RAILWAYS AND TRADE UNIONS

The Railway administration—so far the S. I. Ry. is concerned—is not opposed to Trade Unionism and is prepared to encourage such properly conducted Trade Unions of Railway employees as having absolutely no interest in politics was the assurance given by Mr. J. F. C. Reynolds, agent and general manager, S. I. Ry., to the deputationists of the S. I. Ry. employees that waited on him by appointment.

He also told them that he would grant recognition for the Union subject to the approval of Home and Railway Boards. He said he would meet the Association's representatives which should under no circumstances exceed 20, on October 11 at Trichy.

AMALGAMATING RAILWAYS

It is officially announced that the railway systems now known as the Assam Bengal Railway and the Eastern Bengal Railway will be combined with effect from January 1, 1942, and known as the Bengal and Assam (B. and A.) Railway.

E. I. R. WORKERS

Grain shops for the benefit of railway factory workers similar to those existing in the last war are likely to be opened by the East Indian Railway authorities.

THE ART OF DILIP DAS GUPTA

If artists are a problem, an art exhibition is a despair to ordinary men, observes "Chitra Roy" in the *Hindustan Standard*.

To the "Society of Artists", Bengal, one must feel grateful for offering therefore a "one man exhibition" to the visitors. They first presented to us Mr. Ramendra N. Chakraborty some time ago. Their recent attempt is to place before the public another young artist, Mr. Dilip Das Gupta with some seventy pieces in oil and water colour and about half a dozen of pastel and spatula works at No. 49, Chowringhee Street.

A varied quality of the canvasses greets the visitors at the very landing of this exhibition. The "Tin Mine" (No. 56) and the "Saw Mill" (No. 51) in oil certainly are no usual subjects for an artist of Bengal. Yet they are there; and by their side the "Addict" (No. 55) also in oil, a master study for a young artist, of possible Chinese opium smoker.

MUSIC CONTROVERSY

The Tamil Music Conference held in Chidambaram recently adopted a resolution requesting the executive authorities in charge of institutions for the advancement of music to give prominence to Tamil songs in preference to songs in other languages, which might be taught, if necessary, only to a very small extent, Sangeeth Sabhas to arrange *katcheris* in such a way that the songs were in Tamil and that only a minor portion of the *katcheri* was devoted to songs in other languages and the authorities in charge of Radio stations to arrange their radio programmes intended for the people of Tamil Nad in such a way that Tamil songs predominated. This resolution has led to a somewhat unpleasant controversy.

TAGORE FOR NATIONAL GALLERY

In accordance with a suggestion made by Mr. Bernard Shaw, the Director of National Portrait Gallery in London has agreed to hang portraits of Dr. Rabindranath Tagore painted by Sir William Rothestein and Sir Muirhead Bone, Sir Kenneth Clark, Director of the National Gallery, has made this move on behalf of the Tagore Society.

VIZZY ON CRICKET

The Maharajkumar of Vizianagram in an illuminating talk on Cricket given by him and broadcast from the Lucknow Radio Station recently, observed:

"Cricket has a lesson to impart, not only to individuals and bodies but to all nations of the world. Let all powers and countries, irrespective of caste, colour or creed, play the game as is done in cricket which obviously means that there should be no domination by one race over another. Thus 'smash and grab' which is the order of the day shall be a thing of the past. This, I have no doubt, shall bring us humans to the very threshold of the New World which our hearts are yearning for."

LACKING IN TEAM-SPIRIT

Speaking on Indian cricket, as also referring to his own captaincy of the Indian touring side in England in 1936, the Maharajkumar says further:

"It is an unfortunate feature of Indian cricket that our teams have often lacked that team-spirit which goes a long way in making a side successful in the various matches it has to play. This lack of unity among our teams has often resulted in our failures."

INDIAN TENNIS RANKING

The following players have been ranked in India in numerical order for the year 1941-42 by the Ranking Committee of the All-India Lawn Tennis Association:—

MEN

1. Ghaus Mahomed.
2. Iftikhar Ahmed.
3. S. L. R. Sawhney.
4. Dilip K. Bose.
5. Yudhister Singh.

WOMEN

1. Miss Leila Row.
2. Miss Dubash.
3. Miss K. Haji and Mrs. C. Massey (bracketed).

Class "A": C. W. Barker, J. M. Mehta, Khasu Sen, Sohan Lal and Rashik Kumar Singh of Wankaner.

PETROL SUPPLIES FROM THE AIR

For dropping petrol and water suppliers from aeroplanes, with or without the aid of parachutes, an unburstable container has been evolved by Sir S. S. Bhatnagar, Director of Scientific and Industrial Research. The container has been tested by dropping it from heights of 75 to 100 feet and has satisfactorily withstood the impact of the fall.

The container is made of canvas-cum-plastic compositions, and as large as two-gallon containers have been made which have satisfactorily withstood the impact when thrown from the roofs of the second storey of the Alipore Test House and of Secretariat Buildings, New Delhi. The Army Headquarters are making further experiments with the container by dropping it from low-flying aeroplanes.

This unburstable bottle has the necessary property of resilience and is petrol and oil proof. It is stated that, apart from its enormous advantage in war-time, it can be used as a container for oil paints, oils, etc., even after the war. It is lighter and less liable to damage by impact than a tin can.

A NINE-LENS CAMERA

To speed the work of photographing strategic stretches of America's coastline, Coast Guardsmen have prepared a twin-engine Consolidated PBV-5 plane, similar to the Navy's long-range patrol bombers, to carry a 750-pound nine-lens camera developed by the United States Coast and Geodetic Survey. The camera can photograph 790 square miles in a single exposure when flying at an altitude of 34,000 feet.

FIRE EXTINGUISHERS FOR PETROL AND OIL

One of the most efficient methods of extinguishing fires caused by highly inflammable liquids, such as petrol benzol and Diesel oil as well as in motors, switchgear and other electrical equipment is the use of carbon tetrachloride. This is a non-inflammable organic liquid which has a low boiling point, about 169°F., and consequently when sprayed upon a fire vapourises almost instantaneously and displaces the air thus smothering the flames because of lack of oxygen.

MR. DEY ON MUSIC IN FILMS

"South Indian music has a fascination for me. I find South India more music-conscious than any other part of India," observed K. C. Dey, the popular blind singer of Bengal, in the course of an interview. As regards to South Indian Music in Films, Mr. Dey observed:

I find music is permitted to dominate South Indian films. I can't understand why there should be, say, twenty songs in a picture. While it is good to note that every South Indian actor from the hero or heroine to the menial character knows music and sings well too, it is unnecessary to exploit their talents to provide a music concert on the screen. Another deplorable feature is the use of music on occasions of death, sickness and murder. This is obviously bad taste and the sooner this unpleasant aspect is eliminated, the better for South Indian films.

M. S. Subbulakshmi, in the opinion of K. C. Dey, is the most talented South Indian singing actress to-day. "Subbulakshmi," said Dey, "seems to be a born musician. Apart from her melodious voice, she possesses a fine range of knowledge and we liked her songs very much in Calcutta."

FILM OF THE LIFE OF AMY JOHNSON

Miss Anna Neagle, the film star, and Mr. Herbert Wilcox, producer, have left by clipper for London to make a film of the life of the late Miss Amy Johnson, who lost her life "ferrying" a plane. Miss Neagle is travelling under the name of Florence Marjorie Robertson.

"ODORATED TALKING FILM"

Recently at the World's Fair, a short film was shown that was actually and pleasantly in the odoriferous class. It was graced by the initials O. T. P., meaning "odorated talking pictures."

This invention is credited to the Swiss, Hans E. Laube, who is assisted in his undertaking by Robert Barth. Laube asserts that he can supply between 3,000 and 4,000 scents, as required, for the screen.

What would happen should there be a war scene of poison-gas on the screen? Indeed, the possibilities are endless.

POINTS ON SAVING PETROL

In order to assist motorists to reduce to the minimum the inconvenience of petrol rationing, Burmah-Shell present the following recommendations:—

A car running at 60 m.p.h. requires a great deal more power to gain and retain its speed than one running at 40 m.p.h.; it must, therefore, consume more fuel per mile. Actually, petrol consumption at 60 m.p.h. is about 35 per cent. more than at 40 m.p.h.

Since the spark plug must ignite the mixture, it is essential that this should be in good condition. Cracked or worn plugs or plugs whose points have not been set to the correct gap, will always increase consumption.

In the same way, unless the contact breaker points are set correctly and are kept in good condition, an increase in consumption will occur.

It is a popular belief that the further the ignition can be advanced, the more power will be developed in the engine. This is only a part truth, because actually over-advance will reduce power and spoil the fuel consumption figures almost as much as under advance.

A dirty or blocked air filter will give rich mixtures simply because the air cannot pass through it into the engine. The cleaning of filters is a much neglected job, and is responsible for more uneconomic petrol consumption figures than any other cause.

Many drivers are prone to use choke to great an extent and certainly to a greater extent than is really necessary, even with a car which is somewhat slow in starting and in pick-up. Overuse of the choke can very quickly reduce any other advantage secured to assist petrol consumption.

The use of an oil in the engine heavier than that recommended by the manufacturer will tend to increase the petrol consumption as the engine friction is higher with a heavier oil than with a lighter oil. It is important, however, to use a drag-free oil.

Tyres should be kept inflated to the correct pressure. Under-inflated tyres cause additional and unnecessary road suction causing wastage of power and therefore of petrol.

Cars parked all day in the sun become extremely hot, and so tend to encourage the loss of petrol through evaporation from the petrol tank.

When the foot or hand brake is released in some cases, the brake shoes do not come completely away from the bands, thus creating a certain amount of friction and therefore loss of power during running.

To leave the engine idling for long periods while the car is not moving uses up very much more petrol than restarting the engine when required.

Check up for petrol leaks in the petrol system. No car can perform with its maximum economy if the engine is not in perfect condition; therefore, from time to time the whole engine should be inspected, particularly to ascertain if compressions in each cylinder are good and approximately equal and if the valves and spark plugs are in efficient working order.

AIRCRAFT PRODUCTION

United States aircraft production is destined to end German air supremacy within the next few months and make Britain dominant in the air, says the Aircraft Year Book for 1941.

The book predicts that the combined United States and British production may have a decisive influence on the trend of the war in the coming months.

The increase in American aircraft production under the national defence programme is recognised by all informed persons as an industrial miracle destined to become a decisive factor in ultimately ending the cataclysmic struggle between democracy and totalitarianism. The book adds that 3,500 war planes have been delivered to Britain since the outbreak of the war.

MANUFACTURE OF PLANES

The following world production figures of aircraft are estimated in the authoritative magazine, *American Machinist*, in hundreds per month:—

Germany 25.

Russia 20.

Britain 18.

The United States 15

Japan 3 and

Italy none except parts.

This gives Britain and America 32 per cent. higher production than Germany, and Russia is only a little behind Germany. Production in the British Dominions and non-German Europe is negligible compared with the above figures, says the Magazine.

AUSTRALIAN BOMBERS

Plans have been completed for the mass production of the new Australian-designed and built medium bomber after test flights which are expected soon. The bomber, which can also be used for dive-bombing, is powerfully armed. Fitted with American Pratt and Whitney engine, its speed range is expected to exceed that of the Bristol-Beaufort torpedo-bomber.

LATE PILOT OFFICER K. M. MUKHERJEE

Pilot Officer, Khanni Mohan Mukherjee, who was killed in a flying accident near Kohat on September 18, was 28 years of age and belonged to a Bengali family, which has a record of active service.

INDUSTRIAL EXPANSION

One way to judge industrial expansion as a result of the war is by answering the question: What articles wholly or mainly manufactured have been exported in larger quantities from India during the year ending March 1941 as compared with the corresponding pre-war period of 1938-39?

The total value of exports of articles wholly or mainly manufactured increased by Rs. 33,63,00,000 from Rs. 47,61,00,000 in 1938-39 to Rs. 81,24,00,000 in 1940-41.

MR. NUTTAL'S ADVICE TO BUSINESSMEN

Mr. J. Nuttal, President of the Madras Chamber of Commerce, delivering the inaugural address of the Y. M. C. A. College of Commerce Students' Union, Madras, observed that the true aim of Commercial Education is service. There were two types of businessmen, Mr. Nuttal continued, opportunists and servants of the public. The opportunists were a class of very successful businessmen. They made a lot of money quickly at somebody else's expense. That was not real success. To be a really successful businessman, a man should think not merely of himself, or the amount of money he could make and leave other people entirely out of the question. He must be ready to help mankind just as anybody else. So he would appeal to them to look upon business not as a means of gaining fortune quickly, but as a means of service to the country and service to mankind.

HIGH EXPLOSIVES MANUFACTURE IN INDIA

The first stage in making India self-sufficient in the manufacture of high explosives has been reached by the production of pure toluene for nitration at a newly erected toluene plant.

Another notable development is that basic steel manufactured by acid process from 100 per cent. scrap is now being made by an engineering works. It is anticipated that this will relieve the shortage of spring steel required by the Railways which had hitherto been imported.

Delivery of 18-pounder armour piercing anti-tank ammunition, manufactured in India for the first time, has also begun.

VARIETIES OF RICE

Increase of rice production in India and large-scale introduction among cultivators of the great number of new varieties evolved by 10 years of research were among subjects discussed at recent meetings of the Governing Body of the Imperial Council of Agricultural Research.

It is explained that new and improved varieties of rice suited to different tracts, including some which will grow on dry land, are ready for distribution. To popularise these varieties in the rice-growing provinces, the Governing Body sanctioned Rs. 1,10,000 for a two-year scheme.

While within a few years of the introduction of new sugar-cane varieties, some 75 per cent. of the area under this crop was sown with the new varieties, in the case of rice, the percentage of the area covered by new varieties so far is only 6.

Among the Governing Body's recommendations for increasing rice production are: Distribution to cultivators of manures, especially of cake at cheap rates on a large scale, the price being recovered after harvest; distribution of pure and improved seed on a large scale; encouragement of growing subsequent to paddy of suitable rabi crops like gram and other pulses in paddy lands and inducement to cultivators to utilise for rice cultivation as far as possible areas released from other crops. The meeting emphasised the necessity of irrigation of paddy lands which it considered to be of paramount importance to maintain and improve rice production in India.

CATTLE POPULATION

India's cattle population is about one-third of the world's recorded total. India's total is approximately 230,000,000 cattle and buffaloes, out of which about 45,500,000 three-year old cows and 20,300,000 she-buffaloes are kept for breeding or production of milk. Goats number 57,200,000 of which about 8,000,000 are hand-milked. The milk of Indian cows is richer by 50 per cent. in fat content than the milk of European and American cows. The milk of Indian buffaloes contains almost double the amount of fat.

TEA FOR FACTORY WORKERS

Scientific research has proved that fatigue amongst industrial workers invariably leads to physical strain, decreased efficiency, boredom, absent-mindedness and even serious accidents, all of which tend to have an adverse effect on industrial output and the general morale of the labour force.

On account of its unique merits as a gentle but harmless stimulant, a cup of good liquid tea served to labourers in mid-work has proved to be an invaluable aid to employers in overcoming this fatigue factor, and the practice of serving tea to industrial labour during working hours is rapidly gaining in popularity amongst industrialists in this country.

DEARNESS ALLOWANCE

Approximately 20,000 workers of all the Indian-owned cotton mills in the province stand to benefit by the decision of the Committee of the Bengal Mill-owners' Association, recommending all mills in its membership to grant a dearness allowance to their workers, at the following rates with retrospective or immediate effect or with effect from as early date as deemed convenient:—

Those earning up to Rs. 20 per month or a full month's working basis—two annas per rupee.

Those earning above Rs. 20. but not over Rs. 50 per month—one anna and six pies per rupee; and

Those earning above Rs. 50 but not over Rs. 100 one anna per rupee.

THE PAYMENT OF WAGES ACT

In India this Act affects 8,09,888 persons so far as railways are concerned. This total includes 70,000 workers employed by contractors or sub-contractors fulfilling contracts for railways for Railways' Administrations.

TELEGRAPH WORKMEN'S UNION

Under the orders of the Government of India, it is learnt, that the Post and Telegraph Department has accorded recognition to the All India Telegraph Workmen's Union with its affiliated branches throughout India.

REACTION TO CHURCHILL'S STATEMENT

Mahatma Gandhi, when asked for his reaction to Mr. Churchill's statement in Parliament, declined to say anything but remarked that his silence was more eloquent.

"The Congress policy and programme stand vindicated on the irrefutable testimony of no less a person than the Prime Minister of England, Mr. Churchill," declares Dr. Rajendra Prasad in a statement to the Press.

Those who had been hugging the hope that the eight point declaration of President Roosevelt and Mr. Churchill might by some chance be made to cover the cases of countries like India which are part of the British Empire, have reason to be grateful to Mr. Churchill for disillusioning them as completely and unequivocally as it could possibly be done.

Mr. Nalini Ranjan Sarkar, Member-designate of the Viceroy's Executive Council observed:

"I cannot consider the latest speech of Mr. Churchill (regarding the Atlantic Charter) in the British Parliament to be helpful at such a time; I am rather inclined to think that it may prove unhelpful so far as war efforts are concerned."

Dr. Sapru demands an unambiguous and courageous declaration.

It must be clear by now to Mr. Amery and Lord Linlithgow that attempts to carry Indian opinion with them in regard to this declaration have been a complete failure.

Having failed to carry with them the Congress, they have equally patently failed to carry with them the Muslim League on whose support they had built up so much of their hopes. I have always maintained that while the minorities, whoever they may be, are entitled to see their rights amply and adequately protected, a policy which rests upon treating one party as a barrier against the other, can at best be a temporary expedient but is bound to lead to disastrous consequences in the end. It is not difficult for any one to see the barrenness of this policy now. Balances and counter-balances can never take the place of an abiding policy and the spectacle that we are witnessing at the present moment in India of people being invited to join the National Defence Council, joining it first and then withdrawing themselves from it by professing to divide their personalities into so many sections may be a very good instance of political rope-dancing. But, in truth, it is humiliating both to the Government who have received a rebuff from those on whom they had fawned and to the people of this country. All this to my mind is the result of the policy of the Government which it has been at pains to enforce during the last 18 months but which it has by its mishandling of the situation never been able to get accepted.

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TWO CAPITAL QUESTIONS

BY MR. G. A. JOHNSON

THE two capital questions of the day are: Will Russia hold out? Will Japan come in? But examination of the foreign news columns of a daily newspaper shows that not far off half the space is devoted every day to reports from the United States: what President Roosevelt said, what Mr. Cordell Hull said, what some aged senator said. Even in India, this allocation of space cannot be regarded as altogether disproportionate; for, although Mr. Roosevelt's speeches are intended primarily to sway domestic opinion, it is evident that the answers to the two questions set out above and to many others depend upon the attitude and actions of the United States. By the United States, Russia can be supplied, Japan kept in play—a willing fish, perhaps. And, of course, upon United States naval co-operation and, still more vital, upon United States shipbuilding, depend the issue of the Battle of the Atlantic. According to a recent calculation, Germany is spending the equivalent of £6,000,000,000 on the war each year—although in the German case, financial reckoning may be regarded as obsolete except for purposes of comparison. Britain and the United States together are spending rather more. But there is much leeway to be made up and, to fill the gap, the unrivalled industrial resources of the United States

must be fully employed. Fortunately, recent testimony suggests that the "peak of American production will (*pace* Mr. Lewis and C. I. O.) be reached early next year.

Closely bound up with American aid is British aid to Russia. At the beginning of last month, British, American and Russian delegates reached complete agreement over the rate of supply. Since then, the situation has deteriorated. The Germans have come nearer to Moscow, have practically completed the occupation of the Ukraine and the Donetz industrial area and are threatening the Caucasus. It is permissible to suppose that Russia's immediate needs have greatly increased. On the other hand, recent developments may quite well have been provided against. Last-minute methodical destruction and carefully organized removal of industrial plant indicate that the Russians were well prepared for contingencies. Whatever their exact position, public opinion in the United Kingdom and, to a growing extent, in the United States, is determined that their deficiencies shall be made up. And that brings us to the first of our capital questions.

There is a very vocal body of British opinion that supplies, even reinforced by the R. A. F.'s pounding of Germany and German-occupied territory, are not enough.

Britain, it is urged, must create a diversion by a landing or by a number of landings, by a thorough-going invasion of Europe or by reinforcements in Asia. It is rarely considered that the equipment and maintenance of an adequate expeditionary force would deprive Russia of supplies which she needs much more urgently than men.

Not even the publication of Lord Gort's despatches has stilled this invasion clamour, as it was probably designed to do. These despatches make it clear that the position of an expeditionary force, even in comparatively favourable circumstances, is not an enviable one and that its difficulties multiply as its communications lengthen. They also show, incidentally, that the British Army, officers and men are at their best in an emergency, but that, in 1939-40, British staff-work and British behind-the-front preparedness were far from adequate for modern warfare. The "invasion school" is in what appears to be a true British tradition when it calls for improvisation. But experience up to Dunkirk showed that improvisation is not enough. It was only in the retreat and evacuation that this talent reaped a reward, which, if Britain, France and Belgium had been adequately prepared, would not have been required.

The "invasion school" overlooks much of what Britain is already doing for Russia. Air power has been mentioned. British sea power is of very great importance and the accumulation of forces in the Middle East not only immobilises Axis reinforcements but keeps Axis strategists guessing. Finally, it could do Russia no good at all if Britain stripped her defences by sea, air and land and made herself liable to a successful counter-invasion.

The "invasion school" obviously has no high opinion of Russia's power to resist. Numerous experts publish thousands of words of comment and analysis of the military situation every day. It is not proposed to compete with them here. There are, however, a few points which may be worth making. The success of the Russians in defeating German "encirclement" tactics is fairly evident. They refuse to be overawed. Their defence of Odessa (until it ceased to be a useful military undertaking) and their defence of Leningrad and, lately, of Moscow indicate that the Germans and their allies are not remarkably successful in stationary warfare. It is sometimes suggested that the Russians are likely to abandon Moscow. Simultaneously we hear that the Germans are not anxious to capture it. My opinion (and it is purely a personal opinion) is that both insinuations are wrong. Of course, an opinion formed on psychological grounds by a non-expert and from a distance is not to be taken as gospel. At least, however, when the fate of all opinions is patently hazardous, it may be claimed that this is more fallible than most. Moscow is a symbol.

The French abandoned Paris partly because their Government had no guts and partly because it was a historic city. Historic cities are excellent things in peace time, but in war they are a serious handicap. During the heavy raids on London last year, some people in India and, perhaps, in England too, showed far more concern over the fate of Westminster Abbey, the Houses of Parliament, St. Paul's and Buckingham Palace than they did over the thousands of human casualties. The destruction, or even the

threatened destruction of the irreplaceable creates strong emotions, either defeatism, as in Paris, or vengeance, as in London. It might appear at first that a more modern city like Moscow (which, of course, has historic monuments too) would more readily be abandoned. But this, I am convinced, is wrong. There was a time when Paris was a symbol of the French national will. It was so in 1870. It was not so in 1940. But Moscow continues to be a symbol. It is the expression of modern revolutionary achievement. What is modern can be replaced and built better than before. Physical destruction in this case produces no spiritual depression. What is symbolic of national achievement must be defended. Therefore there can be little doubt of the supreme importance to Russia of the successful defence of Moscow nor of the supreme importance to Germany of its capture. If the Germans fail to capture Moscow, it will be their heaviest defeat so far and, in all probability, the beginning of the end.

At the southern end of the front, the Germans are pressing on. It looks as if, unless they aim to press on through the steppes north of the Caspian, they will reach the Caucasus before long. Here, perhaps, there is a useful field for British intervention. The supply route through Iran, now reported to be safeguarded by a treaty with the Iranian Government, is bound to grow in importance. It seems probable, however, in view of national difficulties, that a serious campaign will not open in this theatre before the spring. On the desert frontier between Egypt and Libya the campaigning season is just about to open. The theories of the "invasion school" have

been discounted above. But that does not mean that Britain will do no campaigning. The Middle East is likely to be the most profitable theatre of war. But Imperial and Allied strength in the Middle East is dependent to a large extent on conditions in the Far East. Having pointed out, by way of summary, that Russia will do her best to hold Moscow and an unbroken line running south-east from Leningrad to the Caucasus, with fair prospects of success, we shall pass on to the second capital question.

Reading the widely reproduced press comment about the A. B. C. D. front—it is surprising that Air Chief Marshal, Sir Robert Brooke-Popham, has not been assigned the initials of the late Chief Scout—one would imagine that war with Japan would be the best thing in the world. Let us get it over seems to be the attitude. As a reply to Japan's blustering tactics this is all well and good. It may even produce useful consequences. But it is absurd to suppose that the strategical situation would improve if Japan came in. The most sensible object of Far Eastern policy is to secure that Japan stays out without ambiguous intentions. Unluckily, this is not easy in present circumstances.

The Japanese point of view is intelligible. In the first place, it may reasonably be assumed that Japan would be no more pleased with a German victory than we should ourselves. But the mere possibility of such a victory compels the Japanese Government, *whatever its composition*, to take a realist and opportunist view of the situation. Unless Japan can be fortified with material resources sufficient to maintain her independence, she is protected from the threat of German domination only by

distance (which is decreasing) and by the might of the forces opposed to Germany. She would like to have a foot in both camps. Best of all, perhaps, she would like to realise her ambitions and, having realised them, to join the front to which she naturally belongs, the Anglo-American naval front. As things stand, however, Britain and the United States will not pay her insurance premium—China perhaps, Indo-China, Thailand and the Netherlands East Indies. Not only would such a bargain be immoral, but, so long as power politics govern international relations, it would also be unreliable, however strong and genuine Japan's desire to keep it. In Japan's own interests, her relations with her new allies could scarcely be less detached than they are with her present associates. She must be in a position to back the winning side, once she is sure who is going to win. "Too late" must be the nightmare of Japanese politicians.

It is sometimes suggested that, after the war, another war will have to be fought to turn the Japanese out of China. This should not be necessary if the principles of the "Atlantic Charter" are to govern international relationships after the war. Japan has shown herself adaptable, flexible and imitative in her foreign policy. In a world in which power is the most effective safeguard of national independence, she must struggle and grab with the best (or the worst). In an era of equal opportunity—if that can be realised—she would have no such compelling necessity. The Chinese "incident" could be terminated and only its costly and embittering memory would remain. Probably Japanese thought has not reached this stage of calculation. But there can be no doubt that a

decisive Allied victory in the West would produce an apparent metamorphosis in Japan. Unfortunately, so long as Japan, for reasons of power, is bound to maintain a threatening attitude in the Far East, both the Russians and ourselves are unable to divert to the West those forces which would release Japan from the shackles of her dilemma. So, unless the negotiations in Washington result in reliable guarantees of Japanese good behaviour, little change in the situation need be expected at present, unless the Germans break through into Asia or are thrown back, or become obviously exhausted. It should not be forgotten that American trade is important to Japan.

There is little space left to discuss the German reign of terror (subjective as well as objective) in occupied Europe. It is horrible. It is revealing. It is, perhaps, going too far to assume that the plan to execute 100 Frenchmen for every German murdered indicates that the German forces of occupation are just one per cent. of the French population—although political arithmetic of this type is what one might expect of a German. It is, however, obvious that the Germans are everywhere losing confidence in their ability to keep Europe under control and that the New Order has failed dismally. If the Germans meet with any reverse in the East, even, perhaps, if they cease to advance, wide-spread risings may be expected. In the Balkans, over wide areas, the occupation has ceased to be effective, if it ever was. It would, of course, be premature to suppose that the Germans are already beaten. They are still capable of great enterprises. Africa may yet become the main theatre of war, as that timid power-politician General Hertzog anticipates. But if the forces opposing them continue to grow in strength and resources, the point at which they will be mastered cannot long be deferred.

To end as we began, American production, reinforcing British and Russian, is the key to victory.

PRICE CONTROL AT WORK

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

THE present war has given rise to certain peculiar economic problems. In the light of the lessons learnt in the last war, measures were taken not to allow prices to soar up. This has been tried in various methods both in Great Britain and in India. But our study will treat mainly with the working of war economy in India alone with reference to price control.

In 1911-18, there was an attempt to finance the war partly by currency expansion and this led to high prices, which in turn brought about high wages and thus the vicious spiral was started in a way. It was thought the reason for the rise in prices did not lie only in currency expansion but there were also other factors, which contributed to the increase in price. The middle men, for example, speculated and carried a large slice of the profit allowing very little to the producer. When the Government had not stated any definite policy with regard to prices, forward transactions carried enormous profits at the initial stage and later forward trade was almost a wild goose chase.

Measures are now being taken to control prices in the light of the above lessons. To begin with, the Government in order to prevent any speculation announced in various methods that prices would be controlled and that attempts to raise prices would meet with punishment. But when it was said attempts what was meant was sporadic rise in prices quoted in a haphazard way by retail dealers on the news of outbreak of war. Thus a rise from the bottom was prevented and that was a right step too. But there was not a regular machinery to keep in touch with the retail prices or report about a rise. The village officers and other Taluq heads were entrusted with this complex problem. At the beginning it was reported that many of these men convened meetings of merchants and advised them not to raise the prices. This was to remedy the immediate trouble of a rise on the very news of the outbreak of war. When it was said prices what was meant was

mainly agricultural prices chiefly food grains and not manufactured articles.

Later attempts were made to fix prices. What are the principles on which prices are to be fixed is a proposition that remains vague to the present day. Without statistics of production and trade at large, price control cannot be perfect, much less price fixing. Further a co-ordination of the provincial price control committees under the control of a central organisation is indispensable. Such a thorough control implies State interference with and control over private enterprise to a great extent. In the absence of such an active policy, any attempt at price control will be partial.

Considering the effects so far seen in India of such a policy of partial price control, there is a divergence in the price levels of raw material and manufactured articles. While the raw materials, mainly food articles, have been kept artificially at lower price levels, the latter, some of them necessities, have shot up in price. It is true that a list of necessities among manufactured articles is prepared and prices of them controlled, but many necessities are not included in the list. Secondly, even in the case of articles included in the list price fixing is not worked on the basis of allowing a fixed uniform rate of profit for the various concerns, fixing a maximum limit for dividends or on any policy, which reckons the remunerations to the factors of production, which necessarily means collection of statistics; but prices are merely fixed from time to time at the market rate, which fluctuates on speculation, forward contract and the like and the consumer carries no benefit from such formal announcement of prices. Thirdly, the weightage in the price fixing committees of entrepreneurs and middle-men is disproportionately strong with almost no representation of agricultural interests.

But the reasons for this divergent increase in the prices of manufactures lie deeper. In the first place, manufacture has to meet the demands of wage increase; secondly, wear and tear has to be replaced at higher cost; thirdly, the increase in the price of raw materials is

not transmitted intact without further addition in the quotation of finished articles. Fourthly, on account of reduction in internal transport facilities and higher freight charges retail prices are bound to rise. Then again with the disappearance of foreign competition traders cannot resist an upward trend.

Looking at the control of prices obtaining at present, prices are fixed for every week by what are called prices advisory committees presided over by the Collectors of respective districts. For the city of Madras prices for essential commodities are issued every week. But notices were brought to the press of many cases of higher quotations, especially with regard to firewood casurina. There were complaints also from the public to the effect that even rice was sold higher. About the first week of August when the Price-fixing Committee issued the price of Nellore raw rice (old) at 3½ Madras measures per rupee, the actual selling price was 3¼ measures per rupee. In the following week price was fixed at 3¼ measures. This is a clear indication of the fact that the Committee simply issues nominally prices prevailing in the market.

On the contrary if prices are to be fixed, the Committee should have stocks at their disposal to sell at the fixed prices. All that has been done on the stocks side is to prohibit excessive stocking. Even for this prohibition there are not machineries for detection. On the production side no attempt has been made for an increase, without which reduced prices are not possible especially when imports have fallen on account of many reasons, chief of which is want of shipping facilities. It has thus been seen that the Government have no control over the stock position, much more so to increase the stocks. Under these circumstances price control has to be worked on a gradual scale. Further price fixing is a very delicate machine to be handled in a half-hearted way.

On working this delicate machine, the most apparent effect so far is a divergence in the prices of manufactures and raw materials. This price divergence is prominent in the cases of raw and

manufactured jutes and cottons. Following tables indicate this divergence:—

Index numbers of whole sale prices in Calcutta (Base 1914=100)				
	COTTON RAW	COTTON MANUFAC- TURES	JUTE RAW	JUTE MANUFAC- TURES
1940				
Jan.	113	131	124	146
Feb.	110	124	130	130
Mar.	103	121	100	114
Apr.	108	126	99	111
May	79	124	85	97
June	68	119	80	94
July	82	192	63	95
Aug.	78	117	53	85
Sept.	80	119	53	101
Oct.	74	123	50	103
Nov.	81	123	52	106
Dec.	70	124	56	107
1941				
Jan.	68	129	59	108
Feb.	65	130	51	109
Mar.	74	138	56	131
Apr.	66	142	54	117
May	72	150	69	139
June	81	158	73	141
July	88	214	Nil.	Nil.

Then again even among manufactured articles the prices of sundry articles such as razor blades and the like emphasise this divergence by rising as high as 400 per cent. Many of such articles come under essentials, especially the chemicals used for cottage industries, which have to sell their goods at competitive prices with the large scale machine-made goods.

These in short are the effects pre-dominantly visible under the present policy of price control. The Indian Sugar Syndicate again is now reported to be considering the possibilities of price-fixing for sugar-cane. Though the attempt is to bring the prices in Syndicate controlled area in a line with those in regions not controlled by the Syndicate, this is another of those attempts at fixing a price for an agricultural product without limiting the profit of the industry which consumes it.

Another important factor to be considered is the total volume of currency. In spite of the oppositions to the efficacy of the Quantity theory, the volume of currency has a great effect, why, a determining effect on prices, especially in a country like ours, where

there is not the cheque habit but it is specie that flows out of the central bank for 6 months in the year and into it for the other 6 months.

Taking this point into consideration, note circulation on the eve of the war (August 1939) was Rs. 179'95 crores. In 1939-40 there was an increase in currency circulation (paper notes and coins) by Rs. 59'53 crores and in 1940-41 there was a further increase of Rs. 52'34 crores. After these additions, the total fiduciary issue as on October 3 stands at Rs. 303'67 crores, compared with the note circulation of Rs. 179'95 crores at the outbreak of the war. This increase in the volume of currency—almost a doubling of it—is sure to have an effect on prices. Therefore prices cannot be fixed at the pre-war level.

Further the exact ratio of increase in the volume of currency and that in prices is unknown even in a free market and much more so under a partially controlled price system. But one thing is certain and that is, under a doubled volume of currency agricultural prices cannot be fixed at the pre-war level. Prices are sure to increase to a certain extent. Then why not give the benefit to the agriculturist also?

Any attempt at control of prices should be thorough and all embracing. Any partial attempt or a half-hearted measure will import into the economic structure certain defects which becoming chronic will be a problem for years for any post-war reconstruction measure.

Speaking the other day in the third price control Conference, the Hon. Commerce Member stressed the complexity of this problem. He seems to have felt the impossibility to attempt to regulate the price of even one of the 500 varieties of cloth produced in India by various mills. A full report of the deliberation and discussion of this point was not available to the Press. But the outcome, as reported, was the consideration of a suggestion to put in the market one or two varieties of "Standard cloth" like Dhotis, Saris and Longcloth at controlled prices to the poorer classes.

If the suggestion was approved the question would be considered. It is not

known whether the Conference has approved of this suggestion. Even if it has approved, which by itself is a doubtful question, who is to take charge of the production of this standard variety? Since the price will be controlled it will have no attraction for manufacturers, especially when larger profits are available in producing other varieties. Then it will mean a compulsory quota system for all mills.

Then again the question of both adequate production of yarn for the handloom weaver and of prices of various kinds of yarns was said to be a little more intractable. All that the Conference could do in this case was to say that the Government would take the necessary steps.

Coming to the causes that have led to this increase, the Commerce Member himself says: "In the case of manufactured articles, prices had advanced because exports had to be made to countries in the Middle East." This is a clear indication of the fact that the rise is not due to an increase in the cost of production but is due to increased demand, which has led to the profiteering of the middle men. Traders and manufacturers argue the case of increased cost of production. It has been admitted by the Commerce Member himself that agricultural prices have been more tractable and that the Provincial bodies have been able to control the prices. It is clear again that the increase has not been from the bottom, namely, due to a rise in cost of production, but the start has been from the top, namely, the manufactured articles rising first and then a slight rise in agricultural prices. Added to this the Government have worked at the tractable prices and left alone what they are prone to call "intractable prices". The result has been, as shown above, a great divergence in the price trends of agricultural commodities and manufactures.

Now the problems presented by these two are not the same. In one case it is a matter for controlling a rise, while in the other, namely, in agricultural prices the case is for a reasonable return for the producer, at the present level or at even a higher level, without the middle-men carrying the whole or a larger slice of the profit. This does not seem to

have been realised by the Conference, and the problem which was wrongly considered to be the same as in the case of manufactured articles has been left to the Provincial bodies.

One of the solutions suggested is an increase in production and the Rice Committee has put forth a proposal for bringing 1,000,000 acres under improved varieties of crop to raise production by 10 per cent. in three years.

But this cannot solve the problem. On the whole it is evident that the Government have failed to take the responsibility on themselves. In the case of coffee, by the promulgation of an Ordinance they ensured a fair return to the planters on the creation of a surplus pool. This was possible for the Government. Why not then protect the interest of the poor Indian agriculturists also? The Burma Government, for example, has taken control of the whole of rice export and have decided to purchase the whole of the coming year's cotton crop in order to ensure the producer a fair price. Even in India, because the price of timber for needs of the Southern Command were higher, the Department of Supply have taken control of the timber supply.

The Government of India will be shirking their duty and responsibility if they do not take a similar step to purchase these raw materials, ensuring a reasonable price to the agriculturist and eliminating the middle men element. This step is warranted all the more by the position of raw cotton, which after the freezing of the Japanese assets has reached a deplorable state, with stocks accumulating and prices crumbling down.

In Madras City, again, the prices of firewood have become intractable. The Prices Advisory Committee has fixed the price of firewood casuarina, interior, per gundu at As. 7; but the actual price at which it is sold is not less than As. 9. Besides the demand for charcoal by the buses, the tenders for firewood called recently by the South Indian Railway Company are likely to afford greater scope for speculative middle men.

The problem for various commodities thus are different and they cannot be dealt with in one uniform way. The following figures taken from the records of the Department of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics will show the price trends of commodities—trends which are not the same even among food products.

Index numbers of wholesale prices in Calcutta by groups of articles.

Prices in July=100

	AUGUST, 1939	JUNE 1941
Cereals	83	114
Sugar	162	139
Tea	140	227
Hides and Skins	63	71
Metals	142	199
Building materials	123	127

While the price of cereals has increased, that of sugar has decreased. Tea price on the contrary exhibits an abnormal rise. To deal with these different problems of different commodities only the Government are the competent body. If the Government shirk to take the full responsibility of purchasing the crops, some permanent defects in the economic structure will be the result and any amount of legislation later will not be able to get rid of these defects.

Coming to the prices of yarns, following is a list of pre-war and war time wholesale price of yarns in the Madras market.

Description	Mar. 30, 1939	Oct. 10, 1941
40 s Coimbatore (19 lb. bundle)	5-9	13-8
Madura " "	5-14	not quoted
90 s (5 lb. bundle)		
Coimbatore	4-2-6	10-1-6
Madura	4-6	10-1

Compared with these abnormal rise in the prices of yarns are the following pre-war and war time commodity-prices:

	Mar. 30, 1939	Oct. 1941
Groundnuts (per candy of 531 lb.)	24-8 to 25	28-3
Groundnut oil (per candy of 509 lb.)	43	67
Coconut oil	53-8	73
Sugar (per bag of 2 cwt.)	30-10-9	28-12-9

WHAT IS SOCIAL WORK?

By MR. J. P. GUPTA, B.A., LL.B.

(Research Scholar, The Sir Dorabji Tata Graduate School of Social Work, Bombay)

TO-DAY we see a sorely troubled world driven by intolerance, prejudices and greed with complex problems of such magnitude that they almost defy understanding. There are a large number of persons who are incapable of solving their problems without help from the society. Unfavourable circumstances and environments are at the root of almost every situation in which an individual fails to make satisfactory adjustment. Pleasant home, fresh air, sunshine, abundant pure water, wholesome food, healthy recreation, human affection, educational opportunities, congenial occupation, security and participation in a community life are generally the desirable elements which are required for normal surroundings and their absence may, in general, be termed as unfavourable.

It is really pitiable that a large portion of our population is devoid of such favourable circumstances. The industrial revolution has shaken the ancient self-controlling and economically independent communities and to-day we are surrounded by ignorance, hunger, and disease. The big industrial cities that have come into existence have attracted the village agriculturists to the city bringing the disintegration of village communities. In the place of Indian villages, where the village, the caste, the family gave people security, status and a feeling of neighbourliness, it has given us the modern congested cities like Bombay, where men come and go as the labour market demands; where the bonds of mutuality are completely severed and neighbourliness does not exist.

In our cities, few but the wealthy can afford pleasant homes with sufficient air and sunshine. The commercialised recreation that is present in cities is a source of demoralisation. Employment too is uncertain and a large number of them are daily marching to the factories trying to find work and not finding it. Human affection has decreased with the disintegration of family.

Educational opportunities are restricted to a few only and the community

activities do not exist. Says Norton William:

These groups are particularly subject to the vicissitudes of life and many of them will continue to be so even after society has done everything within its power to minimise chances and hazard. There are the feeble-minded and the insane, a large percentage of whom can never be self-supporting nor self-managing. There are the vast number of anti-social individuals ranging all the way from those with mild personality difficulties to those who commit the most serious crime. There are the aged who find themselves without savings; there are orphans, widows with small children, the congenitally handicapped, and wage-earners who are ill or disabled. Besides these individuals victims of misfortune, there are those whom capricious natural forces or an unstable economic and social scheme may throw into dependency whenever a catastrophe occurs. A drought or a flood, a war, an economic depression, or even progress in invention and organisation may suddenly reduce great numbers of the population to a state of need.

These impoverished people at the moment are numberless and we want for them security and a good life. Social work begins where education, industry, the state, the church, the family have failed to provide the individual with what he needs for adjustment to social life. It seeks to repair the evils wrought by unemployment, low wages, bad heredity, illness, poor environment, ignorance and immorality. It is an attempt to introduce into modern life the principle of mutual aid once characteristic of a simpler and less specialised type of life. Social work can be traced back to the care of the wounded in the tribal fights, construction of wells, tanks and *dharamshalas* or maintenance of schools and hospitals and the starting of general feeding-houses and alms for the needy by the individual, the caste group or the state.

"By social work is meant any form of persistent and deliberate effort to improve living or working conditions in the community, or to relieve, diminish or prevent distress, whether due to weakness of character or to pressure of external circumstances. All such efforts may be conceived as falling under the head of charity, education or justice, and the same action may sometimes appear as one or another according to the point of view." Social work is organised to serve

those who have failed or are failing in their social adjustment. In other words, it is the sum of all the efforts made by the society to provide for its members when the established institutions have failed.

There are two aspects of approach and solution of these problems. The one is the relief measure—"the mere feeding of the hungry, the clothing of the naked" without reference to the final effect of the method of the relief on the recipient or the positive promotion of social welfare. This method makes no further attempt to prevent the evil by attacking the conditions which are responsible for bringing these sufferings. This sort of work is at present being done by charities and individual philanthropy in India. The other type is the constructive type which is of a more recent development, and primarily deals with the rehabilitations of the sufferer or a well-planned scheme. It does not believe in only immediate relief and no more; but in the removal of the root-cause so as to make the beneficiary stand on his own feet. The social worker makes a study of the causes of the misfortune be it poverty, dependency, sickness or delinquency and what not by direct contact with the client as also by assembling and analysing all the available information from the client's family, friends, employers and other social resources of the community as schools and hospitals, and prescribes the treatment to strike at the root-causes of the trouble so discovered. Each case is studied and treated individually as no two individuals are alike in their problems and psychology. America is a pioneer of this new concept. "Social service or social work as understood in the United States is that form of persistent and deliberate effort that helps the individual (or family group) to make satisfactory adjustment to his environments. In another aspect it attempts to provide those aids of living which make for a richer and more wholesome existence. In still another aspect, social work through scientific research is searching out the cause for human distress, measuring the incidence of poverty, ill-health and delinquency,

etc. or seeking an evaluation of the methods of treating these ills and the character of the results achieved. Finally social work is engaged in reform. Through legislation, improved administrative procedure and public education, the struggle to improve living conditions and promote social justice is carried on. As the social worker in his daily practice and through research becomes conscious of wrongs and inequalities, he seeks a remedy and becomes an active protagonist of the changes needed to achieve that end". Thus there has gradually come a change of concept in the philosophy of social work so much so that while early philanthropists thought in terms of the poor and the handicapped alone, at present we think in terms of people on all economic levels who are not self-sustaining economically, mentally or morally.

Dr. Radha Kamal Mukerji delivering the first convocation address at the Sir Dorabji Tata Graduate School of Social Work said:

The essence of social work is to fight anti-social attitudes and behaviour through the re-establishment of a suitable community organisation which may re-define the social situation and gradually re-build the life organisation for persons who have suffered loss of status.

Social work as a profession is different from other professions in three respects, *viz.*,

1. It takes into account the multiple needs of the individual and treats all the needs as a unit. In other words, a social worker accepts a wider responsibility for his client than any other profession as he makes efforts to meet all the needs of his client and does not pass them on to others.

2. There is a continuous change in the concept of what is essential for human welfare. Moreover, there being no planned distribution in social work and the work of education, home, medical, psychiatric and state agencies, which are closely related to social work, so anything left by such agencies is taken by social work.

3. The services rendered by the social worker to the client are not paid by him but by the society.

Motives of Social Work.—People do social work with different motives. Some take it as a religious duty towards the weak

for the salvation of their own souls, some on principles of social justice, some with humanitarian ideal being moved by the pain and suffering of the people, some with political motive to gain power, some for general progress of the society which is being retarded by the members lagging behind, and some are responsive to advance in scientific knowledge and are interested in exploring the possibilities of modifying human lives to the advantage of both the individual and of society.

The reasons that people subscribe to the community chest or to individual charities are three: one is that prestige in the community demands some evidence of social disinterestedness and generosity from those who can afford to give; the second is that prestige is often achieved through generous gifts by those seeking social position; the third is that there is a genuine emotional response to those in distress which is characteristic of humanity.

Its Objectives.—The scientific social work has two objectives: the present and the ultimate. The present aims at prevention of the physical suffering due to sickness, accidents, cruelty or poverty or due to group injustice, economic insecurity, crime and waste, by the removal of their causes through setting up wholesome environments. The ultimate aim of social work is to make the individual self-supporting so that he may not require the help any more, as also to modify the social institutions and social activities so as to promote a more normal and richer life. The goal in view is to the individual as best as he can be and the community to become the finest and fullest expression of social life that it can be.

For the fulfilment of these objectives, the social work aims at:

1. The adjustment of the individuals and groups to their environments; and
2. The improvement of conditions which make adjustment difficult for many persons.

Both these aims are interdependent and a balance between the two is required for improving the lot of these sufferings. Sometimes the individual is to be fitted to the situation while at other times a change is to be brought about in the environments so as to be beneficial to the individual. It has been realised by all

social workers that improvement of conditions causing maladjustment should be the central aim of social work, but still most of the work is devoted to help the individual to get along under the present conditions. It is due to the fact that social welfare programme is usually supported by persons who believe that present conditions can be improved without any radical departure from the present institutions and customs. They are not in favour of attempts to make fundamental changes in the existing economic and social structure. Equally it is due to the welfare programme being misunderstood by the general public. To the ordinary man it means a programme for the helpless, the defective, the diseased, the criminal and other non-social group. They do not include in its concept the opportunities of working with normal people under normal conditions. But as the aim of social work is to bring substantial improvement in the cultural and material progress of society and the creation of a closer and more personal relationship between all classes of the community, the social work programme is essential for all as the conditions which bring maladjustment in individual not well equipped socially may also be responsible for slowing down the rate of general social progress. Public health work raises the standard of health throughout the country, compulsory education ensures general literacy, enlightened business seeks to prevent unwholesome way of work and living and so on. "A social point of view means consideration of the whole problem as an affair of the effect upon all the persons concerned of each possible alternative, and choice of action in accordance with the estimated balance of interest".

Division of Social Work.—The varied activities of social work carried on by religious, humanitarian, educational and patriotic agencies can be classified under the following four main heads:—

Case Work.—It seeks to effect better social relationship by dealing with individual one by one. In America, Europe and England, there are case working agencies known as family welfare or child welfare societies. The former are working to rehabilitate or improve the

families not adjusted to their environments on account of physical, racial or economic difficulties, while the latter take care of the dependent, delinquent, defective and abnormal children in their homes, in school, in court and in institutions.

Action ranges from the humblest services, guided by affection, patience, and personal sympathy to such radical measures as complete change of environment, the organisation of resources, where none existed before and the re-knitting of ties long broken.*

Group Work.—It includes such activities as recreational work, club, boy-scouts, red cross, neighbourhood, etc., to prevent maladjustment and to build up social unity.

Social Reform.—It concerns with the improvement of social relations through social legislation and propaganda as prevention of child marriage, factory legislation, etc.

Social Research.—It includes collection of data in order to re-interpret them for use in social reform, group work, and in case work.

Case work serves it by effecting better adjustments between individual and their social environments; group work serves it by dealing with people face to face but no longer one by one. Social reform serves it by affecting man betterment through propaganda and social legislation; and social research serves personality by making original discoveries and re-interpreting known facts for the use of these other forms of social work.†

Training for Social Work.—The social worker is the person to whom the client looks for advice upon all possible resources of relief—medical, physical, legal, educational, recreational, economic and so on. To know what remedies are obtainable is a task of no small responsibility calling for a thorough knowledge of both the client and the community combined with skill in adaptation. The skill is not inherent in a social worker but requires a special training. It is irrational to imagine that while the physical ailments of an individual requires the services of a professional medical man, the social, moral, and economic maladies can be safely entrusted to individuals whose only qualifications for the task is enthusiasm or benevolent intention. A social worker

without training is just like a mariner without a chart and there is every possibility that he may do incalculable injury to the cause and to the very person for whom he works.

Communities can be built or re-built by a scientific tackling of the problems by the social worker technically called social engineer. It is not so easy to build or re-build communities composed of living rational beings as the construction of roads and bridges, etc. This requires an exhaustive knowledge of human characteristics and of the effects of environments upon individuals. Skill in personality adjustment can only be acquired through experience, while capacities of the individual may be brought forth and increased through class-room work. So the course of study should comprise both theoretical and practical instruction. In India, the Sir Dorabji Tata Graduate School of Social Work is the pioneer institute in this direction combining class-room work with field-work under supervised instruction and direction.

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THE PROBLEM OF INDIA

By "A NATIONALIST"

AFTER two years of war the demand for clarification of war aims is as insistent as ever. What is known as the Atlantic Charter, with Mr. Churchill's foot-note to it about the exclusion of India from its ambit, cannot pretend to be the last word on the subject. It is not the Congress and the Indian nationalists alone who are pleading for a frank and definite statement of what Britain intends to do after winning the war; the more thoughtful among Labour and Liberal groups in England and a host of independent intellectuals have expressed themselves unequivocally on the urgent need for a definite enunciation of war aims. Nay more. The time is come, we are told, when "we must actually take the first definite and unequivocal steps towards the new world order under the leadership of men who are known passionately and sincerely to desire it. And we must do this before, not after, we can hope to end the fighting". That is their contention.

In a Penguin special—"Where do we go from here"—Prof. Harold J. Laski contends that only a European Revolution can overthrow Hitler, and Great Britain must take the lead in that Revolution. He argues that the way to victory lies through the revolt of the masses against the conquerors in the occupied countries. But this result will only come if those masses are given hope; and the way to hope lies through the demonstration by Great Britain herself of the will to begin "even in the midst of war, the building of a just and equal society." The mass revolution of the kind envisaged by Prof. Laski may be a far-fetched idea and too dangerous to be attempted in the very rigorous conditions of life imposed on the conquered countries by a strong and vigilant military power; but there is no doubt of the potent influence of a striking British demonstration of altruism in a world of selfishness and greed. And how better could this be done than by a cleansing operation in the Empire itself—in the most pivotal part of the Empire—India?

India stands before us to-day demanding the right to self-government as clearly as ever America or Ireland did, demanding freedom from our paramount power as unmistakably as Poland or Czecho-Slovakia demand freedom from the paramount power of Germany over them. There is not one popular leader in India, with a serious following behind him, to whom we can appeal for support of the continuance of our paramountcy. Year by year, to maintain it, even in the revised form of 1936, we have to resort to special powers, the exercise of undemocratic authority, the wide use of the power to imprison and to flog. The few Indians of position we can produce to applaud our rule are men whom we have elevated for that purpose, who, without that elevation, as both we and India know, would be against us and not for us.

The character of our rule in India, continues Prof. Laski, "maintained in defiance of Indian demands has long stained our reputation for plain dealing all over the world. Until the advent of Hitler and Mussolini, it was the classic example of imperialist exploitation". After referring to the Act of 1935 which ingeniously "multiplied every protective device discoverable of reaction", Prof. Laski proceeds:

We announce that we shall put no obstacle in the way of Indian freedom; we only ask that all Indians of every sort shall first agree upon its pattern. And since that agreement is not forthcoming, we continue to govern India for our own purposes. Meanwhile, in the name of the Indian people, we ourselves take this and that decision on its behalf; and then proudly thank India for its generosity to us; or accept this gift or that from one or other of the Indian princes—their method of insuring their further protection from us—which we know is a gift mostly wrung from the misery of their unhappy subjects, and then exhibit these gifts as the proof of Indian "loyalty". I do not know how far we deceive ourselves by this technique; empire possesses a large capacity for self-deception.

This, however, cannot deceive the Indian people. It is therefore clear, he says, that "the solution of the Indian problem depends upon the reality of our determination to agree to its self-government". If Britain is really in earnest, there is no reason why it cannot begin to operate "within a year of the conclusion of peace".

But as long as every vested interest in India is, like the Moslem interest, encouraged, openly or secretly, to believe that it will get better terms from dependence upon us than from a real

* Richmond: What is social case work, pp. 255-256.

† Abid p. 259.

attempt at accommodation with other Indian interests, of course agreement between them is not forthcoming. We patronise these dissidents from unity in the same way, though much more subtly, as the Conservative Party has so long patronised the separation of Ulster; and with the same evil consequences.

For the gains that would be available to England from a free India, bound to her like the Dominions by no ties other than her own choice would be immense.

It is not only, as we have been made aware, that such an India, even in the stage of its approach to freedom, would give us a wealth of aid in the war-effort that we cannot dare, under present conditions, to exact from her. It is not only that such an India would free us from necessities of coercion which, when they issue in events like Amritsar, bedevil our domestic politics. It is not only, further, that a free India can begin that fuller exploitation of her own resources which her present service to our vested interests at so many points restricts and constrains. It is also that, freeing India now, we remove from the post-war years a problem that will, because it will grow in intensity, hamper by the attention for which it will call our capacity to deal with our own immense issues of reconstruction. It is, above all, because the recognition by us of India's right to freedom is the supreme announcement we can make to the world that we have done, once and for all, with the older imperialism.

Nor can this be delayed. For the trouble about this war is, as Sir Richard Acland shows in his vigorous plea for action—in "Unser Kampf"—that it is the second war to make the world safe for Democracy and fit for heroes to live in. None of the promises made during the last war has been kept. The disillusionment is too keen for people to put much faith in promises. But an ounce of practice is better than a ton of promises.

If our people can adopt the new morality and authenticate their change of heart in the eyes of the world by a change of government, they can save themselves from their present dangers. It will only be necessary yet further to guarantee our good faith to the world by a few quite simple, but unequivocal, preliminary steps in the right direction.

What then should the new Government do?

It should appoint, as Secretary of State and as Viceroy for India two men who are known to be determined that British economic and political control in India shall end at the earliest possible moment. Community problems in India no doubt present difficulties which are very useful to those who do not desire to abandon our control. But in the hands of men determined that they should be solved and backed by a government equally determined, they would be overcome. The fact

must be faced that the new Viceroy would have to encounter the fierce opposition of all those Indians who enjoy the highest rewards of the present order, just as we should at home. This opposition would have to be overcome.

For, Sir Acland contends that we cannot persuade the people of Germany that we are fighting to free Europe unless we set out at once to free India.

They will believe we are fighting to preserve our Colonial possessions and theirs unless we set out at once to transfer these possessions to the only people who have any right to them. They will believe we are fighting to hold them in military subjection unless we set out at once to create a system in which no one can hold anyone in military subjection.

Though Mr. Churchill has seen the wisdom of adding other aims to the one aim of winning the war, he seems yet too hardened a Tory to be able to rise above the prejudices of his class. Doubtless he has proved himself a great War Minister; but his recent declaration in Parliament that the Atlantic Charter does not cover the case of India and Burma, though by no means surprising to us, is certainly not helpful in the way of either solving the Indian problem or accelerating war effort. It is quite understandable that Mr. Churchill and Mr. Roosevelt were more concerned with the fortunes of the occupied countries now under Nazi domination, but that is no reason why the British Prime Minister, fully alive to the futility of old promises and pledges that have remained unredeemed, should still harp Amery-like on the same formula. It does not require a Churchill to repeat the old slogan:

We have pledged by the declaration of August 1940, to help India to obtain free and equal partnership in the British Commonwealth of races subject, of course, to the fulfilment of the obligations arising from our long connection with India and our responsibilities to its many creeds, races and interests.

Something more than this unimaginative slogan is expected of a bold and dynamic leader like Mr. Churchill, if he is not altogether an over-rated statesman whom the fortunes of war have raised to giddy eminence. These so-called responsibilities would, of course, continue to the end of time. And they naturally serve as an excuse for withholding the legitimate rights of a whole people.

WAR AND THE CEMENT INDUSTRY

BY MR. T. V. SUBRAHMANYAN, B.A.

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THE present cement industry in India owes very much to the last Great War. Prior to 1912, there was practically not a single cement factory in India. The demand for this constructional material was also very limited at that time, in view of the fact that few knew about the potentialities and uses of cement. Except in cities and towns, cement was quite a 'new substance' to the country folk, who in their characteristic conservative nature paid more importance to the 'Lime Mortar' than to this 'grey dust'. The few demands that emanated from the Public Works Department and other contractors were entirely met by cements imported chiefly from Great Britain, Italy and Japan. The price of such imported cement was also not favourable for the buyer to indulge in cement concrete construction.

It was the firm by name South Indian Industrials at Madras that first attempted at manufacturing cement in the year 1902. Although for all theoretical purposes it can be said that the first bag of cement was produced by this Company, the actual production and distribution of cement on a commercial basis came into vogue only with the starting of the Indian Cement Co. at Porbandar in the year 1912. The output of this factory was very limited in the initial stages and the sales were also not encouraging owing to the fact that people were after British cement and were not used to the new Indian made product, although the latter exceeded the British Standard Specification for Portland cement.

In the year 1914, the Great War broke out and this put a temporary stop to the import of cement and other materials from foreign countries. This was really an opportunity for the Indian cement industry to come forward. During war time there was also more demand for cement within India than in normal times. When import of foreign cement was more or less shut out, people had naturally to go in for the Indian cement. India could now supply her own cement without any competitors. In keeping with

the demand, two or three more factories were opened in the course of another three years since the opening of the Indian Cement Co. Experience in using Indian cement revealed its high quality and earned a reputation of its own which, in after years, has been fully established.

Advancement in constructional study, call for more buildings, business houses, factories, transportation facilities, etc., all have collectively contributed to the progress of the Indian cement industry, which had received the first stimulus from the 1914 War. After the completion of the Great War, there has been a surprisingly rapid growth in the number of cement concrete buildings throughout India, especially in cities and towns. With better knowledge of this building material coupled with the availability of concrete mixers and other relevant requisites, there has been a growing demand for cement for the construction, not only of buildings but also of other structures like bridges, dams, roads, culverts, etc. To cope with this ever increasing demand it was found necessary to open more factories. A decade had not elapsed since the great War before there appeared about nine cement works in India all working to their fullest capacities.

All these factories having their sites in central and upper India, distribution of cement to the southern parts of India, though possible, was not very economic. Consequently foreign competition was still going on in full vigour in the coastal cities of South India, like Madras, Tuticorin, Negapatam, Cochin, Calicut, etc. However with the establishment of the Shahabad Cement Works at Shahabad and the Coimbatore Cement Works at Madukarai, distribution became more successful and cheaper. There was also a gradual decrease in imported cement. Many small and large concrete projects now began to appear in South India, of which Mettur Dam is a fine example.

Side by side with the increased production of cement, there has also been a marked development of the working knowledge of

this material. As a result of research study and experience, cement revealed itself to be a unique constructional material that can be used with success in an endless number of ways. For irrigation and water supply purposes, for ornamental structures in gardens, for many agricultural requisites, etc., this substance became an 'inevitable companion' of architects and farmers. In this connection it is necessary to remember that for such a rapid spread of knowledge among the public about the many utilitarian aspects of cement, the efforts of the Concrete Association of India has been mainly responsible. Consequent upon the propaganda work done by this institution, the Indian Cement Industry steadily advanced and the consumption increased. The Cement Marketing Co. of India peacefully marketed the product of the various factories and catered cement at uniform moderate rates throughout the length and breadth of India.

At this stage, the condition of the Indian Cement Industry was very encouraging and promised a bright future. There was a striking harmony between the demand and supply. The quantities of foreign cement imports were getting less and less.

With a view to eliminate foreign competition completely and to cater Indian cement at cheaper rates, those who were connected with this industry put their brains together and as a result of which it was decided to amalgamate and centralize the administration and sales of the various individual companies into a single Associated Cement Companies. This consolidation was put into effect in the year 1936. The labours done in this direction were not in vain. The output of many factories was increased. A few more factories were opened for more economic distribution of cement. The Cement Industry thus began to flourish very pronouncedly.

The scope in the field of cement industry, as has been revealed by the prosperity of the Associated Cement Companies, now invited other financial magnates to enter into this field and try their fortune by opening other cement factories in competition with the A. C. C. Thus

commenced an unhealthy internal competition which, to a slight degree, disturbed the hitherto consolidated condition of the cement market. Publicity work on both sides went on in full swing. There was a profusion of pamphlets, posters and handbills describing the qualities of cement in almost every hardware and cement merchant's shop in India. Owing to the rate war, the prices of cement were not steady but fluctuating. This contest was not altogether favourable to the smooth progress of cement industry.

The rate war, however, did not last long. The competition might have continued for some time more, but at this period the European War broke out (1939) which enhanced the prices of many materials required for the manufacture of cement. Naturally the producing cost of cement went high. Without undergoing loss, rate war was not worth attempting at. The demand for cement has been also increasing astonishingly. For many war purposes cement was required. For repairing docks, for protection of buildings, construction of roads, air-raid shelters, etc. etc., cement was needed. Enquiries have been coming even from ports other than in India. The attention of the cement producers was now to be directed more to meet the urgent need of the country than in waging rate war. Commercial magnates of both sides now joined together, an understanding was reached between the various companies, the sales of the competitive concerns were taken over by a central organization as before, the selling prices were revised and once more normal conditions were restored for the mutual advantage of the consumer and the seller and the cement industry at large. This understanding and agreement between the competitive concerns have rendered this thirty year old cement industry of India full fledged and strong. If the prosperity of an industry marks the advancement of a nation, surely the Indian Cement Industry is one of India's valuable assets of which everybody is to be proud.

Thus we see that besides the collective labours of many businessmen and financiers, War has also contributed to the present thriving state of cement industry.

THE MODERN WOMAN

By 'OMEGA'

I do not share the widespread prejudice against the modern woman. She is a creature more sinned against than sinning. I have heard a lot of diatribe against this youngest daughter of Eve and while I know she is strong enough to defend herself, I must take up the cudgels for her and tell my men friends straightway that this sort of malicious propaganda cannot stop the emancipation of women. For long man has been the lord and the master of the Universe. He has kept women in leading strings and denied them even their elementary rights. They have been treated as chattels, as hewers of wood and drawers of water. They have been subjected to an age-long and systematic victimization. But even a worm does turn. And thanks largely to modern education women are now finding their feet, ousting menfolk from their monopolies and threatening their hegemony both inside and outside the home. I have every sympathy with the weaker sex in this fight against the forces of evil. I have an unstinted admiration for their achievements and wish them godspeed in their Herculean task. I am sure my friends who are uncompromising enemies of feminist advance will call me names and declare me a Quisling. But I don't care. I prefer to err in the company of the fair.

And let me now examine closely some of the charges against the modern woman. Here is a wonder of wonders! Men of conservative ideas—the diehards of the old school—are scandalised at the sight of modern girls going to schools and colleges. Why has she partaken of the fruit of the Tree of Knowledge? Had she not everything she desired, in that Garden of Eden—her home, children to play with, parents to serve, a husband to love and servants to rule over? What more did she want? Why did she venture out of doors? Had she not enough to do with washing and cooking and sowing and bringing up of children? Well, this kind of talk will not do. It is purest rot. Happily, it is limited to a few cross-grained fogies who can neither learn nor unlearn and whom nobody takes seriously. The woman has definitely

come out of the veil. She cannot be confined eternally to the four walls of the house. Nor do modern educated men, if I have read their mind correctly, want life-partners who are mere automatons. They want companions—thinking and alert beings—and not mere valets. They will have nothing to do with votaries whose only offerings are a cringing servility. Most unhappy marriages of today are due to serious temperamental differences between the husband and the wife. The husband is a university educated man with a bias for learning and academic discussion. His wife is a complete ignoramus, steeped in conservatism and superstition. She does not understand reason. I am speaking particularly of Indian homes where tragedies of hopeless incompatibles among married pairs are not infrequently witnessed at the present moment. The 20th century husband is often yoked to the 16th century wife and the result is unhappiness for both. The old-fashioned girl who is nursed and brought up in an antediluvian atmosphere swears by untouchability and superstition and a host of meaningless ritual. She cannot keep pace with the modernist ideology of her husband who applies only the test of reason and common sense to the many problems of life. And there comes the inevitable clash with its many and deep sighs and sorrows. Believe me, this is not at all an exaggerated picture.

But, on the other hand, we are warned against a potential danger. It is the hyper-educated wife. People who ought to know better look askance at a university girl. We are told that a girl with an academic mind is a misfit at home. She develops a stubborn and inflexible outlook which is a serious handicap in the every-day problems of the home. For a young man higher education has a definite value. It gives him balance and poise. It teaches him discrimination and develops common sense. But send a woman to the university and the result is a complete 'ossification of the common sense'. I am using the expression which Mr. Gilbert Frankau employed in the columns of the

Daily Mail recently. Hear the advice of this famous novelist: "One of the best wives and mothers I know took honours at a famous university and still teaches there. Nevertheless, if I were lucky enough to have a son, and he were one of those very rare sons who would take his father's advice about matrimony, I should most certainly counsel him against choosing a hyper-educated wife." While this man is all for higher education in the case of males, he is not prepared to extend that liberalising influence to females. Probably he thinks that what is sauce for the gander is not sauce for the goose. I do not agree with this doctrine of exclusiveness. It is another instance of man-made tyranny against which the woman of to-day has raised her banner of revolt. University education cannot be allowed to remain a forbidden fruit for women. I remember following a controversy in the press in which it was asked: "Do Quadratic equations make better wives?" The most fitting answer given to it was: "Do Quadratic equations make better husbands?" I think this is an entirely wrong way of looking at female education. Some people believe that all education imparted to women should tend to make them better wives and better mothers. And that which does not serve this purpose is useless, if not worse. I do not subscribe to this philosophy. The object of education and, particularly, higher education is to set people thinking independently besides filling the mind with a mass of learning. The pity is that most people encumber their brains with a heavy load of useless knowledge which is so much lumber, but do not add one grain to their common sense or understanding. That is mostly the fault of educators. We want teachers of the right type. It is wrong to suppose that while university education must do good to men, it is bound to spoil women. Given the right and proper opportunities, women have done splendidly well and beaten men on their own ground.

But here is something more serious. It is a masculine revolt against modern marriage. Says the young man of to-day: "The modern girl does not want children. She cannot cook; she can't or won't

mend her husband's clothes; she does not intend to sit at home. Why should I marry in order to take a girl (and always the same girl) to the pictures?" Let us pause and consider. Do modern girls hate children? I remember a friend telling me: "The woman of today shrinks in horror from the thought of large families except for her dogs and the ultra modern variety would rather have a Baby Austin than a baby." That is nicely put, but is it the whole truth? Motherhood is and must continue to be the strongest of all feminine emotions. Nature has not yet uprooted it from the female breast. But the new woman wants regulated families. She is opposed to a rabbit-like multiplication. Her learning and experience have told her that mere numbers do not constitute strength and it is quality more than quantity which matters in life. This is a valuable lesson which is unfortunately lost on most parents who glory on counting their children by dozens and whose only contribution to the world is to be judged by the number they have added to its population of hungry mouths. What the world needs, and India particularly, is not more children but less. And it is a happy augury for the future that the modern woman knows her responsibilities in the matter. So far she has been a helpless contributor to an ever-increasing growth in her family with a correspondingly diminishing standard of life. If Nature has given woman the gift of motherhood, it must be wisely employed. This God-given capacity should not be squandered in producing a chain of babies who are merely the symbols of their parents' lustful folly. And then who has to bear the full brunt of this game of procreation? Alas, it is the poor woman. Upon her has fallen the Biblical curse: "Unto the woman the Lord God said, I will greatly multiply thy sorrow and thy conception; in sorrow thou shalt bring forth children." And thus have followed the throes of conception, confinement, and delivery. Would that man had a trial of it for a change, he would surely understand things better! I congratulate the modern woman on her resolve to have the fewest possible children. Why should not man suppress

the beast in him, or take adequate precautions? So this charge against the new woman has failed and she is honourably acquitted.

The second complaint against the modern girl is that she cannot cook, nor can she darn or mend clothes. Why, you are really hard on woman if you expect her to do all this, or treat it as a measurement of her usefulness. Unfortunately, we are led to believe so from time immemorial and it is difficult to drive out old convictions. A young lady, home for the holidays from college, was in great glee over her success in her recent Exams. "Papa," she said, "you ought to be very proud of my reports and to be more satisfied with my high marks in political economy, fine arts, music, logic, and languages." "So I am," replied the parent, "and your general success in life seems assured if your future husband can show testimonials from his school in housekeeping, cooking, nursing, mending and the use of the sewing machine, I think you may be very happy yet." I should think it is an excellent idea. So far man has had too much of the soft jobs, sitting at the desk, writing notes or signing cheques while the poor woman has slaved for him in the kitchen or the laundry. Why not try a change? Where is the horror if men are made to push prams in the streets or do the washing or handle a needle or try cooking in the kitchen? Nevertheless, I refute the charge that the modern woman would not do any of the domestic duties. She would do them much better than her ignorant sister of the past, when the mood is on. But she would have none of those male commandments. She is definitely opposed to the dictatorship of man in the home. She prefers government by consent but if there is going to be any dictatorship, it will be here. And what is this charge about sitting at home? The new woman has discarded the *parda*. She has come out of the veil. She will certainly not sit at home. No, never. "I have made up my mind," said the husband, "to stay at home." "No, that cannot be," said the wife. "I have made up my face to go out." She must go out, with you or without you. Is she not entitled to her full share of the fresh air and the sunshine

and the open spaces? Must these continue to be man's monopoly? Will you deny her even Nature's plentiful gifts? And as for good company and the club life, the late hours and the pictures, are they entirely a masculine property? So far woman has been systematically ousted from them under a well-planned man-made organisation. But things cannot go on like that eternally. I am glad the modern woman has put her foot down on man's injustice. She will assert herself. She will make her presence felt. She will rise to her full stature. Dare you stop her? She will move heaven and earth. She will ring the welkin with her cries.

And please don't find fault with the new woman's make-up. Does she not look charming in her modern outfit? Do not these powders and cosmetics add to her perpetual grace and loveliness. According to a genial observer, "the modern woman has begun her emancipation by shaping herself at both extremities—cutting her hair and shortening her skirt." Science has put in her hands the most up-to-date methods of conquest over Nature. Not for her any ugliness of body or form! She can get her face lifted, her nose shaped, her hair dyed, her eyebrows pencilled, her lips coloured and her nails manicured. There is also the plastic surgeon at her beck and call. By a little operation here and a little grafting there, he will transform an ugly witch into a bewitching damsel. And why do you quarrel with my dear Miss 1941, if she carries a looking-glass and powder puff in her bag in one hand and a parasol in the other? And supposing she likes to flaunt in loose trousers and a tight coat which are a part of male attire, why do you stare at her in open-mouthed wonder? Rather pat yourself on your back, for, is not imitation the best form of flattery? And now I arrive at that final question: Is not the modern Eve a thing of beauty and joy for ever? I think she is. And even if you think otherwise, please keep mum. Silence is golden. Or speak at your peril and be prepared for a hard hammering with soft fingers. Meanwhile, I take your leave wishing you Good Luck.

THE ACID TEST OF EDUCATION

BY MR. M. S. SRINIVASA SARMA, M.A.

(National College, Trichinopoly)

WHAT a sorry spectacle we have of a city population on a holiday! They glibly talk of making themselves merry by *pleasure-seeking*; but what they really do is to *buy* pleasure, not *seek* it. There is a world of difference between *seeking* our pleasures by our own exertions and *buying* them ready made in the market. We *buy* our pleasures when we pay our money to see a skilled performance, say, a tennis or football match or a picture at a cinema or a musical concert. We *seek* them when we learn to do something skilfully ourselves. The pleasure that a man enjoys through the exercise of his own skill excites our admiration, and surely there is no pleasure comparable to that.

Curiously enough the idea that to keep busy in some creative and congenial work is the first condition of self-respecting life has come in precisely with the increase of labour-saving devices. In these days of labour-saving machinery and greater clamour for lesser hours of work, the fine art of happy and wise self-entertainment becomes imperative. Today when education is universal and when leisure has become not simply an opportunity but a problem, it is of the utmost importance to make a proper disposal of this surplus of time in activities personally enjoyable on the one hand and socially valuable on the other. When mechanised industry is destroying the field for personal skill at the labour end of life, it becomes indispensable to recover the lost field at the leisure end of life. The greatest social danger confronting us today is the growth of a vast multitude

of people in all classes of society with no skill to exercise either for their own enjoyment or for other people's benefit but with plenty of leisure at their disposal and with plenty of money in their pockets for the purchase of ready-made pleasures.

DEFECTIVE TRAINING AT SCHOOL

This abuse of leisure in adults is a result of lack of training in entertaining oneself while at school. Not having learnt as children to fill their leisure-time with living interests and creative and joyous hobbies, the low-class workers seek the toddy-shops to find recreation from their unattractive work, while the more wealthy classes resort to gambling-houses, race-courses, brothels, etc., to fill their spare-time. This is a great defect in our educational system; the school work should be so arranged as to fill a child's life with real living interests, with the love of *doing* things, *making* things, or of adding to his store of knowledge by some use of his *hands* or eyes.

The individual busy at work is safe both in mind and body. But doing something under compulsion merely saps vitality. Therefore it is that there is greater demand today for more leisure so that the workers may escape from the *ennui* of forced and monotonous labour. The problem before us now is, how are we to keep the uncreative routine of our work from the infection of boredom?

Leisure should not be thought of as if it were an unoccupied part of our life. Rest is only a *change* of activity, not its cessation. But man is truly active

only in those activities which are done *freely*, that is, during his leisure-hours. Leisure always invites to active effort, not passive enjoyment or mere relaxation. He must not be a creature of another's will but be his own master; and the effort must be spent on something not merely productive of good but good in itself. It opens to the ordinary man a sphere of free activity, free not only in the sense that it is fully and indisputably voluntary but also in the sense that it takes him for the time out of the narrow circle of purely personal cares into which the pressure of circumstances tends always to drive him.

SKILL AND SELF-CONTROL

Knowledge is usually taken to be the aim of education; but knowledge is never complete until it issues in some kind of corresponding skill, in some capacity for doing excellently what we know accurately. Of course, skill is a thing of endless variety—skill of the hand, skill of the brain, skill of the whole body, skill of conscience, skill of the heart. Music, art, literature, drama, humour, short story and novel-writing—any one of these might furnish a field for the exercise of one's skill. Gardening, carpentry, pottery, cutlery, cane-work, weaving, tailoring, bee-keeping, photography, etc., are skilful forms of occupation to fill the leisure hours. Man has need for creative expression—a release of his innate powers to recreate himself, to have the sense of well-being, in a word, to entertain himself; and the secret of self-entertainment is the skilful occupation of his leisure time.

The great task of education, therefore, is the acquisition of skill; it not only occupies your spare time and effectively drives out the devil whose workshop is

the idle brain; it is at the same time the training ground for the acquisition of self-control which is at the root of all virtues. Skill and self-control go together; hence education can have no higher object than that of developing skill, whether it be the skill of the body or of the mind. A man who has no skill that he can exercise when he is free is almost inevitably a man who is not a master of himself.

IMPORTANCE OF HAND-WORK

There is today a lot of discussion about freedom in schools. Children delight in all sorts of creative activity; and the scope for real freedom is to be found in manual labour which is the field for initiative, resourcefulness and inventive powers. Education, therefore, must be released from the imprisonment within books and take the form of making things and doing deeds. Schools must combine manual training and book-learning and make the students do things with their hands. Washing clothes, cooking food, drawing water from wells, growing vegetables, cutting wood and a thousand odd jobs for our homes are interesting in themselves; they not only keep us fit and strong, but also develop skills which will be in need almost every day. These are hard work, and thus we get the habit of taking pains which is the foundation of character as well as of success in life. Manual work is a method of discipline and even of absorption and rapture. Dignity, poise, courage and order are the fruits of hard work. The only way to escape discontent and the sense of utter failure in life is to forget oneself in some form of satisfying manual work. The dignity of hand-work and the desire to do something useful must, therefore, be developed in the young pupils by giving them training in clay-modelling, card-board work, furniture-making, coir-work, toy-making, wood-carving, needle-work, embroidery, and other kindred arts.

REFORMING THE CRIMINAL

By MR. H. D. SALDANA, M.A.

(Government Inter-College, Jhang)

ORDINARILY we think of a criminal as a person who has committed a serious crime or who is accustomed to support himself by means of unlawful practices. Whichever of the two categories the criminal may be placed in, the society generally looks upon him as a person whose mode of life is, to say the least, anti-social and who is potentially, though not actually, harmful to the society. Society does not feel secure so long as the criminal is at large. To ensure its safety, the society wants the criminal effectively punished, either by means of a fine, or imprisonment or both.

GETTING RID OF THE CRIMINAL

The question of questions is: Can Society get rid of the criminal? If so, how? The machinery of law, elaborate and terrible as it is, with hanging and incarceration, is helpless to eradicate crime. It does not prevent, it does not cure. And yet we know that prevention is better than cure. However, the problem of crime prevention is not completely met by hanging or incarcerating the criminal in a spirit of revenge. What then must we do? The only prophylactic method lies in reforming the criminals. And the reformatory method must be applied not only within the prison walls to those who have sinned against society, but also outside the penitentiary to the potential criminal.

REFORMATORIES

Places where juvenile criminals are unmade are the Reformatory Schools and Borstal Institutions. The young criminals who are ordered to serve their periods of sentence in such places are there especially looked after. They are taught useful

trades and receive elementary education to be enabled to earn a decent living after being released. They go out reformed, and if the teaching has been effective, there is rarely any lapse. Plastic as the mind of the juvenile criminal is, it readily affords the educator a chance to mould it into a desirable shape. Of course, the educator must know the principles of Psychology and apply them to re-educate the erring youth. The curriculum of studies in a Borstal Institution or a Reformatory School aims at two things: (1) Making the juvenile criminal sufficiently literate; and (2) enabling him to learn a trade or craft by following which outside the walls of the penitentiary he can earn a decent, honest living and become a useful, law-abiding citizen. Literacy by itself cannot be looked upon as a panacea for all social ills. If that were the case, there would be no criminals at all among the educated societies. But the light of knowledge, to which the only approach lies through literacy, is bound to lead one to distinguish what is good from what is evil, and this knowledge will more often than not make the possessor shrink from criminal acts. Knowledge is a power against evil. The practical side of the juvenile offender's reform, consisting in his learning a trade or craft, liberates his potential energies for creative work. The human mind is so constituted as to feel a sort of pride in even the slightest achievement, and the erstwhile convict who fell an easy victim to criminal propensities, now feels he can do something useful. This feeling, this thought makes a different person of him. He is

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no longer an outcaste, regarded with fear, suspicion and loathing by the Society, but a useful member of it, able to earn an honest, independent livelihood and contribute his mite to the sum-total of the social good. When a spirit like this has been instilled in the mind of the young delinquent, it emancipates him from the possibility of relapsing into crime.

THE CRIMINAL'S MIND

Truly speaking, the working of a criminal's mind is not different from the working of the mind of an ordinary member of human society. It may be the desire for applause, or the will to power, which has forced him to adopt crime as a method for gaining recognition in society. Some sort of an inferiority complex, rooted deep in the sub-conscious, has been demanding compensation and resulted in the choice and commission of crime. As soon as he is convinced that there is a better way of winning the respect and applause of those who matter, he is sure to follow that way. He could not do so previously. This weakness put him inside the walls of a prison. But the prison proves to be a delightful place where instead of being flogged, abused, and starved, that is being made a hardened criminal, he receives sympathy, kindness, light and learning, all aimed at his reformation.

He grows to be ashamed of himself and grows out of his criminal tendencies to become a useful citizen. If, after his release from the penitentiary, he is treated with contempt, is shunned or avoided, all the sublimating endeavours are sure to be nullified. The society has no right to say: 'once a criminal, always a criminal.' Let Society give him a chance, and he is sure to justify the society's trust. Mr. Henry Ford, perhaps the

greatest employer of skilled labour in the world, was the first man to employ those who had undergone a sentence, short or long, and has not had a single occasion to complain that he ever made a mistake in employing a released convict. Mr. Ford's example deserves to be followed. The Prisoner's Aid Societies are doing very commendable work in this direction by helping convicts, after their release, to find honest employment.

ORDINARY JAILS

Even in ordinary jails, where grown-up convicts are lodged to undergo their sentences, efforts have been made to introduce adult literacy so as to divert the minds of prisoners from criminal thinking, and by giving them an elementary grounding in three R's, to enable them to find some slight pleasure and diversion in the printed word. This combined with the training or practice in various crafts, such as carpet-weaving, rope-making, carpentry and paper-making, is sure to effect a change in their outlook on life as they come out of the prison walls after undergoing the terms of their sentences.

Good conduct in the jail often earns the prisoner a small reduction in the length of his stay there. If the period of stay were to be reduced in proportion to the acquisition of knowledge and learning, or the efficient pursuit of a trade or craft—these two being made an important part of the good conduct of a prisoner—literacy and skill in craft would be more speedily and enthusiastically acquired. More and more prisoners would earn remissions of periods of incarceration and thus a proportionate decrease in the prison expenditure would result. But this should only be a side consideration. The main achievement would lie in the reformation of the criminals and a consequent decrease in crime.

THE ETERNAL SPIRAL

BY MISS W. M. MARTIN

BOOKS and articles on popular science describe "spiral nebulae" as being "worlds in the making". May not these be fully developed solar systems like our own?

We are given to understand that the sun's rays "pour out into space" in all directions, at right angles to the sun's surface. Can this be possible? The sun turns on its axis just as the earth is said to do; can it then, being a revolving body, emit anything at right angles to its surface? Is it not more likely that the sun pours its tremendous energy into space, not perpendicularly from its body, but *in a spiral*, and that the spiral nebulae that astronomers see and photographs portray for us the manner in which a central sun sends out its energy, enveloping its entire colony of planets, and the power of the sweep of the spiral, carries the planets around it in a circle (their orbits)? The stupendous energy emanating from the sun would keep the planets from getting too near the sun, and the whirlpool of the spiral should tend to prevent them from leaving their orbits, somewhat like the way leaves in a small ground whirlwind are carried rapidly round and round, only the whirlwind is a fitful thing and the energy from the sun is powerful and constant. This would explain in a more understandable way the "mystery" of the sun's "gravitational pull" on the planets.

Scientists say that the sun is dying, or growing cold, or that they do not know how its heat is maintained; they talk of shrinkage and the like, but may it not be that, as matter is indestructible, (and if, as explained above, the sun's energy

sweeps round in a spiral), all the sun's "matter" returns to it again, *plus* other meteoric stuff picked up in the "sweep"? As the equatorial region of the sun is known to revolve faster than its north and south poles, this matter would most probably return to the sun at its poles and be again driven out from its zones of greatest activity—the equatorial region.

As all things in the mighty cosmos function on the same principle more or less, each planet, too, must function on the same plan. Our earth must give out its atmosphere of gases at the equator and receive them back, *plus* the sun's energy in "cold flame" at the poles. It does not seem possible that the sun's "direct rays" could burn one, it would appear rather that the gases in our atmosphere burn the sun's particles, thereby causing heat, and as there are more gases given out at the equator than at the poles, the equator is therefore hotter. The notion that the equator gets the "direct rays" of the sun and is torrid on that account seems pure nonsense, the sun is too far to operate in that way.

Then again, on a yet smaller scale, there is the proton with its electrons sweeping round it in ceaseless motion. Here again is the phenomenon of spiral movement and the return of elements to their source.

The writer is but a lay thinker and puts forward these theories as offering possible explanations of solar and cosmic phenomena. These ideas may have been discredited long ago, or they may be somewhat new, in any case they seem plausible and of general interest.

THE FAITH OF THE ARTIST

BY MR. K. CHANDRASEKHARAN, M.A. B.L.

"THE Kingdom of Art, like the Kingdom of Heaven, is within us. That is to say (translating a figure of speech into another figure of speech), the habitat of art is in a region of our nature above the paraphernalia of its expression in form. But within that region there are levels of ascent or descent from the lowest feelings and thoughts to the highest inspirations and illuminations. According to the height from which our inspiration and illumination fall will be the power and lustre of our artistic expression. Conversely, the nearer such expression is to the nature of its inner source, the more fully will it absorb and transmit the special qualities that we identify as beauty; and the contemplation of these qualities and the ideas associated with them will lead us back to the hill-tops on which they take their rise." Indeed, as we peruse this volume,* we get the bracing, pure air of the hill-tops in our ideas of the form and spirit of art.

Dr. Cousins is an important name to conjure with in India in connection with the new movement to preserve our ancient treasures. Apart from his love of arts in general and his own creative talents as a poet, his great experience of life is revealed in many a chapter of these collected essays on the faith of the artist. We have only to take a passage here and a passage there to prove convincingly how his mind always lives apart from the rest in its artistic refinement. For instance, he says: "Art purifies by its search for and exhibition of essentials, and essentials are never impure. Sex, for example, is essential and pure. Sexuality in thought and feeling is non-essential and impure. Where non-essentials are, Art is not." This clears up the ground for receiving more such clear ideas. He is strong in his advocacy for a place to art in our education. He is again strong in his opinion that 'art should occupy a position of at least equal importance with science, because of its service in both the expression and

control of the most dynamic force in human nature, the force of feeling'.

But to the average reader many of the ideas contained in these pages may strike to be far above him. But a book on art can never be intended for the average mind, for art is as much a science as any other subject and needs absorbed pursuit. The more one is educated to appreciate the peculiarities of an art and the technique that preserves its individuality, the greater will be his response to them even when they are of a different origin. For instance, Dr. Cousins tells us how the peculiarity of the Indian Art appealed to some foreigners while he was on a tour in Europe with certain exhibits from his own art-collections. The reason, according to him, for the great appreciation that some of his collections elicited from the foreigners is, that "they gave delight to a different audience of art-lovers, not because they found in them copies of reflections of their own art, but something different, something illustrative of the law of life, the law of inner unity and outer diversity of internationality in spirit and nationality in expression". There is a further interesting episode which he narrates to show us how, in 1928, a collection of Indian paintings which he exhibited at Geneva proved a great success to his mission. The President of the School of Arts there made three discoveries as to why those Indian paintings captured the hearts of all art-lovers. They were: "Discovery number one was 'mystery' in even the paintings of the student-artists; number two, the spirit of 'consecration' in all the paintings; number three, behind the paintings 'a great civilisation'." These three discoveries every art-lover would understand to be the essential three for a proper and fundamental approach to any real appreciation of good art, because, in other words, these three are the 'technique', 'temperament', and 'tradition' in every art.

In the chapter on 'Practical Art', Dr. Cousins touches upon the real issue when he says 'inspite of all that has been written on art, there is still in the general mind a suspicion that art is an

* THE FAITH OF THE ARTIST. By Dr. J. H. Cousins. Kalakshetra Publishing House, Adyar.

affliction of peculiar people and has no substantial value'. Nowhere can this be more correct than in India at the present day, because there is 'the downward pull of force generated by groups, who through the successful exercise of appeal to the lower nature of humanity, assisted by a social organization based on exploitation instead of brotherhood, have debased the creative power and deflected the interest of humanity'. And as a result we find a great indifference to correct standards in arts and particularly in the Indian Arts of painting and sculpture.

In the closing pages of this book, there are three chapters entitled: "The Nature of beauty", "The Expression of beauty" and "The Fulfilment of beauty" which really help our understanding of what beauty is. Rightly does the author point out how and what our reaction should be to pictures done in the Indian style. He says: "The expression of beauty in the canonical art of India is twofold—first the beauty of content, that is, a calling up of religious and philosophical associations that give to the Hindu mind the aesthetical experience with which beauty is associated; second, the beauty of form, which is also a product of association in which a modification of the measurements and limbs of the human figure has been accepted for many centuries. If sculptures and paintings fulfil these requirements, superficial beauty is not regarded as important." Many persons, who are yet doubting the value of Indian Art because they feel the lack of true perspective and anatomical symmetry in the figures depicted in the paintings and sculpture of our country, can find in the above quotation the answer to their long cherished vague doubts.

Dr. Cousins has much to say about every one of our allied arts, like music and Bharata Natya. Writing about music, we come across an interesting episode about an American musician's experience when listening to Indian Music. He writes: "But the American musician who got the shock in Tokyo, got an illumination as to musical time in Madras, when Abdul Karim, at a private performance, beat out for him at my request the *tala* of a piece that worried the

visitor with what he regarded as its lack of any 'time' that he could get a hold on. The Indian singer counted out a bar of fourteen beats in a succession of positive and negative pulsations—1 (blank); 1, 2 (blank); 1, 2, 3 (blank); 1, 2, 3, 4 (blank). The American musician declared that he had entered a world of rhythm of whose existence he had never had the faintest notion."

This graphically brings out the wonderful development in Indian *tala* system, and we are only too grateful to Dr. Cousins for his genuine perception of the beauties of Indian music. Again, speaking about the musical instruments, there is a significant passage which gives us an idea as to the wide and varied knowledge of Dr. Cousins about things Indian. 'In the development of instrumental means for the expression of beauty in music, India has not been behind other nations, and has given the cross-blown flute and violin-bow to world music.' About Bharata Natya, the classical Indian dance, Dr. Cousins gives the correct impression when he says: "Its technique is elaborate and exacting, and calls for rigorous disciplining of the entire nature of the dancer. Its movements are under strict 'critical control', though with a margin for individual variation, that is, mere movement is subjected to rhythmical repetition, and to design in position in relation to the earth. From these conjoint elements in the dance a rich beauty is received."

We can go on adding such apt and lucid statements from him about art in general and Indian Art in particular. The vast erudition upon which this volume is based is clear from the number of works mentioned in the bibliography to this volume. Dr. Cousins, like many others who have begun to entertain grave doubts as to the future of art in our lives, echoes the true voice of concern when he says 'life without something of enlargement of desire beyond bodily satisfactions can only become an articulate animalism; and without discipline can only relapse into savagery'. Nothing can be more true and really touching the question whether art is essential to life.

INDO-CEYLON PROPOSALS

BOTH in India and Ceylon, the report of the Indian and Ceylonese delegations to the recent exploratory Conference in Colombo has been published simultaneously. This is a welcome move, for it gives the public an opportunity to discuss the provisions and suggest methods of making the proposed Agreement more agreeable to the parties concerned. For it will be remembered that the indecent haste with which the Burma Agreement was rushed to the final stage made it all the more unacceptable to the public, who were taken aback by the extraordinary nature of its provisions.

The failure of the Delhi negotiations in November last had given us a foretaste of the nature of the difficulties ahead of the Indian delegation. And the inclusion of two non-official public men of the standing of Sir Mirza Ismail and Mr. T. R. Venkatarama Sastri in the delegation gave the Indian public no little satisfaction that our cause would be represented with earnestness and competence.

But the problem of reconciling diverse and often opposing views, however well intentioned, is by no means easy. No unbending and absolute standard of self-righteous advocacy would meet the realities of the situation. More than once in the course of the Conference, negotiations threatened a break-down. It would have been pitiful if the Indian delegation had returned empty handed. And the Conference set to work in a spirit of mutual give-and-take only determined to spare no effort to adjust differences and come to a settlement, not altogether objectionable to either party. The result had necessarily to be a compromise, and compromise solutions are seldom satisfactory. The Indian delegation is therefore not unaware of the defects of the settlement which are apparent, but it represents the maximum of what could be achieved under the very exacting conditions of the situation.

But to appreciate the delegation's difficulties is not to endorse their solution. For the Ceylon agreement has all the lineaments of the unfortunate Burma transaction.

Even a casual perusal of the draft proposals will show, writes Mr. P. Kodanda Rao in the *Hitavada*, the organ of the Servants of India Society,

that the Indian Delegation have resiled from the position taken up by the Government of India in November 1940, when the negotiations between India and Ceylon broke down. In November last the Government of India held firmly to the view that "full citizenship should be conferred on all Indians who can furnish proof (a) of 5 years' residence in Ceylon; and (b) of a permanent interest in the Island, both tests to be satisfied by some set of easily ascertainable facts". They insisted that the tests should be "specifically set out and not be left to the judgment of individual officers, which is the case at present". They asked that "every Indian now in Ceylon must be allowed to settle in Ceylon permanently if he so wishes".

In the present proposals the Indian Delegation have abandoned that position. The proposals very closely approximate to the proposals of the Ceylon Delegation in November 1940, which were not acceptable to the Indian Government then.

The joint report deals with a number of important points: immigration, re-entry, quotas, franchise and certificates; and the cumulative effects of the many restrictive provisions will be to send a good part of the Indian population out of the island and condemn those who remain within to an inferior type of citizenship. Full citizenship can be claimed only by a very few and the process of discriminating domiciles of origin from domiciles of choice seems by no means easy in the maze of regulations and restrictions that govern the procedure. The Standing Emigration Committee seems to have already made its proposals modifying certain objectionable features of the Report.

In spite of these defects, the Report supplies the basis of an Agreement by further negotiations. Public opinion has already expressed itself unequivocally on certain vital provisions of the Report. It is to be hoped that the two Governments will be guided by such opinion and make a final effort to arrive at an agreement more satisfactory to the parties concerned. It will then be a fitting footnote to the age-long continuity of the cultural and historic relations between India and Ceylon.

Dr. Jayakar on Separate Electorates

Since the Sapru Conference, the Rt. Hon. Dr. Jayakar, who has resigned from the Privy Council with a view to take his full share in public life in India, has carried an intensive agitation to resolve the present deadlock. He made more than one speech in Madras, urging the need for a revision of the Congress programme of Satyagraha and demanding the cessation of the one man rule in the Provinces. But there is one part of his speech which deserves particular attention of the authorities in view of the ceaseless slogans from high quarters that we must all first agree before we can expect anything in the way of freedom. That agreement is impossible, says Dr. Jayakar, so long as Britain holds the key. "Is it sense," Dr. Jayakar asked, "to expect unanimity in a country where the seeds of disunion were planted deliberately?"

The seed of prolific discord and distrust was sown in 1892. Lord Morley, while yielding to Lord Minto, it should be remembered, said that it was destruction of democracy that it would sow the seed of disunion, that they were sowing the Dragon's teeth and the harvest would be very bitter, and that England would some day have to make amends for the mischievous wrong by undoing the whole arrangement of religious minorities voting separately. Having begun that process with all its evil consequences, now they said, that India was divided. India was divided to-day as an inevitable consequence of the vicious system of separate electorates. A European friend of his recently said that if Japan should conquer England, the Japanese could by the introduction of this same vicious principle destroy British solidarity in 10 years. The thing started first with weightage, then it was increased weightage; then they had the Fourteen Points; then came the Poona Pact and the Communal Award which reduced the strength of us Hindus in Bengal from 80 per cent to 50. Now, the theory was trotted out that Muslims were a separate nation and that the only condition under which "the two nations" could live peacefully was to separate them and cut up the country. The rapidity with which the whole of this doctrine had come before the political public within the last two years was surprising. It was only after the Congress Ministries "foolishly gave up the seat of power" that this doctrine had been propagated and he did not know where it would end.

That is another weighty reason why, in the opinion of Dr. Jayakar, Congress should go back to office.

Travancore "en Fete"

Travancore was *en fete* for over a week last month in connection with the birthday celebrations of H. H. the Maharaja. The occasion synchronised with the completion of 10 years of His Highness' rule—a period marked by substantial and all-round progress in the State. The decade has witnessed a steady development in prosperity and general welfare. At the State Banquet in honour of His Highness, Lt-Col. Murphy, the Resident, referred to some important and far-reaching measures such as the throwing open of temples to untouchables, the Travancore University, the Pallivasal Electric Scheme and the general improvement in roads and transport system. These measures have set the State on the road to lasting prosperity.

The Birthday Week also witnessed certain memorials of permanent interest. Of these mention must be made of the new Tuberculosis hospital which was opened by Seth Ambalal Sarabhai; the Maharani's statue unveiled by His Highness himself and the Sir C. P. Ramaswami Iyer's Shastiabdaparty Memorial Hall, which was opened by Sir Mirza Ismail as an appropriate memento of the people's tribute to a great Dewan.

Sir Sikandar's Volte-Face

Mr. Churchill's recent speech denying the applicability of the Atlantic Charter to India has had strange repercussions in India. Even a thorough-going loyalist like Sir Sikandar Hayat Khan, Premier of the Punjab, was dismayed and disappointed by the Churchillian damper. Sir Sikandar called on the Premier to make another declaration "in simple, unambiguous terms and without being hedged in by avoidable qualification". Mr. Amery replied in the same old formula and reaffirmed Churchill's declaration that India was outside the ambit of the Atlantic Charter. Sir Sikandar's reaction to this is amazing. He says this is "quite satisfactory".

Sir Sikandar must have infinite capacity for self-deception to be satisfied with Mr. Amery's latest.

A University Labour Corps

Travancore, the youngest of Universities, has taken quite a new and forward step in forming a University Labour Corps, which rightly lays emphasis on training in useful manual labour and gives military training in addition.

"It has already produced conspicuous results in getting rid of the superiority complex which is apt to divide the educated classes from the masses of India. His Highness is the Colonel-in-Chief of the Labour Corps and His Highness the Elaya Raja the Colonel. Started under such auspices and helped by the leadership and the ungrudging services of Principals, Professors and Lecturers of the various Colleges, a great future can be predicted for the Corps which, amongst other things, has already had a marked influence on the life and outlook of the student population."

The dynamic energy of Sir C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar is responsible for many striking and progressive experiments and the formation of the University Labour Corps is one of many such.

Freedom for India

Mr. Amery's complacency in regard to India is evidently not shared by the more thoughtful section of his own countrymen. The voices of Edward Thompson and Sorenson have from time to time rung clear amidst the dim of dihard outbursts. There is growing evidence of support from progressive Britishers. In an admirably worded letter to the *London Times*, Sir Francis Younghusband pleads for a more forward policy in India. "We have blundered badly in India," he writes and goes on to say:

We are a great enough people to stop higgling over this matter and do the big and gracious thing. It may 'lose' us India, but we shall have gained our own soul.

The case for the freedom of India is put with convincing trenchancy by Mr. Lionel Fieldon, former Controller of Broadcasting in India, in the columns of the *New Statesman and Nation*: What in a nutshell is the quarrel between Britain and India, he asks, and answers:

Just this—that Indians want freedom just as much as we do. . . . That is why we have flung Nehru and five thousand more into jail—not because they are enemies or fifth columnists, but simply because they want India's freedom to be one of the aims of war.

Mr. H. G. Wells, Professor Haldane, Julian Huxley, and a host of others, who are not professional politicians, are equally disturbed by the trend of events in India. At a recent meeting at the Savoy Hotel, they urged the application of the Atlantic Charter to India, Mr. Wells pleading "that the people of India should have the same civil liberties as the people of Britain".

That the situation is actually deteriorating in spite of pompous official denials is borne out by Sir George Schuster's plea for a small Committee to "hammer out" some basis of agreement. Otherwise, said Sir George, "we might be faced with a position analogous to that of Ireland, but immensely more difficult."

Gandhiji's Statement

The call for mass action will not come before the close of the war, says Gandhiji in the course of a statement reviewing the progress of Satyagraha.

Mahatmaji replies to various complaints reaching him regarding the number and enthusiasm of Satyagrahis, the treatment meted out to "C" class politicals, the policy of non-embarrassment, etc.

Advising discharged Satyagrahis that "there is no shame or harm in unavoidable delay" in re-offering Satyagraha, he asks all those who cannot go to jail to engage themselves in Constructive activity, because Constructive programme is an integral part of the national movement and therefore also of the Civil Disobedience.

"I do not share the belief that there is no life left in the Congress. Still waters run deep. Congressmen are too much attached to the Congress to let the institution die of inanition. There seems to be no life because we have no spectacular show in the shape of Parliamentary programme or mass Civil Disobedience. Things are going according to plan."

The War in Russia

IN spite of stubborn Russian resistance the Germans are reported to have penetrated the outer ring of Moscow's defences. The Soviet Government have removed to Kujbyshev about 550 miles south-east of Moscow on the Volga.

The new seat of the Russian Government—more frequently spelled Kuibishev and formerly Samara—is one of the principal ports on the Volga and is in the new oil bearing district known as a second Baku, which was producing six thousand tons of oil daily in 1939. A pipeline connecting Kujbyshev with the Caspian Sea near Emba was planned as long ago as 1930. Kuibishev is on the railway line from Moscow to Orenburg.

The most striking news from Russia, writes "Annalist", is the appointment of Marshal Timoshenko to the southern sector, while Marshal Voroshilov and Marshal Budenny are entrusted with the task of organising new armies in the rear.

This is a sign of confidence and not despair. It means that Stalin is satisfied with his ability to hold the northern sector and is able to devote the energies of the two of his ablest Generals to the preparations for a spring offensive.

Britain and Russia.

The Lords' debate on the Russian situation revealed the gravity of the situation in the Moscow front. The House unanimously passed a resolution expressing admiration for the heroic resistance of their Russian ally after Lord Beaverbrook had told the Peers that Britain and the United States had promised M. Stalin that they would immediately restore Russia's material losses from British and American supplies.

"Russia's position is grave but in many respects it does not differ from that which confronted us in 1940," said Lord Beaverbrook, "and for my part I believe that the Russians will be able to reconstruct their industrial resources just as we have achieved that result under the Prime Minister's leadership."

'Reuters'

The debate in the House of Commons on the control of 'Reuters' revealed the anxiety of the British public to save the great institution from falling into the hands of the "bold bad barons of Fleet Street." Mr. Clement Davies asked whether

the proposed sale of one-half of the issued shares in 'Reuters' Limited by the Press Association Limited to the Newspaper Proprietors' Association Limited, as trustee for London Newspapers, has been considered in relation to 'Reuters' being the main source of supply of overseas news to the British Broadcasting Corporation and of home and overseas news to Empire and foreign news agencies and newspapers.

And whether, in view of this and of certain facilities which 'Reuters' enjoy, His Majesty's Government have considered making the continuance of supply to the British Broadcasting Corporation and those facilities being dependant upon the control of 'Reuters,' being a representative of British interests and not merely of the Press.

Mr. Storey, Chairman of the 'Reuters' put it in the course of the debate that

it is certainly not in national interest that a section of the newspaper industry should be in a position to exert a dominating influence over a national institution performing so vital a function as 'Reuters' and enjoying such facilities as 'Reuters' enjoyed.

The Minister of Information, Mr. Brendan Bracken, was content with the remark that

His Majesty's Government are aware of these negotiations, but I have no statement to make at present.

The transaction has since been concluded. The general objection to the change lies in the fact that a few successful commercial magnates who have made their fortunes in other lines like beer or soap and who do not belong to the profession of journalism should be able suddenly to dominate a world-wide organisation like 'Reuters' and own it to further their own exploits. This is the cause of the extreme disquiet in many quarters over what they concern as a conspiracy among the Press barons. The Indian Press generally and Mr. Arthur Moore of the *Statesman*, President of the Eastern and Indian Newspapers' Association have also registered a strong protest against the change as the A. P. I. is also affected by the transaction.

President Roosevelt's Disclosures

In a speech at the Navy Day Banquet at Washington, President Roosevelt made some startling disclosures of Nazi intrigues.

Hitler has often protested that his plans for conquest do not extend across the Atlantic Ocean. His submarines and raiders prove otherwise. So does the entire design of his new World Order.

For example, I have in my possession a secret map made in Germany by Hitler's Government—by the planners of the new World Order. It is a map of South America and part of Central America as Hitler proposes to reorganise it.

Today in this area there are fourteen separate countries. The geographical experts in Berlin, however, have ruthlessly obliterated all existing boundary lines and have divided South America into five vassal states, bringing the whole continent under their domination.

And they have also so arranged it that the territory of one of these new puppet states includes the Republic of Panama and our great life line the Panama Canal.

This map makes it clear that the Nazi design is not only against South America but against the United States itself.

Your Government has in its possession another document made in Germany by Hitler's Government. It is a detailed plan which, for obvious reasons, the Nazis did not wish to publicise just yet, but which they are ready to impose on a dominated world—if Hitler wins.

It is a plan to abolish all existing religions—Protestant, Catholic, Mahomedan, Hindu, Buddhist, Jewish alike.

The property of all churches will be seized by the Reich. The Cross and all other symbols of religion are to be forbidden. The clergy are to be for ever silenced under penalty of the concentration camps, where even now so many fearless men are being tortured, because they placed God above Hitler.

In place of the churches of our civilisation, there is to be set up an international Nazi church—a church which will be served by orators sent out by the Nazi Government.

In place of the Bible *Mein Kampf* will be imposed and enforced as the holy writ. And in place of the Cross of Christ will be put two symbols—the swastika and the naked sword. The god of blood and iron will take the place of the God of love and mercy.

The President concluded with a stern warning:

Today in the face of the newest and greatest challenge, we Americans have cleared our decks and taken up our battle stations. We stand ready in the defence of our nation and the faith of our fathers to do what God has given us the power to see as our fullest duty.

Jap Military Movements

The change of Government under the new Prime Minister Gen. Tojo seems to mark a definite forward movement in Japanese military policy. Apart from the truculent tone of the Japanese spokesmen and the Japanese Press, there is every evidence of troop concentrations in different sectors. According to a Chinese military authority, the Japanese at present are maintaining 22 divisions of Manchukuo troops in Manchuria, while three or four more Japanese divisions are on their way to Manchuria. There are no important Japanese troop movements taking place in North China, but the Japanese are conscripting thousands of Chinese labourers for the building of a highway between Kalgaoon in Inner Mongolia and Tolun in Manchuria, thus connecting Mongolia and Manchuria.

Between 50,000 and 60,000 Japanese troops are massed in Southern Indo-China, according to the Chinese spokesman and not over 100,000 as reported from Saigon. He said that 150 Japanese planes are at present concentrated at Saigon.



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April '42.

DIARY OF THE MONTH

- Oct. 1. Sir Sikandar, Punjab Premier, asks for time limit for Dominion Status.
—Three Power Conference concludes in Moscow.
- Oct. 2. Gandhiji's 78rd Birthday celebrations.
—King's assent given to Postponement of Elections Act.
- Oct. 3. Hilter, speaking in Berlin, justifies war on Russia.
—The Fadden Government resigns in Australia.
- Oct. 4. Indian delegation to International Labour Conference is announced.
—Sir Shafat Ahmad Khan is appointed India's High Commissioner in S. Africa.
- Oct. 5. Violent naval battle in South Atlantic is reported.
—Mr. Curtin forms new Labour Cabinet in Australia.
- Oct. 6. Viceroy addresses first session of National Defence Council.
—C. R., Prakasam and Gopal Reddy are released.
- Oct. 7. Germans batter their way to 'Smolensk.
- Oct. 8. Mr. Duff Cooper arrives in Calcutta.
- Oct. 9. Turko-German Trade Agreement is signed.
—Mr. Amery reaffirms Mr. Churchill's statement on Atlantic Charter.
- Oct. 10. Lease and Lend principle is adopted by Britain to Russia.
- Oct. 11. Battle for Moscow: Germans penetrate the rear.
—General mobilisation in Bulgaria.
- Oct. 12. Report of the Burma Indian Penetration Commission is released.
- Oct. 13. Gandhiji justifies Satyagraha.
—Russians evacuate Mariupoe.
- Oct. 14. Sir G. S. Bajpai leaves for U.S.A.
- Oct. 15. Sir Francis Younghusband indicts British policy *re.* India in the *Times*.
- Oct. 16. Joint report of the Indo-Ceylon Talks is released.
- Oct. 17. Sir M. Madhavan Nair is appointed Privy Councillor *vice* the Rt. Hon. M. R. Jayakar.
- Oct. 18. General Tojo forms the new Ministry in Japan.
- Oct. 19. Dr. Satyapal resigns his seat in the Central Legislature.
- Oct. 20. Congress leaders meet at Wardha *re.* political situation.
- Oct. 21. America grants credit to Russia for supply of munitions.
- Oct. 22. Hon. U. Saw, Prime Minister of Burma, sees Mr. Churchill.
—The new Japanese Cabinet meet to discuss war situation.
- Oct. 23. Burma-Indian Deputation meet members of Indian Legislature.
—Nazi assault on Crimea is reported.
—U. S. Senate passes Lease and Lend Bill, voting being 59 to 13.
- Oct. 24. Nazi reprisals in France is reported.
- Oct. 25. R. A. F. raids Rhineland.
—Germans claim Kharkov.
- Oct. 26. Hitler receives the Italian Foreign Minister, Ciano, at his headquarters.
—Soviet troops evacuate Stalino.
- Communal riots are reported in Dacca and Bombay.
- Oct. 27. The Assembly Session begins at Delhi.
—The Muslim League Party in the Central Assembly stages a walk out.
- Oct. 28. Mr. B. G. Kher is released.
—Hindusthan League Executive meets at New Delhi, Mr. Jamnadas Mehta presiding.
—President Roosevelt warns Nazis that America is ready to resist.
- Oct. 29. Mr. M. S. Aney explains India's exclusion from the "Atlantic Charter" in the Assembly.
—Sir Earle Page, Australia's special Representative, arrives in London.
- Oct. 30. Germans claim that they have entered Crimea.
- Oct. 31. Gandhiji in a statement refuses to change Congress programme.



The WORLD of BOOKS



WHO IS NOT A COMMUNIST? By M. R. Raju. Published by the Author, Elliot's Road, Mylapore, Madras.

The conflict between the Haves and the Have-nots is an age-old conflict. The author starts with the proposition that in a sense everyone is a communist, that there is birth-communism, death-communism and nature-communism. He traces the history of socialistic ideas from primitive communism, through utopian socialism to the modern scientific concepts. He has a special chapter on the development of socialist thought from Marx to Lenin. The book contains much useful information.

RADHA: A HINDU BELLE. By Innocent Sousa. Published by the New Book Company, Kitab Mahal, Bombay.

This is a novel of modern social life in India. The first three chapters deal with the evils of child marriage in this country and the promulgation of the Sarda Act. In the fourth chapter the inevitable Hindu priest and match-maker comes on the scene and the story of Radha, the grown-up daughter of Harishchandra Mahajan, gets moving. Radha is nineteen years old and of course there is the problem of the dowry. The father is a poor clerk. But Rs. 2,000 is found. The marriage between Radha and Bajirao Patwardhan is duly celebrated. It turns out to be unhappy and tragic. Bajirao becomes a gambler, spendthrift, drunkard and libertine. He ill-treats and deserts his wife. Poor Radha, the Hindu Belle, is left a widow, poor and penniless,

FOR NECESSARY ACTION. Vol. II. Speeches and judgments of Sir Douglas Young, Chief Justice of Lahore; edited by Shri Ram and V. M. Kulkarni. Published by The Indian Cases Ltd., Lahore.

This is a supplement to Vol. I already published, containing selected speeches and judgments of Sir Douglas Young. The Chief Justice is a great believer in the efficacy of disciplined Social Service, such as is exemplified in the Boy Scout movement. He has set his face against 'Sifarish' in the judicial service and all forms of corruption in the Bar or in the Bench. The book will be read with interest by all desiring to help and educate the youth in this country to become united and strong, physically and mentally. The War Diary by Lady Young, notes of an exciting journey by her Ladyship from Normandy to Scotland in June 1940, considerably enhances the documentary interest of the volume.

VICTORY. By Rajendra Somnarayan Dalal. Published by the author, Jagmohan Mansions, New Bhat Wadi, Bombay.

It is a far cry from the stock exchange to the stage. The author, Vice-President of the stock exchange in Bombay, has found time to produce many books in Gujarati. And now comes this drama of Rajput chivalry in English. It is a stirring story of the Rajput hero Hamirsinha united in wedlock with a widow girl Hansa by deceit and treachery of her father Maldeo, triumphing over all obstacles and restoring the House of Chittore to its pristine glory after defeating Mohamed Tuglakh at the Battle of Chittore,

SRIMAD BHAGAVADGITA, with Sarvatobhadra of Rajanaka Ramakantha: edited by T. R. Chintamani, M.A.; Ph.D., Senior Lecturer in Sanskrit, University of Madras. Published by the University of Madras, 1941. Rs. 5-4-0.

The Bhagavadgita shines as a central sapphire in the priceless string of Sanskrit philosophico-literary works of ancient India. It embodies the quintessence of Hindu philosophic thought and as such is one of the three canonical texts of Vedanta. Sankara the unflinching monist, Ramanuja the Religio-philosopher, and Madhva the stark dualist and a host of others—all champions of thoughts poles asunder—have drawn deeply on the Gita and have commented upon it *in extenso*. The Saivite philosophers of secluded Kashmir too, such as Anandavardhana, Lasakaka and Ramakantha have commented upon the Gita from the point of view of Pratyabhijna school of Saivism based upon the Bheda-abheda-Doctrine.

Generally the Gita text known to these Kashmirian thinkers and writers contains 745 slokas while that known to non-Kashmirian theologians and philosophers contains only 700 slokas. And the problem of the Kashmirian Recension of the Bhagavadgita has been a subject of lively discussion among Indologists ever since 1930 when Dr. Schrader published a paper on it. Many scholars of eminence have been at it without any tangible result or conclusion, the reason being that the difference between the vulgate and the Kashmir text is not very material on the doctrinal side and that if the doctrinal difference is really wished for, then it could be done even without the additional slokas and alterations, as has

been the case with the champions of the diametrically opposed schools of philosophic thoughts. That is perhaps the main reason, or one of the reasons, why scholars like Dr. Belvalkar have opined that no definite case can be made out for a separate Kashmirian Recension of the Bhagavadgita. Yet others agree only to differ. That the Bhagavadgita of 445 slokas has been commented upon by such writers of integrity as Anandavardhana clearly makes out a case for the Kashmir Recension, the existence or otherwise of material doctrinal and textual difference notwithstanding.

Rajanaka Ramakantha's Sarvatobhadra, though not a super commentary, is a clear elucidation of all the slokas in the Gita, especially the poetic ones, from the point of view of Pratyabhijna Saivism of Kashmir based on 'Bheda-abheda' and 'jnanakarmasamuccaya'. The style of the commentary is racy. At times, the ring and mould of Ramakantha's expression remind one of Sankara's inimitably terse and telling expository brilliance.

Dr. Chintamani, the editor, has collected and co-ordinated the textual differences between the vulgate and the Kashmir recension of the Gita in his introduction and has examined therein the views of scholars regarding the problem with his own suggestions. The Sanskrit Department of the University of Madras has done a piece of distinguished service to the cause of Sanskrit scholarship in bringing out a helpful and critical edition of the Kashmirian Recension of the Bhagavadgita with the learned Sanskrit Commentary 'Sarvatobhadra' of Rajanaka Ramakantha of Kashmir; and it deserves the congratulations of scholars.

THE HOLY PROPHET, MOHAMMAD, THROUGH DIFFERENT LIGHTS. By Ali-Al-Haj Salmin. Published by the author, Bombay.

The learned author of this volume has already established his claim to interpret the gospel of Islam through his numerous works. In this volume he has given us a compact and lucid account of the life and teachings of the great Prophet from different aspects. He has encountered and criticised the misrepresentation of the doctrines of Islam by European authors. The volume under notice is a corrective to the Western accounts of Islam. There is an interesting historical account of Arabia before the advent of the Prophet. The volume is a good and valuable introduction to the study of the life of Muhammad.

THE GOSPEL OF ZOROASTER. By Bhai Manilal C. Parekh. Published by Sri Bhagavat Dharma Mission, Rajkot.

Mr. Parekh, who is a religious teacher and author of numerous works on religion and religious movements, gives in this handy volume a popular exposition of Zoroastrianism based on the Gathas. Zoroaster's life and his conception of God

and Morality are discussed in a masterly manner. There are chapters on the influence of Zoroaster on Islam and Christianity. Incidentally the author describes the contribution of the Parsis to the industrial and financial progress of India. Students of comparative religion will find in this very interesting material.

CONVERSATION ON YOGA. By Swami Sivananda. National Literature Company, Madras. Re. 1.

The Swamiji's book is an excellent manual on Yoga addressed to the spiritual aspirants. There is a detailed account of various stages in the practice of yoga, as explained by Bhagavan Patanjali. The Yoga system of philosophy has obtained wide currency in the West. A number of books on yoga have appeared in recent years and it indicates the large interest the West evinces in the subject. To a distracted modern world arming itself, ready to wage a brutal war, the message of yoga, *i.e.*, peace is very necessary. Yoga helps us to reconcile the persistent claim of the body as well as those of the mind. The volume under review is an invaluable addition to the existing literature on practical yoga.

BOOKS RECEIVED

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REPORT ON THE MARKETING OF GROUND-NUTS IN INDIA AND BURMA. Manager of Publications, Delhi.

THE DVAITA PHILOSOPHY AND ITS PLACE IN THE VEDANTA. By Vidwan H. N. Raghavendrachar, M.A. University of Mysore, Mysore.

MODERN MARATHI SHORT STORIES. Edited by B. G. Shinde. Saroj Prakashan Sanstha, Kolhapur.

BIRTH OF JESUS IN THE LIGHT OF THE QURAN. By Dr. Basharat Ahmed. Darul Kutab Islamia, Lahore.

ISLAM'S CONTRIBUTION TO THE PEACE OF THE WORLD. By S. A. Haque. Darul Kutab Islamia, Lahore.

LOTUS-POL. By H. S. Mordia. Foreword by Principal P. Seshadri. Mordia Book House, Udaipur.

VILLAGES AND TOWNS AS SOCIAL PATTERNS. By B. K. Sarkar. Chuckerverty Chatterjee & Co., Ltd., Calcutta.

SIKANDAR HAYAT AND HIS GOVERNMENT as reviewed by the Punjab Press. Compiled and Edited by Ram Lal Tara. Punjab Vigilance Society, Lahore.

LIFE NEGATION: An Indian study of Christ. By A. G. Coomarasamy Tampoe. Luzac & Co. London.

SRIMAN MAHABHARATHA THATHPARYA NIRNAYA OF SRIMAD ANANDA THEERTHA. By B. Gururaja Rao, Retd. Sub-Judge. Subbiah & Sons, Bangalore.

Hyderabad

CONSTITUTIONAL REFORMS

A communique issued recently gives an outline of the progress made in the work of preparing and giving effect to the Constitutional Reforms Scheme announced in 1939.

The communique points out that among other problems confronting the framers of the new Constitution, the structure of the constitution proposed for the different representative bodies, based as they will be on interests, makes it impossible to take help from parallel legislation in British India, so far as the essential features are concerned.

Further, while the entire legislation has to be in the official language of the State, its far-reaching and momentous character justifies the translation of the more important enactments into English and the vernaculars, and this work has been proceeding side by side.

HYDERABAD: INDIA IN MINIATURE

With her usual felicity of expression, Mrs. Sarojini Naidu paid a great compliment to the Hyderabad State:

"Hyderabad represented in miniature the whole of India and the problems of Hyderabad were really the problems of India. Hyderabad had always stood for all that was harmonised, for all united, for all that was unified, and races and creeds living together in an atmosphere of harmony and fellowship should be represented through the medium of fine arts society in Hyderabad."

Mrs. Naidu also said that Hyderabad had always patrons of literature and art, the ruler himself being a poet of high order.

Mysore

THE NEW CONSTITUTION

"The inauguration of the new Constitution has not failed to quicken the tempo of reforming zeal on the part of our officers, no less than of some of our public men interested in nation-building activities. They have found a common meeting ground in various committees and are striving together to find ways and means to improve village industries, labour conditions and so on. The field for such beneficial mutual co-operation is, indeed, vast and I have every hope that as we go along shall cover an ever increasing area. In whatever we do, and much of it must be done together, let our objects be worth while and our methods practical."

With this appeal, Rajamantrapravina N. Madhava Rao, Dewan of Mysore, closed his address to the Dasara Session of the Representative Assembly.

NEW TAXES

The Government of Mysore have passed orders directing the levy of an additional education cess at 3 pies in the rupee, in addition to the present levy of 6 pies in the rupee of items of land revenue other than Ryotwari assessment, land revenue miscellaneous, Excise and Forest revenue on which local cess is levied.

A cess of 2 annas in the rupee will also be levied on items of municipal revenues noted below: (1) taxes on buildings and lands, and (2) profession tax.

The Government have resorted to these levies, in accordance with the Elementary Education Act, 1911, with a view to meeting the extra expenditure involved in carrying out the four-year programme of opening 1,000 elementary schools in the States.

Baroda

THE BARODA BUDGET

According to the budget proposals presented to the Baroda State Assembly, the anticipated receipts during the year is fixed at Rs. 255'03 lakhs and the expenditure is estimated at Rs. 249'65 lakhs leaving a revenue surplus of Rs. 5'38 lakhs. The anticipated receipts are: land revenue Rs. 95,00,000 as fixed under the Land Revenue Equalisation Scheme; Excise Rs. 26,20,000; Customs Rs. 30,00,000; Registration Rs. 8,00,000; Tributes from other States Rs. 6,00,000; Education Rs. 4,90,000; Forest Rs. 4,00,000; Interest on investment and Loans Rs. 19,00,000; Railways Rs. 21,00,000; Electric Undertakings Rs. 3,00,000.

The estimated expenditure is: Land Revenue Rs. 21,55,000; Agriculture Rs. 7,50,000; Medical and Public Health Rs. 12,13,000; Education Rs. 40,00,000; Public Works Rs. 26,01,000; Co-operation Rs. 80,000; Palace Rs. 23,00,000; Central Administration Rs. 13,62,000; Local Self-Government Rs. 6,34,000; Law and Justice Rs. 5,42,000; Police 15,3700; Army Rs. 22,50,000; Assami Rs. 10,10,000 and Pensions Rs. 3,50,000. Compared to the revised estimates for the current year under receipts and expenditure show increases of Rs. 3,42,000 and Rs. 4,12,000 respectively.

At the close of the Budget debate in the State Assembly, Sir V. T. Krishnamachariar, the Dewan, paid a tribute to the members for the high level of the discussion and for making a number of useful suggestions and assured them that these would receive the best consideration of the Government and would be given effect to as far as practicable.

Travancore

SIR MIRZA ON SIR C. P.

Opening the Sachivothama Shastia-bdhapurthi Memorial Hall at Thuckalay on 21st Oct., Sir Mirza Ismail, ex-Dewan of Mysore, paid a glowing tribute to Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar, the Dewan. He said: "High ability, vast capacities, unflagging industry, zeal and devotion to the State and its Ruler—these are the qualities which have marked Sir Ramaswami Aiyar's administration as Dewan of the State. I can testify from personal knowledge to his keen desire and his earnest endeavour to advance the best interests of Travancore, to enhance its prestige and to promote the happiness and prosperity of its people. His efforts in all these directions have met with signal success, but the full fruit of his labours can only be obtained if there is complete understanding and co-operation between the administration and the people—I mean not merely the people as a whole but every section of them."

UNIVERSITY IDEALS

"Our University should not merely be an apt vehicle of human culture and the instrument of fruitful research, but it should inculcate and practise that simplicity, that directness of approach and that freedom of speculation which were the special characteristics of our way of life," said Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar, Vice-Chancellor of the University of Travancore, addressing the third Convocation of the University.

NARTAKALAYAM FOR TRAVANCORE

A plea for revival, evolution and culmination of Indian art and dance and of European art and dance in their own ways without mixing up the two things was made on 4th October by Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar, when he opened the new and spacious premises of the Sri Chitrodaya Nartakalayam.

Cochin

MR. DIXON THE NEW DEWAN

Cochin accorded an enthusiastic reception to her third civilian Dewan, Mr. A. F. W. Dixon, I.C.S., when he arrived at Ernakulam on October 9, accompanied by Mr. Komattil Achuta Menon, Acting Dewan of Cochin and Mr. P. Rama Menon, Sarvadikariakkar.

Various heads of departments, the Chairman, Ernakulam Municipality and prominent non-officials were present to receive the Dewan.

Mr. Dixon took over charge from Mr. Achuta Menon after the usual ceremonial formalities. These consisted in paying respects to the Maharaja at the Tripunithura Palace and presentation of *nazzur*, after which the Maharaja handed over the *sanad* (thittooram) of appointment in *cadjan* leaf and sword and gold chain respectively being insignia of office and authority. The Dewan next paid homage to the Heir-apparent and the Senior Maharani and presented them *nazzur*. After this, he returned to the Huzur Secretariat and the first document to which he set his seal was the formal sanction of some grant or allotment to a temple.

Gwalior

GWALIOR REFORMS

The Maharaja of Gwalior has, on the occasion of the last Dasara, again repeated the announcement of constitutional reforms with some improvements upon the proclamation made in 1939. The objectionable features of the upper house have been removed and both the houses now possess equal powers, with provisions of a joint session in the event of any difference.

Kashmir

EDUCATION IN KASHMIR

Educationists of all countries had an important part to play in shaping the future of the world, said Lt.-General H. H. Maharaja Hari Singh of Kashmir, inaugurating the seventeenth All-India Educational Conference in the presence of a large number of delegates.

Referring to the educational programme in Kashmir, His Highness said: "While we are trying to improve the efficiency of our educational institutions, we are also endeavouring to tackle the colossal problem of adult education, the solution of which is rendered difficult owing to the geographical features of the country and the scattered nature of the population. I earnestly hope and pray that material circumstances may combine with the human to enable my Government successfully to perform the task they have undertaken."

THE BUDGET

Kashmir's contribution of troops in the war is two mountain batteries, and three infantry battalions, and all expenses in connection with the salaries of these troops remain a State liability, said Mr. Brijlal Nehru, Accountant-General, in the course of his budget speech on October 6.

After referring to the increase in the number of recruits and the rise in the price of military stores, Mr. Nehru said that these had necessitated a considerable increase in the budget, which had been sanctioned at Rs. 12,45,000 for six months of 1998 (Hindu year) as against Rs. 12,96,000 for the preceding full year. The total army budget for six months stood at Rs. 36,65,000 against Rs. 62,23,000 sanctioned for the full preceding year. The total revenue for six months was estimated at Rs. 1,36,90,000 and the total expenditure at Rs. 1,36,36,000.

INDIANS OVERSEAS

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South Africa

THE BROOME REPORT

The report of the Broome Indian Penetration Commission, which was released on October 12, says that the extent of the penetration in the Transvaal since 1927 was "not alarming or even surprising" and in Natal "the position does not appear to be serious", if the total number of cases is considered in relation to the Indian population.

"We have estimated the present Indian population in the Transvaal as 28,200, of which possibly one-half or less reside on proclaimed land. They are a class almost entirely dependent on trade for livelihood. A trading class cannot subsist by trading only with its members. In these circumstances the occupation of 246 trading sites and 93 residential sites in the predominantly European portions of the Transvaal since January 1, 1927, does not disclose a situation which can by any stretch of imagination be described as critical."

Recalling that the Murray Commission found no increase in the years 1932-39 in the number of Asiatic trading licences disproportionate to the total growth of population, the report says that if the comparison were to be extended to cover the years 1927-40, the present Commissioners' conclusion on the evidence would be the same.

Referring to the lack of any careful objective thought among those who complained most loudly about penetration, the report says that one witness, a member of Parliament, speaking on behalf of one of the principal political parties, said that the reason for penetration was the Government's failure to enforce past

and existing statutory restrictions against Asiatics. "The truth, however, is that occupation of trading and residential sites on unproclaimed land has taken place without any breach of the law and so could not have been prevented by the enforcement of any statutory restrictions. We unhesitatingly reject the view that there is among the Transvaal Indians any general desire to live among the Europeans. Where they have done so the inducement has been the existence in European areas of either better trading opportunities or better living conditions."

Dealing with Natal, where statutory restrictions on acquisition of land by Indians exist only in the northern districts, the report says: "If Indian advance into European areas before January, 1927, is described as a flood, the subsequent advance is little more than a trickle—twenty-three cases a year or if agricultural land is added, 29. In Durban, the sites acquired and occupied totalled 150 and sites acquired but not occupied 362. The number of trading sites occupied by the Indians is negligible." Giving reasons for Indian penetration in Natal, the report says: "The absence of other directions for investment has led Indians to invest their money in immovable property."

SIR SHAFAT AHMAD KHAN

The Government of India have appointed Sir Shafaat Ahmad Khan, M.A., Litt. D., as High Commissioner for India in the Union of South Africa.

He was a member of the U. P. Simon Committee and was a delegate to the three Round Table Conferences in London. In 1935, Sir Shafaat Ahmad Khan presided over the All-India Modern History Congress at Poyn. He officiated for some time as member of the Federal Public Service Commission. He was knighted in 1935.

INDIANS IN NATAL

The number of Indian births registered in Natal during the year was 9,049 which is 291 more than last year, while the number of deaths reported was 2,500 or 58 less than the previous year, says the Protector of Indian Immigrants, Natal, in his Annual Report for 1940:

There are approximately 34,000 Indians (Men) employed in the province out of a total population of 40,151 (Men) Indian Immigrants. In addition to these, many are farming on their own account and carrying on other trades. A number of Indians is employed in the boot and shoe industry and as shop assistants, and receive wages in accordance with Industrial Council agreements. The number of Indians employed and residing on the coal mines and allied industries is 1,922.

The average wages paid to Indian labourers on estates was the same as in 1939 between 45sh. to 60sh. per month, including food, accommodation, medical attention and medicines free of charge. The wages paid to Indians employed on the mines remain about the same 1-6d. to 2-d. to 2-6d. per shift. They also get food, quarters; medical assistance and medicines free of charge. A few Indians holding important positions received salaries ranging between £8 and £25 per month.

The number of Indian children attending Government and Government-aided Indian schools for the year under review was 26,694 as compared to 24,809 in the previous year. The schools provided for the education of Indian children were still far below the number required.

On Dec. 21, 1940, 2,780 Indians were receiving grants of 10sh. per month from Relief Funds for the aged and blind.

America

INDIA IN AMERICA

The necessity for the Congress to depute its representatives to America in order to explain to the American public the correct situation in India was stressed by Srimati Kamaladevi, addressing a public meeting at Wardha on October 10.

Emphasising the need for propaganda on behalf of the Congress abroad, she said that highly placed British statesmen were telling the American public that India was enjoying Dominion Status like Canada, Australia or other Dominions. She did what she could to counteract the propaganda but, she said, the British propaganda machinery in the United States was more powerful. It was, therefore, necessary that the Congress should do propaganda abroad to acquaint the people living in foreign countries with the facts about India.

Malaya

INDIAN TROOPS FOR MALAYA

A Singapore communique states that further strong Indian reinforcements have arrived in Malaya. The communique adds that the troops were met on arrival by the Commander-in-Chief, the Far East Air Chief Marshal Sir Robert Brooke-Popham.

Every unit is fully mechanised with vehicles of the latest design and with ancillary units included to deal with every possible contingency. The personnel is fit and hard and highly trained and they include many natural mountaineers well versed in jungle warfare. They are confident of their ability to deal with any enemy likely to be encountered. Included in the reinforcements which have arrived also are famous units with long traditions in many theatres of war and armed with the latest weapons which have proved their worth in the Middle East.



TOPICS From PERIODICALS



THE I. C. S. CANDIDATES

The *Hindustan Review* for September has an interesting account of how I. C. S. candidates are examined by the Federal Public Services Commission. Mr. Sacchidananda Sinha, the Editor of that journal, who was called to be on the *viva voce* Examination Board (last March) recounts his experiences.

The total number of candidates admitted to the I. C. S. was 467. They came from all over India—from Kashmir in the North to Travancore in the South.

In dealing with the distribution of candidates by the Universities, the writer says:

The Punjab University produced the largest number of candidates, namely, 39; Madras and Allahabad being close second and third with 37 and 35 respectively. These three universities are obviously the most progressive, if sending up candidates for the I. C. S. be regarded as a real test. The deterioration of the Calcutta University with only nine as against 39 of the Punjab, 37 of Madras, and 35 of Allahabad was clearly marked. Patna, a very much younger university, with its 7, did not compare unfavourably with Calcutta, one of the oldest universities with its 9. Among the 15 universities that were represented, Patna took the 6th place, outnumbered only by the much older universities of the Punjab, Madras, Allahabad, Bombay, and Calcutta. The Universities of Dacca, Benares, Mysore, and Hyderabad were not represented at all. To me the omission, in particular, of the Mysore University was unaccountable since it is a highly efficient institution run on progressive lines and has just celebrated its silver jubilee having been established in 1916. Lastly, judging from the results announced, the Allahabad University seems to be the most efficient for as many as 5 out of the 7 successful candidates were graduates of this University.

The distribution of the candidates by communities is also interesting:

Hindus with 124 out of 174 were naturally the largest community represented, while Muslims with 37, being about 27 per cent. of the total number, came second; and the Sikhs with 5 the third. The rest of the representatives of the various other communities were 4 Indian Christians, 2 Anglo-Indians, 1 Parsi and 1 Jain. I would have expected a larger number of these communities except perhaps the Jain; since the Parsis, the Indian Christians, and the Anglo-Indians are highly educated communities far in advance of Hindus and Muslims, both educationally and socially.

Most of the candidates exhibited some knowledge of current events. And the steadily growing unity of India was clearly reflected not only in things external of the candidates as in the answers they gave which betrayed their mind.

To put it in a few words, all the candidates, except perhaps one, displayed the nationalist mind. The intellectual conceptions, the ethical standard, and the political aspirations of all the candidates were practically the same—a united and free India, enjoying the greatest political liberty and absolute economic freedom and occupying the highest position in the scale of nations. They all seemed to be absolutely of one mind on these points.

Particularly interesting were the replies of the Muslim candidates on the question put to each of them—the proposed scheme of Pakistan.

Except one candidate from the Punjab, who thought that the scheme should be considered on the merits—as perchance it might offer a solution of the communal question—all the other Muslim candidates, numbering 36, were emphatically of opinion that the suggestion of the partition of India should be given very short shrift. Pressed to give reasons for their opinion, they all declared that the scheme was wholly impracticable on financial grounds and also on military considerations, and that far from solving the communal problems it would make confusion more confounded. To me these emphatic declarations of the Muslim candidates—who came mostly from the Punjab and the United Provinces—were an agreeable surprise after all that I had heard and read in the newspapers of the persistent demand for Pakistan amongst educated Muslims in Upper India.

RESOLVE THE DEAD-LOCK

The *New Statesman and Nation*, writing in its issue of August last, puts in a powerful plea to end the dead-lock in India by calling on the Government to seek Congress co-operation immediately. It holds that no such "window dressing" as it calls it, as the expansion of the Executive Council or the Advisory Council for Defence will meet the realities of the situation. For

it is just display and window-dressing, for it is completely irrelevant to the realities of the lamentable situation in India and makes no contribution to the problem with which, largely through our own fault, we are faced there.

The realities are that the two powerful parties, the Congress and the Muslim League, will have nothing to do with the Government of India or its reforms and their support on condition that "we prove by acts not words that we are fighting for democracy against authoritarianism" has been rejected.

That is the unpleasant reality of the Indian situation which makes the gentlemen now appointed to the Governor-General's Council, though they are distinguished, worthy and Indian, nevertheless irrelevant. It is a reality which should make even an imperial angel weep, for it is the one large black spot upon our case and our cause against the Nazis. If it were not for India, three-quarters of the world would say that the British were fighting this time in a just cause with clean hearts in so far as imperial hearts can be clean; as long as Nehru and the Congressmen are in gaol, the cause is compromised and the cleanliness spotted.

Britain has centuries of experience in dealing with colonies and subject countries. All that experience would have gone in vain if she doesn't profit by the lessons of history.

About 170 years ago we already began losing "colonies" for the same reasons and in the same way in which Lord Linlithgow and Mr. Amery are now losing India. That at intervals throughout the 170 years we should repeat the folly of George III, because we have shown ourselves in many ways capable of learning from that imperial experience. Nearly all the success of the Empire in the nineteenth century and the many things in its

history of which we may be proud were due to the learning of that lesson. And yet periodically we seem to become historically blind and completely lose our imperial memory. We do in Ireland what we did in America; in Egypt what we did in Ireland, and now in India what we did in Egypt. And every time the imperial angels weep.

"Tory British imperialist with heroic and stubborn stupidity, prepares the way for imperial disruption." He has always yielded when too late, when concessions have become useless. That is what happened in Ireland and the process took about 100 years to work itself out. The same thing has been happening for about quarter of a century in India, but

since the pace at which the twentieth century moves from disaster to disaster is much quicker than that at which the nineteenth progressed from triumph to triumph, the final catastrophe in India may be expected much sooner than it came in Ireland. It is as a stage in this process of demand and refusal that the extension of the Governor-General's Council must be considered. Roughly, the concession is probably about five years too late. If it had been made when the Congress Party was co-operating in the government of the Provinces and there were Congress Governments in many of them, it might have been the first stage towards a complete and satisfactory solution of the Indian problem, for representatives of that Party might have agreed to enter the Governor-General's Council even though it remained constitutionally only advisory. To-day, with the Congress Party withdrawn from Provincial Government and its leaders in gaol, an Indian majority on the Governor-General's Council without Congress representatives is simply irrelevant.

The moral is clear, if Britain is "not to move blindly to the final catastrophe". It must meet the substance of the Congress demand at once.

It could do this by beginning at once the process of converting the Governor-General's Council from an advisory to a responsible executive organ and by offering seats on the Council to the Congress Party and Muslim League roughly proportionate to their political strength. If we are to convince Indians of the sincerity of our promise to concede Dominion status, we must take an immediate step towards substituting their authority for ours in the centre of Indian Government. If that is coupled with an amnesty for political prisoners, we shall have built a bridge for the co-operation of Congress in Central and Provincial government, and if Congress crosses the bridge, Mr. Jinnah will probably have to follow,

INDIA TO-DAY

India is developing in the war new defensive and economic connections with Australasia, Malaya, and South Africa, but from Britain less comes to India than before and so far India's role in the war has generally been treated as one of helping Britain, says Mr. Arthur Moore in a paper published in the *Asiatic Review*:

The Princes and the Ministers in the Provinces where there are autonomous Governments still talk of helping Britain. The Congress Press discusses the war in terms of giving aid to, or withholding it from, Britain. Think then how unreal the pronouncements in Parliament upon India sound. Indians of all shades feel that Britain can to-day do little for them. It is, on the contrary, they who are asked to do something for Britain. And they have an uneasy feeling that the war is coming to them, that their isolation and their danger are rapidly increasing, that they are distracted and divided, that nobody is determined to close their ranks and, worst of all, that they have no one who is determined to rally the country and to get out of it every ounce of manhood and to organize it for production so that it shall have itself.

And yet there are pronouncements which assume that Britain is still the unassailable shield of India, that a Parliament at the other side of the world must direct her destiny and decide her future.

If Dominion Status is the recognition of a state of things which has already come into existence, surely it is time to recognize that Parliament's control of India to-day rests on little but the fact that Indian parties put forward separately and not together the demand that it shall cease. If, though disagreeing in all else, they were to unite in their demand for freedom from control as Greeks, Bulgars, and Serbs united against the Turks in 1912, Parliamentary control would stand revealed as an illusion. If we persist in our present refusal to recognize a status corresponding to a state of affairs which has in fact arrived, we shall end by producing effective agreement in demanding that the control of the British Parliament shall cease.

What then are the root facts of the Indo-British situation? First, says Mr. Moore:

We have for years treated the coming into being of an adequately united great Indian nation as desirable, possible, and indeed inevitable. Like the carrot held in front of the donkey by his

rider to make him willing to co-operate, self-government has dangled in front of Indians. We have given proof of good faith by developing self-governing institutions, and finally by inaugurating full provincial self-government and devising the Constitution for a federal centre.

But here is the second fact:

Always we have said—and could give grounds for saying—that the time when self-government at the centre could be safely given without disrupting India had not arrived. Always there are people who say "some day this may be possible, but not now". They subscribe to a future ideal of a self-governing India, but they will always oppose each advance in self-government.

But at a time when England is fighting for its life, there can be no question of holding India down. She, too, must pull her weight in the great struggle and save herself, says the writer.

If those four hundred millions can find no common soul, develop no leadership to stir them to resist brutal conquerors who have already prostrated Europe and mangled China and seek the absolute mastery of the world, then clearly they are never likely to be capable of nationhood. In that case all that we have said and done politically in relation to India would be just nonsense. We should have been working for a future which could never come to pass. In short, unless we can realize the dream now it must fade for ever. And since few things are less likely than that after this war, Great Britain will continue to be able to go on being responsible for the government and defence of a country of four hundred millions in the middle of Asia, there would be nothing before us and Indians but the inevitable disruption of India. Now, therefore, is the appointed time, now is the day of salvation. The war is for India and Britain the golden opportunity of welding India into a nation, and since all nations are learning that they cannot stand alone, out of the war must come a federation of nations.

INDIA IN PERIODICALS.

WHAT MECHANISATION MEANS TO INDIA. By G. Delap Stevenson. [*The Asiatic Review*, July 1941.]

THE WAR AND INDIAN ECONOMY. By V. G. Ramakrishnan. *The New Review*, October 1941.]

SOCIAL AND POLITICAL IDEAS OF RABINDRANATH TAGORE. By Nirmal Chandra Bhattacharya. [*Current Thought*, October-December 1941.]

EDUCATIONAL PLANNING IN INDIA. By Prof. P. S. Naidu. [*The Hindustan Review*, September 1941.]

BRITAIN'S POLICY IN INDIA. By Mirza Hamidulla Beg, M.A. [*The Twentieth Century*, Oct. 1941].

TERRITORIAL REGROUPING OF INDIAN STATES. By K. R. R. Sastri. [*The Modern Review*, Oct. 1941].

INDIA IN THE POST-WAR WORLD

What will be the position of India in the Post-war world? This question is discussed at length in the current number of the *Round Table*. The conclusion arrived at is that there is no hope of security for this country, except within the ambit of the British Commonwealth. The writer contends that neither the Japanese New Order nor the Russian Soviet system can give India that protection from external aggression and internal dissensions which only British help can guarantee. Incidentally it throws light on India's present helplessness, militarily and economically, after a century and a half of British control.

The vast majority of India's millions live terribly near the margin of subsistence. She has infinitely less surplus available for defence in peace or in the strain of war than Britain with only a tenth of her population. Her effort in the present war, splendid as it is, is much more on the scale of Canada and Australia than on that of this country. That is not the result of British Government in India or of insufficient Indian response to the call of the common cause, but of fundamental economic conditions. Only a long process of industrial development accompanied by a very substantial rise of the standard of living of the agricultural population—a process requiring generations to complete—can create a surplus sufficient to provide a navy, an air force and a mechanised army on a scale at all comparable with India's needs.

So the process of making India self-sufficient will require generations to complete! We are told that "India for the first time attained political unity under the British Crown, and that her insular security is due in no small measure to the protection afforded by the British Navy with "no appreciable extra cost or effort to us". Can India, unaided by Britain, face the prospect of an invasion by Russia or Japan, asks this thriller.

On the purely economic plane, her prospect is no better. Only in the

framework of the British economic system is there any scope, says the writer.

The growth must be far greater if she is to provide a livelihood for a population which has increased by 50 millions in the last decade. For that she will need, on the one hand, to import raw materials, machinery and many other manufactured goods and, on the other hand, to export the surplus of her own primary and secondary production. She will need markets in a world governed by the competition of the economically powerful. Here is a second problem not easy for her to solve unless she can be assured of regular co-operation. Like all or almost all other countries, she will only be able to assure her economic safety and welfare in the framework of some permanent group association.

Evidently, India's present position is unenviable. But why should it be so after a century and a half of "enlightened" British rule?

HINDU WIDOWS

Two articles on "Hindu Widows" appear in the September number of the *Aryan Path*—one by Mr. Vilem Haas and the other by Dr. Radhakumud Mukerjee. The latter presents from the Hindu point of view the social and ethical ideals that lie behind the practices enjoined upon the Hindu widow. Dr. Mukerjee says that the problem is a very serious one at present, as the chief cause of the decline of the upper Hindu classes is a low sex ratio due to the prohibition of widow remarriage.

The deficiency of females is increasing from decade to decade among the upper castes in Northern India. At the same time, the larger proportion of widows among the upper castes, the disparity in age of the married couple, due to the increase of the bride price among many castes, high and low, on account of the economic stress coupled with marriage at a young age, which means more widows—all these factors are responsible for the differential fertility now working against the culturally advanced sections of the Hindu community.

Without the abolition of the time-honoured practice of prohibition of widow-remarriage, the upper castes will continue to show a demological decline while gradually the intermediate and backward Hindu castes as well as the Muslims will swamp them. The practice of widowhood, though representing conformity to the ancient Indo-Aryan religious ideal, has now become dysgenetic. This is, indeed, a glaring instance of an anomaly between biological and cultural evaluation in Hindu society. Hindu society must solve it soon in order to live.

THE WORLD OF TOMORROW

Perhaps never before in the history of man has there been so much speculation about the future, the shape and scheme of the world lying beyond the horizon of to-morrow's dawn, as there is to-day. We cannot wonder at this, says Mahatma Gandhi in the well-known British Weekly, *Tit-bits*.

In the midst of battle there is a compulsion to try to peer into the future with hope or with fear—hope for a new, cleaner, better world in which this grim present will be remembered only as a nightmare sickness; fear that this present will never change; that the future will be written in the terms of the past; that there is in the nature of man a mortal compulsion to take up arms against his fellows; that there will always be conquerors or would-be conquerors, who must inevitably unleash newer, greater, more savage conflicts in their drive for power.

Will our world always be one of violence? Will there always be poverty and starvation and stark misery? Are these ineradicable? Or will that world of to-morrow, after the last trumpet has been blown and the sword put down, be one without violence in which there will be work for all and justice for all?

Answering these and similar questions, the Mahatma observes:

Different men give different answers; each draws the plan of to-morrow's world as he sees it, or rather as he wishes it to be. So must I answer. Yet I answer not only out of my belief, but out of an assurance, a conviction that the world of to-morrow will compare to our world of today as white compares to black.

The world of to-morrow as I see it will be, must be, a society based on non-violence. That is the first law; for it is out of that law that all other blessings will flow.

It may seem a distant goal, indeed an unattainable Utopia; it is often criticised as such. But I do not think it in the least unobtainable, since it can be worked for here and now.

I believe it to be perfectly possible for an individual to adopt the way of life of the future—the non-violent way—without having to wait, for others to do so. And if an individual can observe a certain rule of conduct, cannot a group of individuals do the same? Cannot whole groups of people—whole nations?

Equal distribution—the second great law of the world of to-morrow as I believe it will be—grows out of non-violence.

The real implication of equal distribution is not an arbitrary dividing up of the goods of the world. It is that each man shall have the wherewithal to supply his natural needs and no more.

To give a crude example. If one man has a weak digestion and requires only a quarter of a pound of flour for his bread, and another needs five pounds, both should be in a position to satisfy their wants. They should not each arbitrarily be given a quarter of a pound or five pounds.

At the very root of this doctrine of equal distribution must lie the concept of the trusteeship of the wealthy for the superfluous wealth possessed by them. It is here, perhaps, says the Mahatma, that we come to the core of the greatest question. How is this equal distribution to be brought about? Through revolution, riot, bloodshed? Must the wealthy be dispossessed of all their holdings?

Non-violence answers, no. Forceful dispossession would leave society the poorer; it would lose all the great gifts of the wealthy man, for he knows how to create and build. His abilities must not be lost.

Instead, he must be left in possession of his wealth, of which he will use what he reasonably requires for his personal needs and will act as a trustee for the remainder, to be used for the benefit of society.

There have been and there are such men. To my mind, as soon as a man looks upon himself as a servant of society, and earns and spends for its sake, his earnings are good and his business ventures constructive.

But does not this—indeed does not the whole idea of non-violence—imply a change in human nature? And does history at any time record such a change?

I answer emphatically that there have been such changes in single men from the mean, personal, acquisitive point of view to one that sees society as a whole and works for its benefit. If there has been such a change in one man, then there can be the same change in many.

I see no poverty in the world of to-morrow, and no wars, no revolutions, no bloodshed.

And I believe that in that world there will be a faith in God greater and deeper than there has ever been.

The very existence of the world, in a broad sense depends on religion, and thus it can never be rooted out from society.

All attempts to do that will fail and in the end men will turn as one humbly to God and His eternal and living Law.

THE INDIAN STATES

Every now and then the question arises as to what shall be the position of the Indian States when the rest of India enters upon her *swaraj*. Fundamentally the question must be answered by the States themselves and their people. But for my own part, says Dr. G. S. Arundale in *Conscience*,

I regard most Indian States as Indian oases in the midst of a British Indian desert. I am well aware that there is much misrule in some States and gross indifference on the part of their Rulers both to the well-being of their subjects and to the greatness of India, so that their subjects are often disgracefully at the mercy of the injustice and tyranny of those set in authority over them, and they have no access to those essentially Indian refinements which alone can make the life of an Indian truly worth living. On the other hand, there are many States where the happiness of the people is the steadfast purpose of their Indian Sovereigns, and where there is an India far, far more Indian than that of British India.

It is tragically unfortunate for practically every Indian State that from an early age the young Prince who is in due course to ascend the throne is immersed, let me say stifled, in a foreign system of education, is sent to a foreign Chief's College, and is finally sent abroad at the very time when he is most susceptible to influence and when he ought to begin to be at work studying the conditions of his State and the needs of his people.

And then there is throughout his Sovereignty the Agent to the Crown Representative to keep an eye on what is going on and to see that the interests and prestige of the Paramount Power are never in jeopardy.

Dr. Arundale strongly deprecates the foreignization of Indian princes which is taking place all the time. He was able to see it at work in the State of Indore, where the then heir to the throne became more and more of a foreigner as the years passed.

I wonder if he is still a foreigner to all intents and purposes now that he has ascended the *Gadi* of one of the greatest of Indian States.

I am sure this foreignization must be the case with the young scions of almost every Princely House. I am sure, too, that much of the misrule that may exist is due to the misguidance

of the Government of India as it denationalizes Prince after Prince by infecting him with all that is foreign even down to the very details of daily life.

Dr. Arundale is no less sure that much of the unhappiness of the people in some States is due to the fact that the Rulers do not know their peoples, have their interests centred in matters which are of no concern to their subjects, prefer to be absentee Sovereigns in foreign lands, knowing nothing whatever of Indian culture or of the beauties of the simple Indian life.

They are never brought into contact with India as India really is. They are never inspired to glory in their age-old Motherland, nor in the great traditions of their own States. They are never urged to remember that to be Indian should be their supreme joy, nor to foster everything Indian to the exclusion of most that is foreign. Of course not. Their mentors are foreigners, and care little, if anything, for India and her unique splendour. They are occupied with the enhancement of British prestige, with such smooth government as is incidental to British prestige, and with nothing more. This is self-evident from what we see in the vast majority of Indian States.

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N. GOPALA IYER,

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U. F.

ANGLO-AMERICAN UNION

Many people in Britain are thinking today of an "all-in" union of Britain and the U. S. A. as a kind of preface to a federation of the white races. The following is an American view of such a union. It was part of an article which appeared in the *Readers' Digest* recently:

All through the Union Now scheme queer loose ends show its inability to be realistic. For instance, the contention that the mere announcement of formal union between Britain and the United States would scare Hitler. Hitler doesn't scare so easily. What difference does it make to him whether he faces a federal union or an anti-Hitler front? Resources and manpower are precisely the same in either case.

Union Now promises that each member nation shall retain its internal freedom. But our own, the Australian and the Canadian federal unions prove that in the long run the federal government squeezes the justice out of States' rights.

"What kind of thinking lies behind Union Now's insistence on including Ireland? Ireland which, in imminent danger of extinction, cannot bring herself to one ounce of defensive co-operation with the hated English, let alone a merging of citizenships.

For legalistic absurdity, consider the membership invitation to any nation that installs civil liberties. Civil liberties cannot be installed, they must grow like trees. If irreproachable civil liberties are a condition of membership, then lynchings in the U. S. and treatment of the blacks in Southern Africa would blackball both of us. But if lip service is enough, what to do about the Soviet Union which has a constitution proclaiming human rights, yet suppresses them.

All this shows fuzzy, prettifying and oversimplifying habits of mind. But subtle schemers may back Union Now for less innocent reasons. To some it may look handy for getting the United States formally into war by the back door. Others may see in it a governmental entity which, by electing the Dutch and French Government-in-exile as members could take over their mammoth colonial empires without leaving too bad a smell in the world's nostrils.

It could be, also, an unostentatious way to make the United States pay for the war and for post-war reconstruction at the hidden expense of our own standard of living. Our financing of the war, if done, should be done deliberately by a people aware of what they are doing—not as corollary to a scheme that sounds like something altogether different.

It takes harder, clearer thinking than the Union Now proposal to steer a course in this tough world—thinking based on facts, not dreams.

INDIAN SOLDIERS IN AFRICA

News Review, London, paying a tribute to the bravery of the Indian soldiers who took Nibeiwa in 90 minutes, writes:

Across the Mediterranean in the Western Desert, General Wavell smashed in some double punches at German General Erich Rommel's *Afrik Korps*. Ignoring ravaging heat, Imperial troops attacked by moonlight across the hummock sand. Well to the fore were His Majesty's Indian troops: Rajputana Rifles, Mahratta Infantry, and Punjab and Sikh armoured units.

From Delhi to London these turbaned warriors had received praise for their brilliant fighting throughout the African continent.

Reared in a country with frontiers as far apart as Moscow is from Londonderry, the Indian Army knows all about fighting among chilly mountain-tops and in scorching plains.

Months before Wavell began No. 1. offensive against Cyrenaica at the end of 1940, Indians were well established in the Western Desert. Day after day, without let-up, they trained, strengthened defences, and turned the desert into a camouflaged battle stage.

From H. Q. came an appreciative memo:

Indian regiments on the desert are the best dug-in, the best concealed. Even at a distance of a few hundred yards, their hiding places can scarcely be seen.

General Wavell entrusted them with the most vital move in the whole offensive, the initial attack against Nibeiwa, Tummar and Sidi Barrani. In 90 minutes they took Nibeiwa. By the same evening Tummar was in their hands.

Nimble, catlike and silent Indian sappers slipped uncannily along mined roads to make them safe for transport. The Indian Signal Corps had telephones working smoothly almost before territory was captured.

From all over India come these troops. Madras province specialises in miners, engineers and sappers. Bearded, turbaned, high-caste Pathans from the North-West Frontier are used to mountainous country, conceal themselves with ingenuity in cracks and crevices.

Result of Wavell's Libyan attack was termed "reasonably satisfactory".

In the battle of the triangle, between Sollum, Halfaya Pass and Capuzzo, British Forces equalled German and Italian defence troops sheltering behind General Rommel's new concrete pill-boxes.

After a nine-hour bombardment the fortifications crumbled. The Imperial Army, led by tank columns, moved forward. Fierce fighting gave Britain Halfaya Pass and Fort Capuzzo.

POLITICS AND AGE

"Looking round the House of Commons, one feels that more young men ought to be there," says the *Twentieth Century*. This impression is strengthened by a perusal of a tabulated statement which shows the ages of nearly all the members. The Return includes 542 of the 615 members. Here to begin with, is an analysis of the Return showing the number of members at different ages with approximate percentages :

80 years and over ..	2	100%
70 to 80 ..	51	109%
60 to 70 ..	140	269%
50 to 60 ..	153	289%
40 to 50 ..	132	249%
30 to 40 ..	61	129%
20 to 30 ..	3	12%

It will be seen that 64 per cent. of the members are over 50 and 88 per cent. over 40. Those below 40 are thus only 12 per cent. And, worst of all, there are only 3 members between 21 and 30.

Here is a list of the Prime Ministers of the past 100 years and the age at which they entered Parliament :

Sir Robert Peel .. 21	Mr. Balfour .. 26
Lord John Russel .. 21	Sir H. Campbell-Bannerman .. 32
Lord Derby .. 21	Mr. Asquith .. 34
Lord Aberdeen .. 21	Mr. Lloyd George .. 27
Lord Palmerston .. 23	Mr. Bonar Law .. 42
Mr. Disraeli .. 33	Mr. Baldwin .. 41
Mr. Gladstone .. 26	Mr. MacDonald .. 40
Lord Salisbury .. 23	Mr. Chamberlain .. 49
Lord Rosebery .. 21	Mr. Churchill .. 26

The contrast between those two columns is very striking, comments the writer :

During the 64 years from Peel to Balfour, only 1 of 10 Prime Ministers entered Parliament later than the twenties, and it was misfortune rather than fault that made Disraeli an exception. After Balfour there was a succession of businessmen and lawyers essentially middle-class. Except Mr. Lloyd George, who broke all the rules, they came to Westminster later in life than their predecessors.

BLANKETS FOR SOLDIERS

Writing under the caption "Blankets for Soldiers" in the *Khadi Jayat*, Mr. Gandhi answers the question whether the selling of blankets to soldiers will not amount to helping the war :

I have no right to inquire about the caste of my customer, while selling my wares to him and, therefore, I must sell my wares to all including soldiers.

Theoretically speaking this amounts to helping the war; but we cannot live in India, or, for that matter, in any part of the world without rendering such theoretical help to the war because everything we do or say helps the war. Traveling in a train or posting letters or even eating one's own food is all some kind of helping the war, for everything that the individual does in one way or other helps the war.

The fact is that no one can faithfully follow the noble principle of non-violence to its logical conclusions.

Mr. Gandhi further illustrates this point by referring to Euclid's definition of a line which has no dimensions, but, in practice, even when a fine line is drawn, it assumes some thickness. The principle of non-violence, he maintains, is also subject to such limitations and conditions. People can follow it only as far as practicable.

Mr. Gandhi adds that he could easily have forbidden the sale of blankets to soldiers, but this would have meant a matter of shame to him in as much as he would be concealing thereby his honest view. He asks :

Where can I fix the limits? Should I not sell rice and pulses as a dealer to soldiers? As a chemist, am I not to sell quinine and other drugs to soldiers? Does my non-violence permit such a trade? Should I restrict my trade by inquiring about the caste of my customers.

The answer is if my trade helps society and does not help in destroying society, I should not worry about the caste of my customer and it becomes my duty to sell my merchandise even to a soldier.

MULTUM IN PARVO

NEWS * DEPARTMENTAL * NOTES

Questions of Importance

CONCILIATING INDIA

Mr. Lionel Fieldon, former Controller of Broadcasting in India, writing in the *New Statesman and Nation*, is very vehement in condemning the policy of Mr. Amery in regard to India.

It is extremely difficult to be dispassionate, extremely difficult to be simple, about India. What is, in a nutshell, the quarrel between Britain and India? Just this—that Indians want freedom just as much as we do. The same freedom, not too rigidly defined, that Churchill wants; freedom to govern themselves, to live their lives in their own way, which is diametrically opposed to the British way, to choose their own friends, allies or enemies. That is why we have flung Nehru and five thousand more into jail—not because they are enemies or Fifth Columnists, but simply because they want India's freedom to be one of the aims of war. The plea of the Congress Working Committee in September, 1939—almost completely withheld from the British public—will surely pass into history as one of the most eloquent, just, and moving passages in the English language; had we answered it in the generous tones of that liberty and self-determination which we profess to admire, Nehru to-day would be, not in jail, but leading with his tremendous fire an India united in our cause. Instead, we are employing a fractional number of India's population as magnificent mercenaries—ready to fight anybody without knowing why.

This isn't an altogether satisfactory position, particularly when you need, not only an army but also and perhaps even more, money and industrial output which also entail goodwill. Mr. Amery, when he became Secretary of State, had possibly unexampled opportunities of setting the whole disorder right.

Mr. Fieldon criticises strongly the new Expanded Council.

So long as Nehru, the friend of England and the true leader of young India, sits in a damp jail (the roof of which has lately fallen in) and is allowed to receive one letter a fortnight, I cannot help feeling that Indians ought not to accept responsible posts under the British Raj.

What are the functions which the enlarged Executive Council and the new Defence Council will exercise? The White Paper and Mr. Amery's statement were very, very coy about this. It would not seem that the Defence Council of 22 (representatives of the States have yet to be added) is to have a Chairman; but the question of a Chairman is a ticklish one. From Mr. Amery's replies to questions in the House we learn that

(a) the Viceroy's power of veto remains unchanged; and (b) the National Defence Council will be an "advisory body". Heigh-ho! I, as Controller of Broadcasting, had many "advisory bodies" in India; they never stopped me from doing anything I wanted and, I fear I must confess, I generally ignored their advice. And if the Viceroy's power of veto remains, the Executive Council is not a Cabinet, but a collection of tame "advisers" to an autocrat.

I have written critically, because I feel critical of a measure about which, strange to say, I find it difficult sincerely to believe that, while Mr. Gandhi stands apart, and Nehru, with other distinguished men and women, stays in jail, this collection of advisers can "represent" India in any legitimate sense. But there is, of course, another side to the shield. Linlithgow and Amery have conceived something which, if no more than the breaking of a deadlock, may contain the seeds of freedom: the question perhaps is, can it blossom in time? I doubt it, because I doubt whether the real India will accept these men.

OUR BLUNDER IN INDIA

The *Times*, London, has published the following letter from Sir Francis Younghusband :

We have blundered badly in India. While we have expressed our intention to free every other country, we have made special reservations about liberating India. And this has caused deepest resentment among Moslems and Hindus alike.

Why do we hesitate? Because we fear that if we relax our hold, India will fall to pieces. But why have such fear? Indians are no fools. They have as much political and military sense as the Chinese, the Japanese and the Russians. And they are an exceedingly proud and sensitive people to whom it is galling beyond measure to be treated less liberally than we treat the Egyptians, the Syrians, the Arabs, and the Abyssinians.

Trust an Indian and he will stick to you until death. Offend an Indian and he will raise hell.

Surely, we are great enough people to stop higgling over this matter and do the big and gracious thing—give them a definite promise that the very year after Armistice we will leave it to them to decide whether or not they wish to remain within the Empire. A hundred reasons may be given against this. But if there were a thousand, they should step aside by the single consideration: the good name of England. It may "lose" us India, but we shall have gained our own soul. And the soul of England is worth many Indians.

THE VICEROY ON INDIA'S WAR EFFORT

Addressing the first session of the National Defence Council at Simla on October 6, H. E. the Viceroy observed:

There could be no more appropriate occasion than this to refer to the superb contribution so far made by India to the achievement of the ideals for which we are fighting. She has without stint poured out men, money and supplies. Her fighting men, whether by land, by sea, or in the air, have covered themselves, and the land of their birth, with glory. In the face of every device of modern warfare, in conditions often most difficult, in unfamiliar surroundings, India's fighting men, whether they come from the Indian States or from the Provinces of British India, have shown outstanding valour and endurance and have added still further honour to the martial traditions of this country. The Empire and India owe them a debt of gratitude—a debt that will never be forgotten. . . .

In the field of supply, India has again made a contribution of immense significance and value—a contribution recognised through the Empire, a contribution that has in no small degree helped to bring home to many distant lands, not only the great natural resources of India but the high intelligence and skill of her craftsmen and her workers and the readiness of all to play their part at times like these. Let me say now only that the location in India of the Eastern Group Supply Council is in itself a tribute both to the importance of her strategic and geographical position and to the magnitude of the assistance which she has given, can give, and will continue to give to the common effort.

As the war goes on, every day reveals more clearly the place which India has won for herself in the world. She is today the base of operations for great campaigns and great strategic movements. The Commander-in-Chief, whom we are glad to welcome back to-day from his consultations with the Cabinet, with His Majesty's representatives, civil and military, in the Middle East, and with our Russian Allies at Teheran, bears a responsibility which few, if any, of his predecessors in that great office can have held; and in the discharge of that responsibility from India, he links India still more closely with those mighty movements that are taking place around us. India, as I have said, is the centre of the great supply organisation which serves the vital military needs of countries ranging from Australia to South Africa. Her contribution in fighting men has been on the grandest scale and will be greater yet. She is ready, as we know, to make sacrifices greater still in every way than those which she has so far been called upon to make. We may be proud of the achievement of India. We may be certain that that achievement will not fade from the memory of the nations.

RT. HON. SASTRI ON BRITISH POLICY

Rt. Hon. V. S. Srinivasa Sastri, presiding over a public meeting in Madras, observed:

During the war under pressure of necessity and trials, there was a section of the British people who looked out to the world seeking sympathy and such people think of India in a friendly spirit. If they had a chance at the end of the war and the disposition of things were in their hands, possibly they would meet India's wishes. But our experience is that when the day of reckoning comes, the honest man is no longer there on the stage. Edward Thompson and Sir Francis Younghusband would not be there and their voices would not prevail. The sophists, economists and calculators would fill the forefront of the stage and India would have to deal with them. Mr. Churchill, who was the most prominent man to-day and wielded the destinies of half the globe and whose attitude towards India was well known, would certainly have the most powerful voice in the final arbitrament of things. . . .

What happens at that time depends largely on the wisdom and strength that Indians would be able to bring to bear on those who took important decisions, and so India could never afford to relax her efforts. Whether it was the Liberal Party or the Congress or any other political party in the country, they had all to put forth their best efforts by day and by night and continue to press on the conscience of the Britisher what India would regard as her just due when peace was made.

RT. HON. DR. JAYAKAR ON CONGRESS

"It is the duty of the people to agitate for a way out of the present political deadlock, and it is to be hoped that Congressmen who have recently come out of jail and who feel that the present programme of the Congress should be revised would persuade Mahatma Gandhi to do the needful and take other necessary steps to bring about the desired object. It is felt in some quarters that it is not such an easy thing for the Congress to go back to power. I know the Constitution Act, and I have no hesitation in saying that if only Congressmen make up their mind to resume power, nothing can stand in their way."

In these words, the Right Hon'ble Dr. M. R. Jayakar summed up what he considered the right solution for the present political situation at the Sun Theatre, Madras, last month.

SIR FERUZ KHAN NOON'S STATEMENT

The categorical assertion that Britain cannot lose the war, was made by Sir Feroz Khan Noon in a press interview.

"Britain continues to be the mistress of the seas," he said, "and she is rapidly gaining superiority in the air with the generous help of the United States. During my recent visit to that country, I was greatly impressed by the immensity of production and the determination of the American people to help Britain win the war."

As regards India, Sir Feroz Khan Noon said that he had studied British public opinion very closely and had come to the conclusion that a vast majority of the British people would like to see India an equal partner in the British Commonwealth. But that position would never come about so long as there was no compromise between the Congress and the Muslim League. "It is Mr. Jinnah who can give Swaraj to Mr. Gandhi, and it is Mr. Gandhi who can give Pakistan to Mr. Jinnah," added Sir Feroz, and stressed that the solution of the Indian problem lay in the hands of the Indians themselves and not with any outsider. It was waste of time, he concluded, asking other people to make declarations in the absence of unity among ourselves.

CONGRESS AND THE DEAD-LOCK

Mahatma Gandhi, who is conducting the Satyagraha movement, is perfectly satisfied with its progress and is, therefore, not in favour of effecting any change at present, said Dr. Rajendra Prasad in an interview to *United Press* on the progress of the leaders' discussions at Wardha.

Referring to the political dead-lock, Dr. Prasad observed: "The dead-lock has been created by the action of the Government and not by our action and so there is no question of our taking steps for ending it."

Dr. Prasad re-stated the circumstances which led to the withdrawal of the Congress Ministries and the launching of the Satyagraha movement which, he said, the Congress started to register its protest in a way that could be easily understood.

MANCHESTER GUARDIAN ON INDIA

Commenting on the extension of the term of office of Lord Linlithgow, the *Manchester Guardian* says:

"Unquestionably he has the welfare of India at heart and has tried hard to find a way through the thickets. But he has not found it."

The *Guardian* continues: "Since those who are responsible for India—which means in the first place the Viceroy and Mr. L. S. Amery, the Secretary of State—cannot find a way to peace and are at the end of their resources, is it not desirable that a new approach should be made through new men?"

No one denies the goodwill of either the Viceroy or Mr. Amery, nor would any one desire that Mr. Amery's great abilities should be lost to the Government; there is more than one high office where he could do better service than he is likely now to do for India.

We ought not to be contented about India or to let it or ourselves rest."

MR. CHURCHILL ON INDIA

In the course of an article entitled "Churchill's attitude to India", Sir Alfred Watson suggests that in view of the Premier's past record, he ought to address India to make his personal position clear.

Storm in the East may break any day, says Sir Alfred. Before the first flashes of lightning, Mr. Churchill should make his personal position clearer than he has hitherto succeeded in doing. He may hold in his own mind that he gave full hostages for advance when he selected for the India Office Mr. L. S. Amery, most outspoken of his opponents in the party conclaves of the early thirties in the discussions about India. That was a wise move, but the world still awaits some public recantation on the part of the Premier of his recent past in regard to India, some affirmation that he will put his personal energy into the work of finding a solution.

ALL-INDIA EDUCATIONAL
CONFERENCE

Prof. Amarnath Jha, Vice-Chancellor of Allahabad University, in his presidential remarks at the All-India Educational Conference at Srinagar on September, 26, said:

While I advocate religious education, I may venture to say that denominational schools and colleges are an anachronism. They have had their day and should cease to be. They recognise, if they do not actively promote, religious differences.

Prof. Jha said that he did not object to the existence of Sanskrit Pathshalas and Arabic Madrasas that impart education along traditional religious lines, but denominational institutions breathed the spirit of discord and faction and taught the Hindus, the Christians, and the Mussalmans to look upon themselves as units distinct from the rest.

We in India have all a common culture. We are for better or worse Indians. We all speak one Indian language or another. Our music is Indian; our food is Indian; most of our manners and customs are Indian. Can we not realise the many points of similarity and unity and minimise such differences as unfortunately do exist? The points of differences are so few and relatively so insignificant that it is a thousand pities that in the press and on the platform they should loom so large and assume such enormous proportions.

Prof. Jha further said that it was to the educationist that the country must look for the eradication of the canker that threatens to destroy the solidarity of the Indian nation.

The teacher must himself be free from the cramping influence of narrow communalism; he must think in terms of India and of humanity; he must encourage a nationalistic and humanitarian outlook. The teacher had to show the right path.

Prof. Jha also laid special stress on adult education in which connection he said that the training of teachers for adult was a task which could best be performed by the Universities.

ANNAMALAI UNIVERSITY

The Founder's Day synchronised this year with the Sashtiabdapurti of Raja Sir Annamalai Chettiar, which was celebrated with great enthusiasm at Annamalai Nagar. The Rt. Hon. Dr. Jayakar, presiding, appealed

to the university authorities and the professors to concentrate their activities so as to inculcate in their students a spirit of patriotism devoid of all sectional and communal feelings, and based on the absolute truth that historically and geographically India is one, was one and will always remain one.

The Vice-Chancellor, Sir Kurma Reddy, announced that the Raja Sahab had sent to him cheques to the total value of Rs. 36,000 to be utilised for various improvements of the Annamalai University and also Rs. 1,000 for instituting a prize in the name of the Rt. Hon. Dr. Jayakar. A Sashtiabdapurti Commemoration Volume of 1,000 pages containing learned papers, messages and songs in honour of Raja Sir Annamalai Chettiar was also presented to him. It is of interest to note that the Raja Sahab gave nearly 3½ lakhs of rupees as charities to various causes.

UNIVERSITIES OF ANCIENT INDIA

Dr. Radha Kumud Mukherjee, of the Lucknow University, delivered a lecture on Universities in ancient India at the Ayurveda Adhyapaka Siksha Parishad at Arogya Ashram, Avadi, near Madras.

The lecturer referred to the part played by the great universities of Nalanda where teachers and the taught lived together and where work of great importance was carried on in spreading the message of India's civilisation abroad. He concluded by referring to the great place which education occupied in the ancient Vedic times.

BROTHERS' LIABILITY

The Chief Justice of Madras, delivering judgment on behalf of the Bench, allowed an appeal involving the interpretation of Sections 20 and 21 of the Indian Limitation Act.

A promissory note was executed on March 12, 1930, by Thiruvengkatachariar and his youngest son Srinivasachariar. Soon after, the father died and the son kept the document alive by making part payments. Thereafter there was a partition between Srinivasachariar and his two brothers, and the former made further payments, the last being on June 10, 1933.

A suit was filed in 1935 in the Shiyali Munsiff's Court against the three brothers. It was contended that the other two brothers, who were not parties to the promissory note were not liable. The District Munsiff and the Sub-Court, relying on Section 20 of the Limitation Act, held that the other two brothers were liable under the pious obligation theory and decreed the suit against the three brothers. An appeal was filed in the High Court, and Mr. Justice Abdur Rahman referred the matter to the Full Bench in view of the conflicting decisions on the point.

Their Lordships held that Section 21 (3b) of the Act applied to the facts of the case and that a non-managing member of a Hindu family could not make an endorsement of payment without the authority of the other members of the family to keep alive the debt against them. This could be done only by the managing member for the time being.

In the present case, the endorsement made, particularly after partition, by the youngest brother, who could not be said in any event to be the managing member, could not save limitation against his other brothers.

A MAGISTRATE ON DONATIONS

"Disputes in courts have to be decided on law and procedure prescribed by the legislature and it is highly improper for any Magistrate or any presiding officer of a court to invite subscriptions to public or charitable funds from anybody appearing in his court, either in the capacity of a party or a witness or professionally, or to entertain suggestions made by anybody else that donations should be accepted from such persons."

These observations were made by Mr. Justice Agarwala at the Patna High Court recently, when delivering judgment in a petition moved by one of the parties in a criminal case praying that the order of the trying Magistrate be set aside.

His Lordship was satisfied that the proceedings of the case were dropped, not because of lack of merit in the original application but because one of the parties eventually agreed to contribute Rs. 200 to some fund or other. He ordered that the hearing of the case be resumed.

His Lordship further directed that the sum of Rs. 200 be refunded to the party concerned.

SIR C. MADHAVAN NAYAR

A *communiqué* says: His Majesty the King has been pleased to direct that Sir C. Madhavan Nayar, formerly puisne judge of the High Court of Madras, be appointed a member of the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council under the Appellate Jurisdiction Act, 1929, in the place of the Rt. Hon. Dr. M. R. Jayakar who has resigned the appointment.

POSTPONEMENT OF ELECTION

In the House of Lords, the Royal Commission signified the King's assent to the India and Burma Postponement of Elections Act.

WAR RISK INSURANCE

Reduced rates for war risk insurance on cargoes in British and Allied ships crossing the Atlantic have been ordered by the American Marine Insurance Under-writers and have come into force recently. The new rate for ships crossing the Atlantic from the Western Hemisphere to Portugal, Gibraltar, Maderia, Azores, the Canaries, Cape Verde Islands and the Atlantic ports of Spain is 4 per cent. instead of 5 per cent. A similar reduction has been made to foreign ships plying between the Western Hemisphere and the Red Sea *via* the Cape of Good Hope. Rates on cargoes in foreign ships sailing from the Western Hemisphere to the Persian Gulf, East and Far East *via* the Cape of Good Hope have been lowered to 3 per cent. from $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.

COMMODITY INSURANCE

Commencing from April 1st, a commodity scheme has been introduced in the Strait Settlements and Federated Malaya States. In general, the scheme covers the same commodities as in Great Britain, but a special scheme for fee collection is in preparation for tin and tin-ore and this insurance is subject to a limit of \$10,000 in any one Settlement or State.

INSURANCE AGENTS IN BR. INDIA

Hitherto, the work relating to the issue of licences under the Insurance Act, 1938, to act as Insurance Agents in respect of agents residing in British India was being done by the Registrars of Joint Stock Companies in British India. It has now been decided to transfer this work to the Superintendent of Insurance, who will issue such licences in future.

NEW TYPE OF POLICY

A new form of Whole Life Assurance Policy with a limited number of premium payments has been issued by the Mutual Property Life and General Insurance Company, Ltd., of Woodhatch, Reigate, Surrey. The policy provides 50 per cent. War Risk Protection within the United Kingdom and an option to increase this cover to 100 per cent., coupled with a guaranteed future increase in the sum assured. The policy also provides specially for policyholders who may be joining H. M. Armed Forces, and it gives in addition to the usual Life assurances benefits, a double benefit for fatal accident.

WAR DAMAGE COMMISSION

Under Section 9 (7) of the War Damage Act, the right to receive a payment in respect of war damage is transmissible by assignment subject to approval in writing by the Commission. It has been learnt on enquiry that the Commission has decided not to approve such assignments freely. They are, on the other hand, prepared to approve them only in certain circumstances such as when the parties had a previous fiduciary or contractual relationship, direct or indirect, in the property, or where the assignee is a Government Department or a public or local authority.

FUND FOR INVESTMENT RESEARCH

The Life Offices Investment Seminar, an organisation of financial officers of member companies of the American Life Convention has made a gift of \$1,000 to the school of business of Indian University to establish a graduate assistantship for research work in investments during the academic year 1940-41.

INDIA'S TRADE FIGURES

India's export trade during eight months ending November, 1940, improved by Rs. 870 lakhs over the same period of the previous year in spite of the closing of the European markets. This was largely due to greater intake by the Empire countries, the United States of America and the South American countries during the eight months of 1940-41 as compared to the same period in 1939-40; the increases being by Rs. 13'72 lakhs, Rs. 3'76 lakhs and Rs. 65 lakhs respectively.

India's export to the European countries in the eight months of 1939-40 amounted to Rs. 3'52 lakhs. This trade had shrunk to Rs. 6'08 lakhs in the eight months of 1940-41 with no exports at all in November, 1940. Although in November, 1940 Japan imported a larger quantity of goods from India than in November, 1939, the exports to that country had been steadily declining in 1940-41, the total decrease in the eight months being Rs. 2'65 lakhs over the 1939-40 figures. Similarly, export from India to Egypt declined by nearly three crores of rupees in the eight months of 1940-41 as compared to the same period of the previous year.

The import trade of India during the eight months was nearly equal to that in 1939-40, although the Empire countries, gained by nearly two crores at the cost of non-Empire countries. In the non-Empire group imports from the United States increased by nearly Rs. 10 crores, while those from Iran doubled themselves as compared to the 1939-40 figures. Imports from Japan likewise increased by Rs. 2'49 lakhs over the imports in 1939-40.

SIR VISVESVARAYA ON INDUSTRIES

The need for a vigorous effort on the part of industrialists and leading citizens of Bombay to bring into existence as many new industries as possible and increase their output from quarter to quarter, was stressed by Sir M. Visvesvaraya addressing a joint meeting of the two Committees of the All-India Manufacturers' Organization recently.

Deploring the complacency prevailing in the country regarding the vital problem of speedy industrialization, the speaker said that the three great needs of the country at present were mass education, industries and defence machinery. He emphasized the need for a central organization of manufacturers and industrialists in the country and said that the post-war construction work in the field of industries was an urgent matter.

Government, he added, had already constituted a committee, but the work had got to be done with the co-operation of leading industrialists, businessmen and labour unions. In order to secure maximum production, a dozen capable men, keenly alive to the value of industries and fertile in new ideas should be invited to take the responsibility for conducting a drive or campaign for the purpose in each region, at least for one year at a time.

POST-WAR ECONOMICS

Opening the first meeting of the Consultative Committee of Economists on post-war reconstruction at Delhi on October 24, Sir A. Ramaswami Mudaliar, Chairman emphasised that the meeting would have mainly to advise Government on the best methods by which after the war, trade, manufacture and industries could be promoted and a better living standard for the people of the country attained. He dealt with the problems, present-day as well as post-war, which the meeting would have to tackle, including export and import control, the bearing of population on the growth of the country's economic structure and the readjustment of war time industries to peace time production.

SRIMATI KAMALADEVI

The view that the American people had become more discriminative in assimilating propaganda about India, was expressed by Srimati Kamaladevi, addressing a students' meeting at Madras. She said that she had a very nice tour and made a circle of the globe and was treated with courtesy and kindness in all countries. She visited Egypt, Greece, Italy and the Scandinavian countries. She attended the International Women's Conference at Copenhagen and was in England when the war broke out. From there she went to America where she delivered a series of lectures. She returned via Far East visiting on her way Japan, China, and Manilla.

The British Embassy in Washington, she said, was being assailed with questions regarding India and the arrest and imprisonment of Indian leaders. The replies to such questions were, however, evasive and very often these queries only evoked the reply that political prisoners were treated as gentlemen. Once a well known English journalist was heckled on the imprisonment of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru. He replied: "Well, Mr. Nehru produced a literary master-piece while last in prison. He might produce a greater master-piece before he came out of prison this time."

Srimati Kamaladevi expressed the opinion that America was the last bastion of the dying old world order. All dominant interests were united in a last struggle to maintain them; only the youth organisations thought in other terms; for they reckoned with such problems as the below par life of one-third of the American people, the ten million unemployed and the thousands of people who had been uprooted from the spoil and had become tramps. She added that the opportunity for giving a decisive and dynamic lead to the world, which was witnessing the death of old values, lay with America and the Orient. She felt that the lead would come not from America but from the East.

H. H. THE MAHARANI OF TRAVANCORE

His Highness the Maharaja of Travancore unveiled the statue of Her Highness Maharani Setu Parvati Bayi on the grounds of the Observatory at Trivandrum on 2nd October, and observed that the statue was an embodiment of the spontaneous recognition of the people of the value of Her Highness's services to Travancore and the cause of women.

Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar, the Dewan, in requesting His Highness to unveil the statue, on behalf of the Committee, said that the description in "Marcus Aurelius" to his mother was quite applicable in the case of His Highness to his mother.

Unveiling the statue, H. H. The Maharaja said:

"As you have rightly emphasised, it has been the specific good fortune of myself and my brother and sister to have undergone a training at our mother's hands, which was as strict as it was full of affection and solicitude. Such acquaintance as we possess with the principles and practice of our religion and with literature and Fine Arts and the gracious aspects of life and conduct has been due entirely to the stimulus and the direction of Her Highness, whose love of Indian culture and devotion to the interests of Travancore have been amongst the most formative influences of my life,

Careful as she was in the guiding of my footsteps from the earliest stages of my life, and qualified as she is in every way to direct public affairs, she has in theory and in practice unwaveringly emphasised the Ruler's undivided responsibility to his State and his people."

His Highness presented a gold medal to Rao Bahadur M. S. Nagappa, the sculptor of Madras.

THE STUDY OF SANSKRIT

Speaking at the Annamalai University, the Rt. Hon. Dr. Jayakar said that it was his belief that every Indian student should make it a point to study the Sanskrit language.

In his days, the study of Sanskrit was so difficult that many students who took up Sanskrit had left it finding it very difficult to study, especially the grammatical portions. He would, therefore, wish to see that the study of Sanskrit was made as attractive as possible. The study of Sanskrit in its linguistic aspects would not confer any benefit on the students. As an Englishman learns Greek, so an Indian can learn Sanskrit, but that was not giving any benefit to the students.

The linguistic attainment was only a small part of Sanskrit study. The more important and interesting part of the study was its literary side. It should be studied as a national concern.

WORLD'S WORST BOOKS

An American magazine recently invited prominent American writers and scholars to declare which, in their opinion, is "The World's Worst Book (that is, the world's most over-rated book)—admitting to candidacy for such supreme honours, of course, only such books, ancient or modern as have acquired a world-wide reputation."

"World's Worst" were: Dante's "Divine Comedy"; Gibbon's "Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire"; Milton's "Paradise Lost" and "Paradise Regained"; James Joyce's "Ulysses"; Marcel Proust's "Swann's Way"; Thomas Carlyle's "Sartor Resartus"; Goethe's "Faust", and Hitler's "Mein Kampf".

KALIDASA DAY

The Rt. Hon. Dr. M. R. Jayakar presided over the "Kalidasa Day", Madras, recently.

Dr. Jayakar referred to some salient features in Kalidasa's works and went on to deal with the "unifying force" of Sanskrit culture. He suggested that Sanskrit culture and Sanskrit literature should be thrown open to those who called themselves non-Brahmins. They were heirs to this fortune, he said, as much as the privileged class were,

LORD WARDEN OF CINQUE PORTS

The Prime Minister, Mr. Churchill, has been appointed Lord Warden of Cinque Ports by King George in recognition of his great services to Britain. Mr. Churchill has succeeded the late Marquess of Willingdon. Cinque Ports are: Hastings, Dover, Sandwich, Romney and Hythe. In the olden days they were entrusted with the defence of Britain's shores and the protection of the passage to the Continent. In modern times, the appointment of Lord Warden, which is purely an honorary post and which is one of the King's personal prerogatives, has been reserved for distinguished statesmen, soldiers and sailors.

SIR G. S. BAJPAI

Sir Girja Shankar Bajpai, as Agent-General to the Government of India at Washington, will be attached to the External Affairs Department since it is outside the British Empire and the Overseas Department deals with problems of Indians only within the Empire. Sir Girja, it is understood, is likely to have two I. C. S. Private Secretaries, senior and junior, at least one of whom, but possibly both, will be drawn from the cadre of External Affairs Department. In addition, Sir Girja will have a press-man attached to his office at Washington.

MR. HENNESSY FOR U. S. A.

Mr. J. Hennessy, Principal Information Officer, Government of India, proceeds on deputation to America on the staff of Sir Girja Shankar Bajpai, Agent-General to the Government of India. Mr. J. Natarajan, Deputy Principal Information Officer, officiates as Principal Information Officer during Mr. Hennessy's absence. Mr. B. L. Sharma will officiate for Mr. Natarajan.

BIRTHDAY PRESENT TO GANDHIJI

A purse of ten thousand rupees and one crore and seventy-six lakhs yards of hand-spun yarn were jointly presented to Mahatma Gandhi at Sevagram on Oct. 12, by the Presidents of the Mahakoshal, Nagpur, and Vidarbha Provincial Congress Committees,

MALARIA INSTITUTE OF INDIA

Whilst the research activities of the Institute have been restricted owing to war conditions, there has been an expansion of the training courses held during the year, says the Annual Report of the Malaria Institute of India for 1940. Special courses have been arranged for military personnel, whilst for the first time malaria courses for engineers were held at the Field Station of the Institute in Delhi. The latter were attended by 61 Doctors representing various branches of their profession from widely separated parts of India.

Officers of the Institute have continued to supervise the anti-malaria campaign which has been carried on, in and around Delhi over an area of 55 square miles. Advice has also been given regarding the rural malaria schemes which are in progress in different parts of India. Special research units have carried out investigations in the Wynnad, South India, in the United Provinces Terai and in the neighbourhood of the Chilka Lake, Orissa.

On April 1, 1940, the Public Health Section of the Institute was taken over by the Government of India. Prior to that date, the whole of the activities of the Malaria Institute of India were financed by the Indian Research Fund Association.

INFLUENZA GERM ISOLATED

The influenza germ has been isolated for the first time in history. This has been achieved by the Institute of Medical Research in South Africa, according to an announcement by Dr. E. H. Cluver, Director of the South African Medical Research Bureau. The research was undertaken at the express request of the Defence Department in view of the possibility of a repetition of the scourge which swept the world in 1918.

SHARK LIVER OIL

The Government of Madras have sanctioned construction of a factory for the manufacture of shark liver oil in the Fisheries Office at Calicut at a cost of Rs. 14,000. Sanction has also been accorded for purchase of equipment required for the factory at a cost of Rs. 26,000. The Superintendent of the Kerala Soap Institute will be the Superintendent of the Factory also.

MEDICAL RELIEF IN RURAL AREAS

With a view to providing adequate medical attention and relief on modern lines not only to people living at headquarters but also to those residing in rural areas, the Government of Bengal has under consideration a scheme for modernizing and improving *sadar* and sub-divisional hospitals so that specialized treatment may be available in these institutions. A survey to ascertain the wants of *sadar* hospitals was made as far back as 1936-37.

It is understood that the Government also has under consideration the question of provincializing a few hospitals in addition to making substantial grants-in-aid to others.

CALCUTTA STUDENTS

There has been a perceptible improvement in physique and health of students during the last 20 years and their percentage requiring immediate medical attention and treatment has fallen from 66 in 1920 to 45 in 1940, states the report of the Students' Welfare Committee of the Calcutta University for 1940-41. The average student of 1940, the report adds, is taller, more robust and healthier person than the student of 1920, and the percentage of well-built students is perceptibly greater than in 1920.

AVERAGE CONSUMPTION OF MILK

In India, consumption of milk per head is 6'6 ounces per day. This includes milk products. Due to the better purchasing capacity of city-dwellers, the daily *per capita* consumption in cities and towns is 12'6 ounces. Consumption varies from tract to tract. Sind is first with 22 ounces per head per day followed by the Punjab with 19'7 ounces. Assam shows the lowest average with 1'2 ounces per day.

LEPROSY AND ITS CONTROL

In view of the great importance of leprosy as a public health problem in many parts of India, the Central Advisory Board of Health has appointed an *ad hoc* committee to prepare a special report on Leprosy and its control.

GOVERNOR OF BANK OF ENGLAND

No change is being recommended in the offices of the Governor and Deputy Governor of the Bank of England next April. An announcement to this effect was made by the Governor, Mr. Montagu Norman, at the last meeting of the General Court of the Bank of England.

Mr. J. M. Keynes is now appointed successor to Lord Stamp, who was killed in a London air-raid, as a Director. Mr. J. M. Keynes is the well-known economist and author of the Keynes Plan, which provides for compulsory saving as a means of preventing inflation and has been already partially adopted in connection with the existing income-tax.

A Bank of England Rule says that no member shall offer himself for re-election after reaching the age of 70 unless otherwise requested. However in view of the fact that many possible candidates are absent on military duties or fully engaged in other services of State, those who would have retired next April under this Rule will be allowed to let their names go forward for re-election.

DEFINITION OF BANK

The Government of India propose to amend Section 277-F of the Indian Companies Act, 1913, by the insertion of an explanation to the effect that any company which uses as, part of its name the word "bank", "banker" or "banking" shall be deemed to be a banking company, irrespective of whether the business of accepting deposits of money on current account or otherwise, subject to withdrawal by cheque, draft or order is its principal business or not.

The Government propose to amend the Act in order to obviate the difficulties of interpretation which are thrown on the Registrars and in order further to prevent companies successfully evading compliance with the provisions of a law enacted primarily for the benefit of depositors.

The Central Government have circulated their proposal to all Provincial Governments as also to recognised Chambers of Commerce and Associations for eliciting opinion thereon.

EXHIBITION TRAIN

The 300-yard long defence services exhibition train, which left Lahore on a three-month tour of the Punjab and North-West Frontier Provinces, contains among other interesting exhibits a model of the battle of Keren. Other exhibits are models of warships, tanks, shells and ammunition, weapons, clothing, wireless sets, telephone exchanges and bombs. There are also model aeroplanes. A truck contains a 4-inch naval gun and demonstrations are held of gun drill and the firing of the gun.

The most exciting part of the exhibition is demonstration of tanks, armoured carriers, field and mountain guns in action. The construction of a road block and the removal of mines for which Lt. Bhagat was awarded the V. C. are also shown. Visitors have an opportunity of seeing medical arrangements in the fields and the working of the ordnance workshop lorry.

After dark there are cinema shows which include fighting troops in action and training.

The public can watch the cooking of food under modern field service conditions.

There are a recruiting officer and staff on the train to give any information asked and also to carry out the medical inspection of prospective recruits.

INTERNAL COMBUSTION ENGINES

From details which are available regarding the progress made in the research schemes under the general control of the Industrial and Scientific Research Board, it seems likely that the manufacture of internal combustion engines about which the Secretary of State recently made a disturbing statement in the House of Commons, there is already a Committee with Mr. J. C. Mahindra as Chairman investigating the possibilities.

NIZAM'S STATE RAILWAY

It is understood that the Nizam's State Railway Board in England has been abolished, and a railway board has been set up here with Lieut-Col. E. W. Slaughter, General Manager of the Nizam's State Railway, as Managing Director.

SRI THYAGARAJA CELEBRATIONS

Before a large and distinguished gathering, the music festival in aid of Sri Thyagaraja Aradhana celebrations was inaugurated on October 4, at the Parish Hall, Madras, by Mr. S.V. Ramamurthi, I.C.S., Chief Secretary to the Madras Government.

Rajah Sir Annamalai Chettiar delivered the welcome address. He said Sri Thyagaraja's songs stood foremost both in respect of the number of songs now sung and the number of people that had mastered them.

The Rajah then referred to the contribution made by him to the Annamalai University for the promotion of Tamil music and to the controversy which had arisen over the resolution passed at the Conference held at Annamalai-nagar, recommending that greater prominence be given in future to Tamil songs in musical concerts.

Mr. Ramamurti paid a glowing tribute to Thyagaraja's greatness as a saint and musician, and said that Thyagaraja, more perhaps than any other single musician, has preserved for us our one great live art with an appeal both deep and wide.

The Rajah Sir Annamalai Chettiar and H. H. the Maharaja of Mysore have given donations of Rs. 1,000 and Rs. 500 respectively to the Sabha.

THE SANTAL DANCE

India is verily a land of dancing. Starting from the very manners of the people in the street or a gathering, one sees dancing even in their style of standing, walking, or talking. An artist could easily select any phase of this life and make a dance or ballet out of it.

Santhal Parganas, with its hills and dales, woods and rivers, is no exception to this, says Sunity Kumar Sinha in an up-country journal. The hills and jungles of this district have helped the art to grow. Living far from the madding crowd, the Santhal folks express their joys and feelings through dance.

The Santhal dance is accompanied by music produced by bamboo flutes, madals, drums, kartals and country-made violins. Song too plays a prominent part.

JOE LOUIS RETAINS HEAVY-WEIGHT TITLE

Joe Louis retained the world heavy-weight championship beating Lou Nova in a technical knock-out in the sixth round of a fifteen-round bout at New York polo grounds recently.

Punished to the verge of insensibility, with blood pouring from his badly-cut right eye, Nova, the latest "White Hope" heavy-weight, went the way of all other challengers. After a tentative start, Louis revealed all the old urge and "killer" instinct. A right cross that first stunned Nova and paved the way to his defeat, was the most vicious Louis has ever thrown at any opponent. Nova, the pluckiest of boxers, stopped two more of a similar calibre before he dropped in a sitting position, half outside the ropes. Nova stated that he had never been hit so hard before.

KING'S TENTH WIN

The King's *Big Game* by Bahram out of *Myrobella* won a thrilling race for the valuable Champagne Stakes by a short head from Lord Derby's *Watling Street* by *Fairway* out of *Ranai*, with Lord Roseberry's *Hyperides* by *Hyperion* out of *Priscilla* two lengths behind, third *Trained* by Fred Darling and ridden by Harry Wragg. *Big Game* scored his fifth win of the season having thrice been successful as *Myrobella* colt in its early racing days. He started a hot favourite at two to one. *Watling Street* was 7-2 and *Hyperides* 9-1. *Big Game* was not in his usual brilliant form and put under pressure for the first time, but he kept his unbeaten record and the crowd showed its appreciation of the King's tenth win this season by cheering for a long period.

COMMUNAL CRICKET

Mahatma Gandhi has reiterated his opposition to communal cricket in reply to a letter from Mr. M. G. Bhawe of Poona, who recently wrote to him asking him to lay before the public his clear views once again on the question of communal cricket.

Mahatma Gandhi, in his reply to Mr. Bhawe, said: "I retain the same opinion as before. I am utterly opposed to communalism in everything but much more so in sport."

THE CHARTER FOR SCIENTISTS

The King's message to the President of the British Association was one of many important communications to the Conference on Science and the World Order, observes the *Manchester Guardian Scientific Correspondent*.

"The social benefits which scientific research by free practice and under right guidance can bestow on all mankind grow ever greater. It is right that such benefits should be shared among all people alike."

This Royal recognition of the importance of the social relations of science is significant and recalls the foundation of the Royal Society.

Sir Richard Gregory concluded the proceedings by the announcement of a declaration of scientific principles which is a kind of charter for scientists. The essence of the charter is contained in its opening phrases: "Liberty to learn, opportunity to teach, and power to understand are necessary for the extension of knowledge, and we, as men of science, maintain that they cannot be sacrificed without a degradation of human life."

PERFECT AIR-RAID SHELTER

British scientists are now endeavouring to create a perfect air-raid shelter—one that will withstand a direct hit on the surface. They believe it may soon materialise. It is to be made out of glass.

But the glass they have in mind is not of course the easily broken sort with which we are familiar. It is a toughened glass made in layers by a process which renders it many times as strong and infinitely more flexible. Probably the nearest approach to it that you have seen is the motor-car windscreen.

Already toughened glass is so powerful that it will stand the weight of a locomotive, resist the whitest heat and merely break without splintering under the impact of a bomb has been produced. If it can be made tougher still, which is thought fully possible, and if some method can be found to reduce its present high manufacturing cost, the all-glass shelter may become a reality.

SIR N. N. SIRCAR ON INDIAN FILMS

Sir N. N. Sircar spoke at the Delhi Rotary Club on the subject of the Indian Film industry.

Reviewing the progress of the film industry in India, Sir Nripen referred to the development witnessed in Bombay, particularly at the hands of Mr. J. F. Madan, who was responsible for the introduction of talkies in India 10 years ago. With the introduction of talkies, the situation changed so rapidly that today, according to one estimate, out of Rs. 3 crores representing the total gross income of talkie houses in India, Rs. 240 lakhs are collected by Indian films and only the balance of Rs. 60 lakhs by foreign films. That did not mean, however, that the Indian film industry was having smooth sailing.

For almost everything that the industry required for production it had to depend on foreign countries. Secondly, there was not much co-ordination among the producers themselves. Thirdly, there was the language difficulty; for languages in India changed every 400 miles except perhaps in the case of Hindustani. Social plays again had not sufficiently taken the place of mythological stories and in South India in particular, there was too much of singing and too little of action.

TOP STARS IN FILM LAND

Who are the "top stars" of the film business to-day as estimated by their money-drawing value?

According to an authentic publication, Claudette Colbert heads the list of women players, while Clark Gable is the leading male screen star.

Claudette Colbert heads the list of feminine stars followed in order by Hedy Lamarr, Joan Fontaine, Judy Garland, Jean Arthur, Irene Dunne, Rosalind Russell, Deanna Durbin, Jeanette MacDonald, Miriam Hopkins, Bette Davis, Greta Garbo, Paulette Goddard, Mae West, Marine Dietrich, Joan Crawford, Kay Francis.

The box-office ranking of male stars is: Clark Gable, Charles Boyer, Spencer Tracy, William Powell, Henry Fonda, Lawrence Olivier, Jack Benny, Cary Grant, Mickey Rooney, Bob Hope, W. C. Fields, James Stewart, Bing Crosby, Gary Cooper, Tyrone Power, Allan Jones.

MOTOR CYCLES

India bought about three times as many motor cycles from Great Britain last year as in 1939. Fifty thousand tons of steel were used by the makers of British bicycles and motor cycles for the products which they safely shipped overseas during 1940.

The value of them was £1,815,355—an increase of £398,123 on the year before.

Canada doubled her purchases of motor cycles, and Uruguay quadrupled hers. There was a notable increase in the number of both motor cycles and bicycles sent to the United States.

Thousands more bicycles went to China, and also to Thailand, Hong Kong, British Malaya and the Dutch East Indies. An unexpected customer was Iceland, which bought 173 bicycles as against two in 1939.

The popularity of the motorised bicycle is also spreading from Britain overseas. The number of them sent abroad was almost doubled.

VICEROY'S VISIT TO GENERAL MOTORS

A touch of realism, loyalty and determination was evidenced when His Excellency the Viceroy was presented with a brochure containing the signatures and thumb impressions of 3,000 workers employed in General Motors Factory in Bombay, pledging their word to do their utmost to produce army vehicles in ever-increasing numbers for India's armed forces.

This dramatic scene took place during the Viceroy's recent visit to General Motors Factory where His Excellency spent nearly an hour inspecting the various departments where thousands of chassis, army vehicles and shells are being turned out every month.

In the course of his tour of the Factory, the Viceroy witnessed mass production technique of Chevrolet army ambulances, troop carriers, load carriers, tipping wagons, water tanks, station wagons and other Chevrolet vehicles required for army and commercial purposes.

MOTOR GRAND PRIX

Lloyd Davis and Maurice Rose have declared joint winners of the Indianapolis Motor Prix. The only previous joint win was in 1924 when Joe Boyer and L. L. Corum were successful.

INDIA'S FIRST NIGHT FIGHTER PILOT

Nagaraja Rangappa has the distinction of being India's first night fighter pilot in service with the R. A. F. He is a nineteen-year old Brahmin from Bangalore.

The Air Ministry News Service says that he has nearly finished his training in the R. A. F. and will soon be posted to a squadron. His brother, a year older than himself, is under training as an air-gunner and the two hope to form a night fighting team. Nagaraja stated: "It would be grand to have my brother with me when I go up at night." He hopes one day there will be an all-Indian night fighter squadron as there is an all-Canadian one.

"INVISIBLE" AND BOMB PROOF FACTORY

According to a report in the *Manchester Guardian*, Douglas Aircraft Company, manufacturers of the Boston aeroplane, which is now in service with the R. A. F. as a bomber and night fighter, are building a huge factory at Long Beach, California. The factory has been designed so as to be as nearly bomb-proof as possible.

Completely windowless and without skylights, the buildings will have a special internal lighting system giving a shadowless and glare-free illumination. An automatic air-conditioning plant will be installed and the air will be warmed and cooled according to the season.

In the final assembly of aircraft, the wings and fuselages will be built on jigs mounted on tracks and moved along by power winches to a set schedule.

FLYING SUITS

The United States Army has ordered 12,000 electrically heated flying suits recently perfected by the General Electric. In developing the suits, a Flying Fortress crew last winter flew 10,000 feet up over Alaska in 30° weather, dressed only in long woollen underwear through which electrical coils were woven. The new suits are lighter and cheaper than the sheepskin garments now used, and they leave a flier nimbler at his controls and guns.

ALUMINIUM

Aluminium is a metal that has commercially been available for about half a century, but has found during this short period of its life about 100,000 uses. No wonder it is called the "Miracle Metal".

The great war of 1914-1918 realised the potentiality of aluminium and its alloys. Its alloys are made stronger than steel and may replace steel very largely in due course. It is well said that aluminium will win this war.

Anodising will make aluminium appear better than gold in colour. Superiority of aluminium for cooking utensils is unsurpassed by any other metal for its cheapness, durability, beauty and ease. It is hygienic, simple and healthy; it is widely used by hospitals, Army, Navy and other important Public Services for food and supplies.

Preparations are afoot to produce aluminium in India and we expect the utensils manufactured from Indian aluminium very soon. This industry when working in full swing will be a great asset to the economic India, employing highly developed technical skill and labour turning Indian wealth into gold. Thus we expect that tremendous possibilities await aluminium in the near future. The "Crown Brand" aluminium cooking utensils are manufactured by Messrs. Jeewanlal, Calcutta, who have fully equipped factories in the principal cities of India, Burma and at Aden, and their Sales Services are serving besides India, Burma and Aden, Western Asia, Africa, Ceylon, Straits Settlements, Malaya, Sumatra, Java and have won the unique reputation for their manufactures as the best and most reliable.

HAND-LOOM BLANKETS

The Indian Stores Department have placed orders with various Provinces and States for 628,500 hand-loom blankets for delivery by March next. Delivery against these orders will commence after the completion of the current orders. Negotiations are also in progress with several other Provinces and States and further orders may be placed shortly.

These purchases are in part against an allocation made by the Eastern Group Supply Council for 400,000 blankets and in part against Supply Department indents.

CROPS AND SOILS

The meeting of the Crops and Soils Wing of the Board of Agriculture and Animal Husbandry in India was held in December, 1939, and the volume under review contains the discussion by eminent scientists and technical experts on eight important problems of agriculture. (Manager of Publications, Delhi, 1940. Price Rs. 3-10.) Among them are subjects of general interest such as, a review of work on Agricultural Economics in India and a critical examination of the low yields of agricultural crops in India and others of a highly technical character like vernalisation, soil conservation, plant virus diseases, plant hormones, and control of insect pests.

Apart from the technical papers on which comment is obviously not possible, the notes on the work in Agricultural Economics in India by Sardar Kartar Singh and Dr. Ghatge are interesting. The papers by D. V. Bal and Alann on Low Yields in Agriculture are instructive. The conclusion of D. V. Bal that in the case of Indian crops which have been under cultivation for many centuries, the history of crop yields has not indicated any progressive decline in the yield per acre, and that during 1900-22 they appear to have reached a stationary state and show a better yield now, is so vital that it requires further examination.

AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION

"Take to higher agricultural education in large numbers to eliminate the many ills of the rural population and make use of your education by going back to the villages and taking to private farming thus helping the country to prosperity and progress." This was the message given by Dr. R. P. Masani, Vice-Chancellor of the Bombay University, addressing the students of Agricultural College, Poona, on the occasion of the 33rd annual social gathering of the institution.

Dr. Masani exhorted the students to give a lead by spreading agricultural education amongst rural population and thus lend a hand in adding to the wealth and prosperity of the country.

FAREWELL TO BEVIN BOYS

"I want you to go back and take your place in Indian industry and do all you can to contribute to increased output. I want British and Indian people to be great friends together in a great common endeavour so that the whole of the common people in both our countries and, indeed, all the world may benefit from this great association of peoples."

Thus declared Mr. Ernest Bevin, Minister for Labour, in a message bidding farewell to Indian engineering technicians who have been to England at Mr. Bevin's invitation on an intensive practical course in foremanship and works management during the past few months.

TECHNICAL TRAINING SCHEME

The Technical Training Scheme launched by the Department of Labour has been expanded to provide for the intensive training of 15,000 semi-skilled tradesmen in place of the original number of 8,000. Of this total, 7,000 men are to be trained as general engineering fitters; 2,500 as turners (metal); 1,500 machinists (metal); 1,250 electricians, 550; blacksmiths; 450 tin and coppersmiths; 400 welders (electric and oxy-acetylene); 300 draughtsmen; 200 moulders and 200 carpenters. Nearly 6,000 men are already under training at 87 centres. One hundred and four more centres are ready to receive another 6,000 trainees. Thirty-two trainees have already passed out of these classes.

LOW PAID EMPLOYEES

The Government of India have worked out schemes for grant of dearness allowance to low-paid employees.

During Government's stay in Simla, the scale will be the same as that sanctioned by the Punjab Government, namely, one rupee per month for those receiving Rs. 16 or less and two rupees for those between Rs. 17 and Rs. 30. This scale will come into operation upon receipt of information from the Deputy Commissioner of Simla that the prices of food grains have reached seven seers a rupee. Should prices rise further and food grains become dearer than six seers a rupee, the scales will be enhanced to Rs. 2 and Rs. 3 respectively.

TEA PROPAGANDA IN BRITAIN

Referring to tea propaganda in war-time Britain, Mr. J. S. Graham, Chairman of the Indian Tea Market Expansion Board, recently observed:

"Despite the rationing of tea, it can truly be said that the International Board have kept the idea of tea so closely associated with the two movements that are affecting the nation in the highest degree—the creation of a national army and the drive for increased war production in the factories that we need have no fear of a reduction in the consumption of our product in that country. At present in that strange Britain at war, so different from the peaceful community we know, new habits and customs are being formed but tea remains as much of a necessity as ever."

WHAT WAR COSTS?

The approximate cost of a bullet is one anna and of a battleship Rs. 10½ crores. Here are some other implements of warfare with their approximate cost:

Sandbags, 2 annas each.
Pistol Rs. 50.
Rifle Rs. 100.
Machine-gun Rs. 1,800.
Barrage balloon Rs. 10,000.
Light anti-aircraft gun Rs. 4,000.
Fighter aircraft Rs. 1,40,000.
Bomber aircraft Rs. 2,70,000.
Destroyer Rs. 60 lakhs.
Cruiser Rs. 2½ crores.

These are but a few items which do not include the cost of personal and a thousand other things which only a few know about.

SIND TO GO DRY

A proposal to close down one-third of the total country liquor shops in Sind with effect from 1st April, 1942, is being considered by Sind Government. The proposal involves loss of annual income of Rs. 4,50,000 which, it is stated, will be met by introduction of fresh taxation.

It may be mentioned that in pursuance of their policy of gradual prohibition, the Sind Government has already imposed ban on smoking of opium and charash and have also restricted the use of country liquor. According to their programme, Sind will go dry within next five years.

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THE FINAL ISSUE OF THE WAR

BY DR. SIR P. S. SIVASWAMY AIYER, K.C.S.I.

in any protracted war and should not be allowed to weaken the spirit or hopes of the combatants. The dauntless spirit in which the people of Britain are facing the hardships, privations and losses which have been inflicted on them and their unshakable determination to carry on the war till Hitler and Hitlerism are destroyed, the immense resources of the British Commonwealth and the help and co-operation of the United States justify a tone of hopefulness with regard to the outcome. Even making allowance for the fact that Hitler is able to commandeer the resources and man-power of the countries he has conquered in Europe and that the countries included in the British Commonwealth are scattered and far-flung, the resources of the Allies will enable them to carry on the struggle for as long as Hitler may wish to do so. There must, of course, be no relaxation of the efforts made by Britain or any of the constituent units of the British Commonwealth to win the war. One factor which must be remembered is that no empire of the kind that Hitler is resolved to build up, comprising so many nations which have

HOW this war, which has been dragging on for over two years, will end and when, has been occupying the minds of people in most countries in the world. The conquest of nearly all the countries of Europe by Germany almost according to a plan and within a scheduled time, the penetration and occupation of considerable parts of European Russia, and the retreat of the British expeditionary forces from the west coast of Europe and other theatres of war, have filled many minds with deep misgivings as to the issue of this deadly struggle. People have begun to entertain doubts as to the invincibility of the British power, and ask whether the same good fortune which has attended the the British arms in the past will attend them in what must be regarded as the greatest war in the history of the world. Germany has been preparing for war for over seven years and organising her offensive forces, while Britain has indulged in hopes of appeasement of her enemy's ambition and failed to realise the need of adequate defence against aggression. Reverses of fortune are bound to occur

been deprived of their independence and which must, therefore, be necessarily disaffected, can hold together for any considerable length of time, notwithstanding the fact that they have been disarmed. Some people point to the instance of a country like India having been held by Britain for such a length of time. There is no real analogy between the case of India under British rule and the case of Europe under Nazi rule. The ruthless oppression, tyranny and persecution to which the conquered countries have been subjected under Nazi rule forbid the drawing of any parallel with India. But even in India the desire for political freedom has been awakened and is growing to an extent which calls for a decided change in the angle of vision of the British Government which it would be unwise for Britain to ignore or make light of. We may, therefore, be confident that whatever may be the length of the war or the tribulations which it entails upon the British Commonwealth, it is bound to end in a victory for the Allies. The success so far achieved by Hitler is due to the longer start he had in making preparations for the war and the fact that Britain was caught napping before she realised the imminence of the world conflict. While Hitler is prepared to hurl millions of Germans and the population of the subjugated countries into the war, Britain has not yet fully realised her deficiency in man-power and the need for supplementing it by a wise and generous policy towards the Indian Empire, a policy which would have the effect of rousing the enthusiasm of the people of India and securing the heartiest co-operation with Britain in the prosecution of the war. The British Government

have no doubt repeated their promises of the grant, subject to certain conditions precedent, of Dominion Status, after the conclusion of the war, but unfortunately the reiteration of these promises has failed to inspire the people with faith in their sincerity. We are often told by responsible high officials that there is no justification for this distrust in the promises or intentions of the Government. I have been, perhaps more inclined than many of my countrymen to give credit to the British Government for the sincerity of their promises. But having regard to the differential treatment accorded to the self-governing dominions even during the course of this war and the unwillingness to concede the reasonable demands of the recent all-party conferences presided over by our distinguished countryman Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru, I feel considerably shaken in my faith, and I am convinced that delay in responding to these demands is not merely a source of disappointment and irritation to the people of India, but is also opposed to the best interests of Britain herself, and may prolong the war and postpone the destruction of Hitlerism. To those who consider our want of faith in British promises not justified, I would point to the unwillingness of the British Government to embark upon a vigorous policy of industrialisation of India which would help her to start new industries like ship-building and the manufacture of automobiles and aircraft for which the war affords a suitable opportunity, and enable her to achieve self-sufficiency. Specious explanations have been offered for this policy and it has been alleged that the encouragement of these new industries will have the effect of withdrawing

skilled workers from the more urgent task of manufacturing munitions and supplies for the war. I have not come across any Indian who believes in the validity of these explanations. On the other hand, there are many who think that the reluctance of England is due to the fear of economic competition after the war and the loss of the Indian market and to a distrust of people who do not belong to the same race as themselves. The policy of England in the past has not been actuated by a whole-hearted desire to promote the industrial advancement of India. Hitler has openly stated that the policy of the Nordic and other European races must be to use the people of other races and continents for the production of raw materials and keep the manufacturing industries for themselves. Though this aim has not been avowed by Britain, it is said, not without justice, that she had practically followed a similar policy in India. I have referred to the differential treatment accorded to the self-governing dominions. We have only to look at the enormous facilities and encouragement given to Australia in the building of a huge shipping industry and for the training of an adequate air force. It was stated in September, 1940, that it was proposed to expand the air force in Australia so as to provide at least 8,000 officers and men and that nine large training schools were being established under the Empire Training Scheme. In the same month it was announced by the Minister of Defence in New Zealand that her maximum yearly contribution under the Empire Training Scheme would reach 8,000 pilots, gunners and observers and that they would be sent to Canada and Britain for training. It was also announced

in the same month by the Australian Prime Minister that 50 naval vessels were to be built in Australia to defend shipping from submarines, aircraft and mines, that ships to be completed by the end of 1941 would be manned by Australians and that seven shipyards were now engaged on naval construction, to be reinforced by others for new work.

In spite of what I have said above, we may assume the victory of the Allies and proceed to consider some of the post-war problems. People in every country have been talking about the problems of peace and the reconstruction of a new order in the world. The first question that confronts us is the treatment of the enemy countries. Almost all people are agreed that Hitlerism must be destroyed and prevented from raising its head again. Many people attribute the present war to the injustice of the Treaty of Versailles and the resentment of the German people at the humiliation, hardship and sufferings inflicted on them by this treaty; and there are those who think that all Germans are not Nazis, and that we must bear this distinction in mind in our treatment of Germany. How far the policy of Hitler commands the approval of Germans generally may be open to speculation. That a war of the kind Germany has been waging implies the solid backing of the German nation would not be an unfair inference. But this does not necessarily involve the position that all the outrages of Hitler upon humanity commend themselves to the hearts of the majority of the German people. Their attitude may be partly due to acquiescence in the organised might of the dictator and partly to a feeling of satisfaction

that the indignities and hardships of the Treaty of Versailles have been avenged. Difficult as it may be to settle this psychological question, and notwithstanding the black record of Germany, as Sir Robert Vansittart calls it, we must hesitate to believe that the people of a civilised country like Germany who have distinguished themselves in the domains of science and art have permanently lost all the finer and nobler instincts of humanity. Assuming that it is possible to exculpate the majority of the German people from the crimes of Hitler and his gang against humanity, is it possible to lead back Germany to the path of peace, non-aggression and humanity? The decision of these difficult questions must be left to the wisdom of the statesmen who will be charged with the duty of drawing up the terms of peace after the war.

Whether her colonies should be restored to Germany is one of the questions which will necessarily have to be tackled. It has often been stated by English politicians and the English press that the raw materials which can be produced in the colonies will be equally available to all the other powers and countries. Supposing that they can be so made available, would England be prepared to set an example by applying the policy to her own colonies and transfer them to the control of some benevolent neutral power, like Switzerland without ambitious designs trusting to the open door policy and the doctrine of free trade?

There are other problems of a more important, but of less material, character, connected with the treatment of backward races and peoples. The protection and development of these peoples should

be the first consideration in dealing with the problems of colonies. As a matter of fact, exploitation, or even extermination in former times, has been the policy of all European peoples, sometimes openly followed but more often under the hypocritical mask of guardianship or trusteeship.

Another question which will sooner or later be raised under the plea of *lebensraum* is the demand for a more equitable distribution of the open spaces of sparsely peopled continents, now held mostly by people of British stock. For the purpose of strengthening their claims to re-distribution of territories, the aggressive powers of the world have adopted a policy of subsidising the growth of population in their own countries. In view of the density and volume of population in India, would England be prepared to support the claim of India and assign German East Africa to India to provide an outlet for her surplus population? The same question may be asked with reference to sparsely peopled regions of Australia. The policy of a White Australia has been openly followed by that dominion, and we may be certain that Field-Marshal Smuts will press at the peace conference for the transfer of the Italian and German possessions in Africa to the South African Union and that he will also press for the incorporation in the Union of the vast territories comprised in Rhodesia, Bechuanaland and adjoining territories. We may be sure that the territorial aspirations of the South African Union will be treated with the fullest measure of sympathy, while any claim on behalf of India for an outlet for her population in Kenya and German

East Africa will be ignored, notwithstanding the services rendered by India in the war. The policy of grabbing practically the whole of Africa (except perhaps the hottest parts of equatorial Africa) and reserving it for the white races is likely to prevail with the nations who will take part in the peace negotiations. The theory of trusteeship for the backward races will be claimed as the privilege of the white races. Another theory which will be put forward is that the vast resources of the African continent have to be developed fully in the interests of the world at large and that the task can be undertaken and efficiently discharged only by the white races.

The next question which I wish to consider is whether it will be possible to secure the permanent peace of the world and, if so, by what means. Those who are acquainted with the history of the League of Nations and the way in which the hopes of those who pinned their faith to the League as a means of avoiding war by referring international disputes to arbitration have been shattered will be slow to give an affirmative answer. The real cause of the failure of the League is the reluctance of nations to make sacrifices for the benefit of humanity at large and to take arms against aggression. In February 1940 a discussion was initiated by Mr. H. G. Wells about a declaration of rights in the hope that if it was possible to arrive at unanimity with regard to the fundamental rights of men, it would bring about a clarification of the aims and objects of the war and help to bring about a world of peace. Mr. Wells himself stated that we were bound to go on fighting to put a stop to lawless

violence, and he put forward a number of propositions enunciating the fundamental rights of human beings. A number of eminent men took part in this discussion, but it has not led to any fruitful conclusions. When the *Hindu* invited a discussion in this country, I put certain questions with a view to elicit an answer from Mr. Wells and the other gentlemen who were taking part in the debate. I hope I may be allowed to quote a few passages from my letter. Among the questions to which I desired an answer were the following:-

(1) whether the declaration was intended to apply to the European countries and nations only or to Asia and Africa also.

(2) Whether it was intended to govern the relations of the white races with the brown, yellow and black races of the world.

(3) whether, if it was intended to bring about a new order in the world, it was intended to interfere with the internal affairs of other States like Bolshevik Russia, Nazi Germany or Fascist Italy.

(4) whether, if the object of Mr. Wells was to bring about international justice, peace and security, he contemplated a war against aggression, injustice or oppression by one nation against another in any and every part of the world, and an obligation upon all nations to fight aggression, as in the case of the conquest of Abyssinia by Italy, the invasion of China by Japan, of Albania by Italy, of Czechoslovakia and Poland by Germany, and of Finland by Russia.

(5) whether Mr. Wells was in favour of the economic liberty of less developed nations to develop their own economic resources in the same manner as England

and America have done, or whether he intended to impose any restrictions upon the economic development and self-sufficiency of the less developed nations in the real interests of maintaining the industrial lead secured by European nations but in the professed interests of an international economic organisation.

(6) whether any race was entitled to dominate or exploit another or exclude the immigration of other races, though civilised, into its own territory, however sparsely peopled it may be.

I stated my view that unless the above fundamental questions could be definitely answered, it was not possible to shut out the likelihood of conflicts between nations and races or talk of international justice. I have found no satisfactory answer to my questions from the gentlemen who took part in this debate. Mr. Wells himself seems to me to have concentrated his attention primarily on questions affecting the internal affairs of states and upon the rights of individuals rather than upon the rights of nations *inter se*. Apart from the rights of individual citizens within a state, the rights

and duties of states *inter se* are of greater importance in a discussion of the possibility of the diminution of international conflicts. Mr. Wells does not seem to me to have realised the importance of this distinction. A significant commentary upon the issues I have raised is furnished by the language of the Atlantic Charter framed by Mr. Winston Churchill and President Roosevelt, and the former's refusal to include India within the terms of the Charter.

The hope of establishing international peace and security is, in my opinion, doomed to disappointment. So long as human nature undergoes no radical transformation, those who wish to contrive measures for the avoidance or diminution of international conflicts must be regarded as engaged in a Sisyphean task.

The disarmament of the aggressive powers is a proposition more easily said than carried out. The self-denying spirit in which England refrained for a few years from adding to her naval strength has proved a source of weakness rather than a factor for world peace.

THE DICTATOR THROUGH THE AGES

BY HON. MR. JUSTICE B. J. WADIA

IT is well-nigh impossible to relate except in bare outline the story of the tyrannies which have arisen in the world at various times. There have been typical examples both in ancient and modern times. Acting under different circumstances, they have not all had the same characteristics; and yet it is strange how so many of them have exhibited in remarkable fashion most of the characteristic symptoms of the genus. They called them "tyrants"

at one time and "despots" at another; a not altogether different variety is now known as "dictators". Every one of them was the one strong man of his time. Hated, feared and disliked, there has nevertheless been a sort of romantic glamour about these "strong" men and their government. The chief outbreaks of dictatorship have occurred in early Greece, at the downfall of the Roman Republic, in the time of the Italian Renaissance,

and under the first Napoleon. These were in the vanguard. South America, Russia, Italy, Turkey and Germany bring up the rear. There were dictators in England too, Tudor England; but it was not of the foreign variety which looms large in the events through which history is now passing. From the accession of Henry VIII down to the Restoration England was governed by a succession of dictators. Henry VIII, Elizabeth and Oliver Cromwell seemed cut out for the job. Henry and Elizabeth both extended firm hands over an adolescent England, still in the throes of rebirth, yet rapidly gaining in international renown. But by the time the Stuarts came into power, England was growing weary of despotism. Her innate sense of liberty was reasserting itself, and after Oliver's stern rule was over, the Restoration set England again on the road to democracy which she has been treading ever since. But for the misfortunes of the Stuarts English history might have taken a different turn.

Six hundred years before the Christian era, the tyrant's voice was first raised in several Greek city-states; Argos, Athens, Syracuse, Corinth, and Sicyon are famous in Greek history. Our information about them and their "strong" men is scanty; and when history is unable to do justice to facts, it invariably calls in the aid of legend. Like most successful men they had their admirers. They enlisted religion in their service, more for their own security than for its glory. Some of them were even acclaimed wise and learned men which they really were not. Solomon is not the only king who stopped short at nothing to chastise his own people, and yet earned a high place among the sons of almost superhuman

wisdom. Various reasons are ascribed for the rise of the one "strong" man who raises himself from time to time above the heads of the rest. His ability is seldom in dispute; he is often popular with the masses; and he can sometimes aim even at heights of national glory. But his system of government has always been hateful. Plato denounced him, and Cicero wrote that "no animal more hateful than the tyrant could even be conceived". The old Romans had a horror of despotism. They waxed indignant against Caesar, because despite his genius they believed that he was playing the tyrant's role. For years he ruled the western world, king in all but name; yet they smote him to the earth because they said they hated tyranny. Rome had her dictators, but the Roman dictator was a constitutional officer, legally appointed to meet some great emergency. His office was not permanent, until Sulla in the first century B.C. got himself appointed for an indefinite period. When the emergency was past, he abdicated and returned to the rank of an ordinary citizen. Cincinnatus went back to his plough after a dictatorship of a day and night. A "Dictator" in early Roman history meant almost the opposite of what it means today. The Roman dictator laid down his power as soon as the people wished it; not so the others. The latter recall to mind the fable of the horse and the stag. The horse wishing to overcome the stag allowed the man to mount him. The stag was overcome, but the man has been on horseback ever since.

Troubled waters have always been the natural fishing ground of the early tyrants, and of the modern dictators as well. The first great world war broke out when

Europe was promised the dawn of peace. Millions of men died, moral values were destroyed, religion was cast aside, and anarchy came into places when it had not been heard of before. When the fearful show was over, the nations were afraid of liberty; and in the chaos and confusion that followed they cried for leaders who could have all the power, if the people could only have their bread and security. In that unhappy hour the modern dictator was born. Dictatorships follow revolutions. Violence is their path, not individual violence, but the terrifying violence of an infuriated herd. With nothing to lose and the chance of something to gain, they have welcomed revolution, even if it meant anarchy, as the stepping-stone to power. To play upon men's discontent, to pass as a friend of the poor against the rich, and to promise a golden age to one's followers, is the old game. War, which can hardly be counted among the higher human manifestations, keeps up the delusion. It was Napoleon who said that a great reputation was nothing but a big noise, and revolutions make the biggest noise. But with all his power the old tyrant could not escape from the prison-house of constant terror. Every moment to him was an age of nameless fear. Rather than trust himself to a barber Dionysius of Syracuse used to singe his own hair with a burning of coal. His empire was built up at the cost of immense human agony, and contemporaries abhorred him as a scourge.

Now and again a despot has risen above his despotism; but soon the offending Adam in him returned to the task with redoubled energy. There is a certain amount of kinship between the old and the new despots; even the difference of time and place leaves them the same in

all essentials. Everywhere there is a proud and dominant upper class, with the usual virtues and vices which pride and dominance carry with them. Everywhere the poor are in deadly conflict with the rich. Then there comes a time when there is a national emergency, or one is invented if it does not exist. The people, mad with fear, are willing to believe everything. Next we get the man of strong determination who poses as the one man who can save the State, and men listen to him with the same over-charged feelings with which the Jacobins listened to Robespierre when he accused Danton as the suborned agent of Pitt. Having thus gained authority with a show of legality, the next step is "to lop off the tallest poppy-heads", and to get possible rivals and dangerous friends out of the way. In this way the ancient tyrant acted in his time. Thus the Italian tyrants acted in the later days of the Renaissance, though poets, architects, scholars, and painters contributed to the glory under the clock of which great horrors were perpetrated. Thus also the modern dictators work, maintaining power by the centralising weapons of modern science. They are only leaders of the parties of force. Italy initiated this policy and then Germany outstripped Italy. More and more German interference will have its say in the every-day sphere of Italian life. More and more it will be hated. Will the Italian leader in his heart hate it less?

One other common feature of the tyrants is to hate public opinion or rather to create public opinion of a kind and no other. Napoleon had no consideration for public opinion. "You are one of those who sigh at heart for the

freedom of the press, for freedom of speech, and an almighty public opinion", he once said. And laying his hand on the hilt of his sword, he continued, "while this hangs at my side—and long may it hang there yet!—you shall not have any one of those liberties you sigh for". Yet when he was a prisoner on the lonely rock in the Atlantic, with nothing to distract him but the spectacle of nature he resented the treatment given to him, and thought that public opinion in England would not be slow to avenge him. All the modern Dictators seem to have taken him as their model. They have not troubled much about the Greek and Sicilian tyrants, but they have all had Napoleon in view. His campaigns have been studied as patterns of the art of war. How he founded the house of the Bonaparte by bayonets on the 18th Brumaire, how he gained his power, how he maintained it, and in the end lost it: make up a story in which the present and would-be Dictators might read at once an example and a warning. Really he has no parallel in history for an energy which no other human frame could possess. He was right when he said that he was not a man but an Event.

Once a demi-god, there came a time when in a hollow voice he told his secretary, "a cobbler is happier than I am; at least he has his wife and children beside him." And when the Austrian Emperor on the advice of his Chancellor refused to let him have his son near him in his remaining days, he drew himself up and clenched his fists in impotent rage. It is this human touch which softens the verdict of history. To the

last there remained something imperial about him. But religion does not count for much with these strong men. In Marlowe's "Jew of Malta" it is Machiavelli who thus speaks in the Prologue:

I count religion but a childish toy.
And hold there is no sin but ignorance.

Perhaps the most sinister thing in the modern world is the calculation that spiritual resistance everywhere has been rendered impotent by the mechanics of modern conquest.

Our present day autocracies have different ideologies. Communism relates happiness to wealth, Fascism to national glory, and Nazism to racial superiority. It is a new myth that Europeans are higher than other men, that Germans are higher than other Europeans, and that the lowest of all are the Jews. The State is the idol. No one is master of himself. The State thinks for him and acts for him. All is decided for him and not by him, and it is a crime to resist. In republican Rome none was for a party, all were for the State; now the State is the only party, and the State is for all, acting in one way only. Every one of the Dictators repudiates both individual freedom and the tradition of western civilization which makes the State the servant and not the master of the individual. Every one of them rules by superlative ability coupled with ruthlessness and craft. The Dictator of Paraguay in the beginning of the last century even attracted the notice of Carlyle as one of his Heroes or strong men. The Dictator alone represents the popular will, and power is a consuming lust. He must be admired, followed and obeyed, though millions must be sacrificed because he has determined their death.

If people's thoughts become troublesome, the only way is to send the thinkers to prison. If a man is "half-breed" or a "non-Aryan," he must either go into exile or enter the concentration camp. No wonder that even the calm and clear-sighted man degenerates into a self-willer and haughty demi-god. For some time the feelings of the people are full of enthusiasm for the leader, but uneasiness subsists, ready to show itself at the favourable opportunity, in portentous form. A flattering lady once told Alexander, the First, of Russia that if all autocrats were like him, there would be no desire for democracy in the world. Alexander replied, "even if I were what you think me, I should be but a happy accident;" and so he was. History records how in Julius Caesar there was impatience of contradiction, an overweening pride, and a belief that he alone was the man of destiny. In lesser men some of the same characteristics have appeared from time to time.

The fate of civilization is once more being settled on the battlefield. And the battle is once more between the old ideals and the new, between a conception of the world as the chessboard of the war-lords and a conception in which men can live in society as free, virtuous and rational individuals. Democracy—blessed word, more "blessed than Mesopotamia"—is still not a worn-out, decadent creed. It does not believe in the superman. But it can no longer live in the old, careless, oblivious ignorance of the events on which its existence ultimately depends. Many serious-minded people, more serious

than mere wishful thinkers, are prompted to ask whether the democratic systems cannot learn some useful lessons from those which are avowedly anti-democratic. No dictum is more famous than that of President Wilson.—"We must make the world safe for democracy;" but none has been more stultified by events. Democracy can at times degenerate into mass tyranny, and it is not everything good that has come from political freedom. The last century hoped it would, but no magic genie emerged from the ballot-box. It is strange how mankind gets itself amused by words and phrases. Rousseau's famous slogan—Man was born free and is everywhere in chains—is a half-truth. Yet it sent thousands to the guillotine, and ultimately gave to the great Corsican the revolutionary armies with which he started on his career of world-conquest. It was evidently reserved for the false prophets of this century to make concrete another slogan, the witches' slogan—"Fair is foul and foul is fair". When the witches have vanished, and the atmosphere is clear again, let us hope that our men of destiny will not leave one more seed-bed of hate and despair in the heart of western civilization. We have had enough talk about the hope of "a better world after the war," what we have not had is a candid examination of the foundations of such a hope. It will certainly be necessary when the time comes to make a sustained and united effort to re-think the fundamental ideas of human society. But we should be wrong to close upon a note of gloom.

ASRAMAS, PAST AND PRESENT

BY

DR. SIR C. P. RAMASWAMI AIYER, K.C.S.I.

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Three earnest and far-sighted Christian thinkers have collaborated to produce this very valuable brochure* which is dedicated to the memory of a true lover of Indian culture and life, C. F. Andrews, who sought to reconcile East and West in many ways.

The present times call for an examination of the fundamentals of conduct and ethical and religious doctrine and practice. Many accepted beliefs are crumbling. The ideals evolved by the Western races during the machine age are seen to be destructive of much that is valuable in the heritage of humanity. A re-assessment of the purpose and objective of our existence is called for and this book is one of the symptoms of the new outlook. Fittingly, it is sponsored in India and, after all, it cannot be gainsaid that Jesus Christ was an Asiatic like most of the other great teachers of humanity, the authors of the Upanishads and the Darsanas and the Gita, Buddha, Mahavira, Zoroaster, Muhammad, Sankara, Ramanuja and Chaitanya.

It is both a challenge and an appeal—a challenge to the time-worn missionary methods coupled with the realisation that the Christian life would best fulfil itself by release from western forms of missionary organisation and from the spiritual stalemate which is admitted to have arisen to-day. In the language of the authors, the churches, as they are, are not likely to

be helpful. They are teaching and devotional agencies, and what is now wanted is a new form, namely, life-agencies. The appeal is in favour of a non-sectarian, non-authoritarian and non-sacerdotal rebuilding of old forms. One of the most interesting portions of this treatise comprises descriptions of various Asramas including the Christava Kula Asrama at Tirupattur which is not connected with any church, and in its outer aspect, involves an adaptation of South Indian temple models and other details suggesting an Indian atmosphere. It relies on the practice of Ahimsa, vegetarianism, the use of khaddar, manual labour and hospitality along with Bible study and social and medical service. There is also a description furnished to us of a Christian community near Coimbatore in which the family is given its due place in the shape of the Vanaprastha system; and it will be noticed that the Christava Sishya Sangha in that place is mainly intended for the members of the orthodox Syrian Church of Travancore. Other experiments, two or three of which are in Travancore and some outside, are also delineated.

What is the motive force behind this movement? The answer to this question is sought to be furnished by the scholarly authors who, beginning with a description of the Vaikhanasas in the Rigveda, deal with the reaction in Vedic and post-Vedic times against ritual as such, and the adoption by laymen of Tapas as an alternative to Yagna. Very lovingly and

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minutely the types of Asramas contained in the Ramayana and the Mahabharata including the hermitages of Agastya and Bharadwaja and Chitrakuta are described and we have delightful pictures of Asrama life as set out in Kalidasa's "Sakuntala". Side by side with this may be read the story of Buddhist institutions as pictured by Aswagosha in the "Buddhacharita" including the hermitage of Bhṛigu. Very acutely the connection between the search after Brahman and the close contact with Nature in the forests is detailed and the speculations of the Upanishads and the contributions of Kshatriyas as well as Brahmins in this quest are put before us. It is pointed out that amongst the Buddhists and Jainas as well as amongst the Hindus the new technique gained rapid currency with the result that to all men of all ranks and sects who had finished with their business in life, the call of the forest came. Satyakama Jabala who could not name his father was instructed in this knowledge as was Raikva, a cart-man and a Sudra. As the authors rightly point out, the life of the Asramas depended on a conception of religion not merely as belief but as realisation along with which there was the insistence on a harmonious and natural life.

The authors then proceed to deal with the Asrama system by way of contrast and comparison with Varna or caste and there are some controversial passages in relation to this matter. All kinds and grades of Brahmacharya and Vanaprastha Asramas are described along with the dress, personal appearance and food of those who betook themselves to these Asramas.

Chapter VII dealing with Asramas in Indian history is extraordinarily interesting and ends with the celebrated description of the Buddhist Asrama from "Harsha Charita" from which one cannot forbear to quote.

Then in the middle of trees while he was yet at a distance, the holy man's presence was suddenly announced by the king's seeing Buddhists from various provinces in different situations perched on the pillars or seated on the rocks or dwelling in the bowers of creepers or lying in the thickets or in the shadow of branches or squatting on the roots of trees, devotees dead to all passion, Jainas in white robes, white mendicants, followers of Kapila, Jainas, Lokayatikas, followers of Kanada, followers of Upanishads, believers in God as a creator, assayers of metals, students of legal institutes, students of Puranas, adepts in sacrifices requiring seven ministering priests, adepts in grammar, followers of Pancharata and others besides, all diligently following their tenants, pondering, urging objections, raising doubts, resolving them, giving etymologies, disputing, studying and explaining and all gathered here as his disciples.

This passage evidences the catholicity and tolerance and the common and resolute search after truth by those who, differing in everything else, were united in ultimate aim and were organised by a great preceptor, Divakara Mitra.

The authors, with great daring, attribute the passing away of Asrama and the Asrama Dharma to the rise of the temples and the technique of Bhakti. Dealing with the contribution of the Asrama idea to Hindu culture, they point out that the persons who came to the forests should have undergone two disciplines, namely, that of the student acquiring knowledge and of the Grihasta discharging duties to society. Thereafter without completely breaking all the links with Grihasta life, the children being left behind, the man and the wife made a new family not of blood but of spirit. In the language of the book, these looked at life with a sense of detachment

not usual for a Grihasta and with a comprehension and warmth not expected of a Sanyasi. No wonder then that these cottages in the forests became vital centres from which energising life and light constantly flowed. The Asramas are also viewed as the creators of religious literature as in the case of Valmiki, Veda Vyasa, Badarayana and Kautilya and as the progenitors of the Gurukula; and finally, in modern days, by way of renaissance as agencies for national reconstruction as in the Arya Samaj institutions, in Santiniketan, in Sabarmati and the Aurabinda Ghosh Asram and in other similar widely separated centres.

The growth of Asramas amongst Indian Christians as an item in the process of indigenisation of Christianity in India is one of the main themes of the book and in commending those Asramas that have been started and in pleading for the revival of the institution, the book lays considerable emphasis on the absence therein of extraordinary forms and authority, and the non-traditional, non-ritualistic and non-institutional character of these organisations. A unified and harmonious endeavour which was nevertheless integrated and not wholly divorced from secular activity while being based on sustained and intense spiritual effort, are the elements of the Vanaprastha. To such a place came Rama who was sent to the Asrama of Valmiki to learn kingly polity and archery. Kings like Harsha consulted Vanaprasthas on State policy. As the authors point out, in the West the monasteries, probably also originating in forests, had some of the features of Asramas but their outlook on life was opposed to the Asramas, as they held that life was evil and fled from it

whereas the Vanaprasthas included men who had held high secular positions in life but adopted a simple existence which was yet not wholly away from the outer world. Indeed the typical Vanaprastha was, in the felicitous language of the authors, an extension of the family, a spiritual incursion by the middle-aged. In short, life in detachment was the ideal as well as the motive power.

In a passage which is worth careful attention, the authors assess the value of Vanaprastha in these words:-

The family can be so purified as to make it a stepping stone to wider social groups. The grey haired husband and wife who have passed through the romance of wedded love and have borne the grave responsibilities of fatherhood and motherhood, may enter into a new matrimony where love matured in the heat of life, radiates a new aroma and its embodiment in the Vanaprastha stage. Such an experiment is of incalculable worth to society.

Vanaprastha Dharma has made its signal contribution in insisting that life is a process of ripening and that man and woman should pass through each stage in order to develop naturally. The family is not looked down upon as the ascetic does nor is carnal love regarded a sin. Far from doing this, grihasta is regarded as essential for progress into Vanaprastha.

The only fault that one can find in this part of the book is the imperfect realisation of the value of caste at the time of its foundation and for the purpose for which it was intended as an element of stability and an anti-revolutionary urge. On the other hand, the book furnishes a needed corrective to those who picture the Asrama system in Hindu life as products of selfish tendencies. As the authors say:

There soon comes a time in the evolution of society when man discovers his individuality and longs to develop its many possibilities. To live the inner life becomes a duty not less important and compelling than the outer.

Chapter XV of the book deals with the Grihastasrama and is a bit of special

pleading extolling the Dravidian or the Tamil system as portrayed in the Kural which is sought to be contrasted with the Aryan ideal which is regarded as anti-feminine in essence. While one can wholly give his assent to the thesis that the house-wife occupies in Tamil literature a unique and specially high place, it cannot be forgotten that from the Vedic times down to the Ramayana and even later on, the beauty of the Grihas-tasrama is described as consisting in the performance of secular duties and religious ceremonies and sacrifices in company with the Dharma Pathni or Sahadharma-charini.

Having dealt, in passing, with the late emergence of monasticism in India and the contributions of the Buddhist and Jaina monks and nuns to life and literature especially in the South, the authors end up with a retrospect and prospect describing the social ideal of Varnasrama Dharma re-emphasising the contrast between Varna and Asrama and stressing the plea that there is room in the society of today for the permanent and continued functioning of men and women who having the experience of Grihashtasrama and none of its vested and personal interests, would view social problems in a detached spirit of objectivity mellowed by the influence of religion on lives exclusively devoted to it. The authors hold that both to the Christian and to the Hindu this is a desideratum.

The main purpose of the book is to enlarge on the theme that it is not

necessary to hold that religions struggle for existence and that the fittest survive. It is realised that spiritual minds in India have always felt that the various dreams and systems of revelation are intended to be summed up and integrated. The authors hold that Hinduism and Christianity have developed two separate tendencies which need to be unified for the fulness of life. Not many will dissent from them when they preach that Hinduism means and connotes a transformation of life, religious development being regarded as a growth of personality, whereas the religion of the Jews and the Christians with their ethical emphasis have laid special importance on social conduct, and as is well said, attention in Christianity is given to the bonds and contracts between men in society, that is, to religious relations rather than to religious resources. Hinduism, it is added, is strong in religious personality and is weak in organisational embodiment whereas Christianity is pre-occupied with the problems of religious life as exhibited in social relations and institutions.

At a time when all over the world outer and inner crises are developing, it is a matter for sincere satisfaction that thoughtful men, Christian and Hindu, are devoting their attention to the things that unite rather than to the things that divide. As a contribution to a possible synthesis of Indian life, with special reference to Christian outlook and practice this book is valuable and timely and is worth the most careful study and appreciation.

BRITAIN FINDS HERSELF

BY SIR FREDERICK JAMES, Kt., M.L.A.

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WHAT a wonderful transformation in the international situation can be recorded as we approach the end of 1941! It is never easy during war time to preserve a sense of proportion, and this war has moved with such amazing rapidity that only those with stubborn and rock-like faith have remained free from fear or doubt or excess of hope or despair. Just think of all that has happened in the period from the Munich Agreement to the defence of Moscow, from the evacuation of Dunkirk to the occupation of Damascus, from the action at Dakar to the battle of Mataban!

In the summer of 1940, Britain suddenly, as a flash, found herself alone. It often happens in the lives of both individuals and nations that the time of greatest danger is the time of greatest awakening. When Britain in 1940 was either deprived of or deserted by her friends and allies, when no one in the world had faith in her ability to save herself from defeat, when she faced the imminent danger of invasion, when her young airmen seemed to be her only protection from disaster—then she awoke and showed herself the strong, powerful, courageous, dauntless nation that she is.

It is a curious fact that nations, like men, reap what they sow. For nearly twenty years before the war, the people of Britain were indolent, pacifist, and self-satisfied. They believed in peace at almost any price. They supported the League of Nations, even after that great experiment had failed, blind to the dangers inherent in the break-down of

collective security. They chose as their Prime Minister a man who represented the easy going, the intellectually lazy, and the spiritually satisfied. "Peace in our time, Oh Lord" was the theme of his most outstanding utterance in the House of Commons. And how the members, with one exception, applauded him. That one exception now the Prime Minister of the United Kingdom and the acknowledged War Leader of the Commonwealth and her allies.

And now this generation is suffering for those years of sloth and blindness, for it is an inescapable law of nature that justice eventually prevails, though it may be visited upon the children's children.

Fortunately there is another eternal principle which governs the human race, and that is the principle of redemption. Men may learn from their mistakes, and when atonement has been done, may rise from those mistakes to still greater heights. Britain has learnt during the long course of her history from past mistakes. Her first Empire was severed from her, because a great principle of human government was ignored. She made war against the Boers and then gave them freedom and dominion-hood within ten years of their utter defeat. For many years she was blind to the demand of Ireland for self-determination, but when her eyes were opened she was generous to the last degree, so generous that she laid upon herself a grievous and unjust burden which she is bearing today.

After the last Great War, Britain forfeited her position in the world largely because she was so eager for peace and security that she threw away their props. She put her

trust in a new world institution which had no sanction behind it. Gradually she fell, while the dictator nations arose, in the esteem of men. Even after Munich, where she obtained a breathing space, she continued to be strangely blind to realities, and it was not until the German armies reached the Channel ports that she shook herself awake. Britain has wonderful resources of greatness, though sometimes she discovers them only in the last resort. But today she has found herself, and within her fortress island a new community is being born, a community which has found its comradeship in the fiery ordeal of war; a community which is learning that neither wealth nor power, neither comfort nor security, neither class nor party is an end in itself.

Those who have lately been in Britain tell of a strange happiness that fills the people of that island. They suffer discomfort; they are restricted in food, travel, and clothing; they have been bombed by day and by night; they are living in the shadow of a desperate and dangerous invasion; and yet they are happy! Why?

Is it not because these people have found themselves? They know now that the things which they treasured in the past have no enduring value; they know now that institutions which they thought important are of no account; they know now that the acid test of action, whether State or individual, is not "Does it pay?", but "Will it make a better world?"

In other words, Britain has redeemed herself and is now redeeming the world. Men and women who are engaged in that high endeavour cannot but be happy and confident.

Who can doubt in the future this community must continue on the same comradely basis? It must, for it has great tasks to perform after Europe is freed from the bondage of Nazi and Fascist tyranny. One of these tasks concerns India. No one who reads the signs of the times can doubt that the Britain of the future will not cling to power or domination, but will do what she can to establish in other communities that freedom which she has re-discovered for herself.

Lately, there has been a new and confident tone in the incomparable speeches of the British Prime Minister. He has sensed the coming triumph from afar. There are, indeed, solid grounds for faith in victory. But it is not in production or supplies alone; it is not in the supremacy in the air, or in domination at sea; it is not in those great reserves of man-power, ready to attack when the time comes, but now compressed like a giant spring waiting for release. All these afford substantial reason for encouragement. But the greatest reason of all is the discovery by the people of Britain that through sacrifice and suffering they have found themselves, and that, having discarded past mistakes and follies, they now stand upright, confident in their strength, and sure of victory.

This is an encouraging note for the New Year that will shortly dawn. If I were a German, the future would trouble me; if I were a Nazi, it would terrify me; but I am British and am neither troubled nor afraid. Though the future holds for me and my people perils and damages yet unknown, it also holds the certainty of victory and the promise of freedom.

Meaning and Value of Religious Experience

BY DR. A. J. APPASAMY, M.A. (Harvard), D.PHIL. (Oxon.)

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RELIGIOUS experience is the experience which men have of God. A man says: 'God is real to me. I have felt Him in the depths of my heart.' That is religious experience. Another man says: 'I have prayed on several occasions and God has answered my prayers.' That is religious experience. A third man says: 'I have experienced divine peace. Though the circumstances of my life have been most difficult, I have been garrisoned by an inner serenity.' That is religious experience. Yet another man says: 'I have realized the truth of "*Tat Tam Asi*" (Thou art that). *Brahman* alone is real and I am one with it.' That is an instance of religious experience.

Religious experience is experience attained sometimes in moments of ecstasy and vision and often in normal ways. There are lofty peaks in religious experience—hours of exaltation when the soul reaches a new knowledge and is filled with supernatural energy. The saints of the world have spoken of such vivid flashes of spiritual knowledge which have occurred to them. On the way to Damascus, St. Paul had a vision of Jesus which entirely transformed his life. Under the Bo-tree, Buddha attained an illumination which has had a profound effect on the whole history of mankind. Even those who are not saints have spoken of moments of illumination when a new energy entered their life. But religious experience does not refer only to such extraordinary moments of spiritual insight and power. There are many people who

cannot point to any special moment in their life when they realized God, or when they began leading a different kind of life. And yet religion is a vital reality with them. From day to day they are moved by some of the highest ideals of religion. There are no spiritual crises in their life to which they can refer and yet they have had religious experience in a genuine sense.

It may be said that there is no such thing as first-hand religious experience but that all religious experience is more or less mediated by tradition. A Christian says: 'I believe in God.' This belief of his may be held to be merely a part of the tradition on which he has been brought up. He was taught this truth by his parents. He learnt it in the Sunday School. He heard it frequently in the Church which he attended. He imbibed it in the books which he read. While it is perfectly true that the belief in God is a part of the Christian tradition and that most Christians hold it because it is such a part, we must remember that originally it emerged in real first-hand experience of God. Great prophets and seers like Moses, David and Isaiah in moments of genuine religious experience realised the profound truth of the existence of God. They were able by the magic of their personality to make this truth known to others who accepted it and made it a part of their working belief. Then it was passed on to successive generations and became a part of the Christian tradition. Thus the original impulse to believe in the truth came in religious experience. Again, while the truth of the

existence of God is a part of the tradition on which Christians are brought up, it becomes a living reality only through religious experience. If a man has no religious experience, the statement: 'I believe in God,' tends to be a cold, intellectual proposition. It is only through religious experience this proposition becomes a vital belief, stirring the personality of the believer to his depths. Also, the practical consequences of this belief for life are made clear only in religious experience. It is through religious experience we understand what this belief really means to us. The bearings of this truth on conduct become evident in religious experience. Thus it is clear that religious experience is not a mere echo of traditional beliefs, but traditional beliefs come into existence through living religious experience and are vitalized constantly by it.

We normally tend to distinguish between ordinary experience and religious experience and to consider that somehow ordinary experience is more real than religious experience. A man says: 'I saw the sun rise this morning.' There may be certain exceptional circumstances in which this statement may not be true. If a man has a serious defect in his vision, we may well ask what he means by saying that he saw the sun rise that morning. Or if it was a stormy morning, the sky covered with clouds, we may wonder why the speaker made such a statement and whether it was due merely to a lapse of memory or whether it was due to an intentional desire to pervert the truth. But under normal circumstances we would accept the statement as true. We would consider his having seen the sun rise that morning as a most likely event. But if a man says: 'I saw God this

morning and He spoke to me,' we shall probably doubt at once the truth of his statement. We are likely to ask a great many questions about what he says: Is there a God? Does He speak to men? Is He likely to have spoken to this man? Is he good enough to receive a message from God? Is his experience a fancy or a fact? In other words, we somehow, especially in educated circles, tend to attach less weight to religious experience than to ordinary human experience. We are inclined to think that in a real sense ordinary experience is more authentic than religious experience.

We may now ask three questions about this distinction which we make between ordinary experience and religious experience:

- (1) Why do we make such a distinction at all between ordinary experience and religious experience?
- (2) Are we justified in saying that religious experience is not as valid as the normal experience of men?
- (3) If religious experience is as valid as all normal human experience, what are some of the consequences which follow for our thought?

I would suggest that we take up these questions one by one and consider them in some detail.

EXPERIENCE, ORDINARY AND RELIGIOUS

Perhaps the main reason why we draw a distinction between ordinary experience and religious experience is that ordinary experience is more or less unified whereas religious experience is greatly varied. The

Sun is the same to everybody. It is not light to some and darkness to others; it is light to everyone. It is not hot to some and cold to others; it radiates heat to everyone. It is not round to some and square to others; everyone sees it as a round object. In other words, all men have more or less the same idea of the Sun. But peoples' ideas about God are utterly varied. Some regard Him as a personal Being, full of the great qualities of goodness, truth, love and justice. Others regard such a conception of God as a degrading one. They believe that He is above all qualities and that He is an impersonal Being, utterly unconcerned about the affairs of men. Yet others regard Him as a fierce, jealous, exclusive Deity, demanding men's complete devotion and visiting severe penalties on those who do not give it to Him. Because of these wide varieties of religious experience, it comes to be regarded as less valuable than ordinary experience in which so many differences do not occur.

The wide varieties of religious experience can be explained by the transcendental character of God, the supreme object of religion. God is so exalted that men find it impossible to understand Him and so their ideas of Him differ so widely. The more complex the object of our knowledge, the more varied are our ideas of it. I spoke of our unified idea of the Sun. Yet this is only true in the low ranges of our knowledge. Astronomers who study the Sun in great detail have many different theories about it. While in the realm of sense-experience we are more or less agreed in our observations, our opinions are very different in higher realms such as the aesthetic or the moral. Take an aesthetic judgment like:

'I went to Kodaikanal and was impressed by the beauty of the hills there.' On this judgment there may not be unanimity of opinion. Many may question whether the Kodaikanal hills are as beautiful as the statement makes them out to be. Or take a moral judgment like: 'I met Rabindranath Tagore and was stirred to new endeavour by his dignity, his serenity, and his courage.' On such a judgment as this too, there may be considerable difference of opinion. People will not agree so readily to this as they do to some simple fact of sense-experience. They may consider that the estimate of the poet is not correct and that he does not possess the qualities so generously attributed to him. The point is that as we advance from simple sense-experience to more difficult realms such as the aesthetic, the moral and the spiritual, considerable differences of opinion emerge. For this reason aesthetic, moral, and spiritual experiences are not less authentic than sense-experiences.

VALIDITY OF RELIGIOUS EXPERIENCE

The second question we have to ask is: 'Are we justified in saying that religious experience is somehow less valuable than ordinary experience.' Our answer to this question is an emphatic negative. Religious experience is quite valid. This is clear from some of the characteristic marks of religious experience.

There is an assurance and certainty about religious experience. The man who has had a knowledge of God is absolutely sure about it. He does not hesitate in his belief. He is quite convinced that God has spoken to him and that he has heard the Divine Voice. All through the ages those to whom a belief in God is real are entirely confident

that God is and that they have had real dealings with Him.

Religious experience has another distinctive mark, namely, its permanence. The man who has passed through real religious experience is often influenced for the whole of his life. The practical consequence of vital religious experience is often of abiding significance. In some instances, it is true, religious experience is but fleeting in its character. This is because religious experience in such cases is not deep or solid. At its best religious experience is of abiding value. Once that distinguished Indian Christian, Sadhu Sundar Singh, was told: 'You often speak of the peace of God in your heart. Perhaps this is only imagination on your part.' To this he replied: 'If this peace were merely imagination on my part, how could it last so long? How do you explain the fact that this peace of God in my heart is not a transitory experience but abides with me ever since I was converted.'

Yet another mark of religious experience is its driving-power. The man who has religious experience is no longer what he was before. He leads a new kind of life. New ideals attract him. A new spirit animates him. Here in South India we have the instance of Manikkavachakar. He was a prime minister and lived a worldly life surrounded with all the pomp and splendour of an Indian Court. In the course of a journey he had a vision of Siva in the form of a Guru surrounded by his band of disciples. This proves to be a turning-point in his life. An entirely different spiritual outlook became his. His old worldly occupations ceased to interest him any longer. Devotion to Siva became the burning passion of his life. He spent all his time

in prayer and meditation to Siva and in composing fervent lyrics in Siva's praise. The driving-power of religion has always been one of its important features.

Because of these three great marks—its sense of certitude, its permanence, and its driving-power—we must acknowledge that religious experience is quite valid.

PRACTICAL CONSEQUENCES

The next question we have to ask is this: If religious experience is quite valid, what are some of the practical consequences which follow.

The first practical consequence is the need for a scientific study of religion. Ours is a scientific age. Science in all its various branches has made rapid and wonderful advances at the present day. These advances have been possible because the facts of life have been patiently collected and accurately studied. The botanist gathers all the facts about plant life, forms his theories about them and tests them carefully in all possible ways. The facts of religion should in the same way be studied scientifically. All the data should be examined and the conclusions formed in an impartial spirit. These conclusions must be tested and revised if necessary. I should like to give an illustration of what is meant by a scientific study of religious experience. A man is seriously ill. Prayers are offered by his friends and relations and he recovers. When we hear of such a case of healing, there are three attitudes which we can take up:

(1) We may say that the healing could not have been the result of prayer. God has nothing to do with the ills of the human body. A man recovers because his disease has been properly

diagnosed and he has been effectively treated. Prayer cannot help him in any way. This attitude is unscientific. It does not investigate the case at all but dismisses it without any examination. The notion formed on other grounds that the human body cannot be influenced by any spiritual agencies prejudices the student and he dismisses it without any scientific investigation.

(2) Another attitude towards the instance of recovery is to say that God does answer prayer and there is no further need to examine the facts of the case. This is also an unscientific attitude. In the interests of a theory already formed, we cease to investigate this particular case of recovery carefully.

(3) Or we may study patiently all the facts of the case. We may find out from what disease the patient suffered, what was the nature of the medical treatment which was given to him, what were the effects of the treatment when prayer was offered, what difference, if any, was noticed in the condition of the patient, who the first-hand witnesses were and when they observed the change in the condition of the patient, whether their judgment was reliable and so on. Then we come either to a positive or a negative conclusion and on the basis of a single instance maintain that spiritual healing is possible or not possible. We investigate with the same care all other cases of recovery after prayer and come to a conclusion. We also read up the subject and find out what other investigators in the field have arrived at. Our conclusion, whether positive or negative is then tested like any other scientific hypothesis.

It may be objected to this that a scientific study of religion is not really possible, as religion can only be understood by one with the religious instinct who has also had a measure of spiritual experience. A man who has no ear for music cannot be expected to say what he thinks of a music party. A man who has no religious sense is not capable of offering any judgment about religious facts and their significance. A student of Botany can observe the facts of plant life from the outside and formulate hypotheses, which he can verify. But a student of religion cannot do so. He must really enter into the spirit of religion and for this he must have had some spiritual experience himself. While all this is true, a student of religion must do his best to study it in a scientific spirit. He must have had some religious experience himself but he must try his utmost to see that it does not prejudice his mind. He must take a detached view of the facts of the religious life. He must not let his bias warp his judgment. Perhaps this is asking too much of human nature but the effort must be made. The scientific student of religion, while himself entering into the spirit of religion, must investigate all the relevant facts and come to his own independent conclusion about them, without letting his natural interests and prejudices influence his view.

A further objection may be raised to such a scientific study of religion. It may be said that the starting-point of the religious enquiry should be God and not man. The supreme object of the spiritual quest is God. His knowledge, love and glory are of the utmost importance and we do well to begin with

them. It is only when God is thus regarded as the starting-point of spiritual enquiry that religion attains its dignity and real place in life. By beginning our study with the religious experience of men with their sins and weaknesses, we do injustice to the genuine value of religion. All this is true in a sense. In this scientific age, we cannot investigate God as we study any other fact of human life. God in Himself is above all our methods of study and scientific investigation. But His influence in human life is well within the domain of scientific investigation. The facts of human experience in the realm of religion are alone capable of the careful approach with which modern science has made us familiar.

By studying religious experience in a scientific way it may be said that we deprive religion of its warmth and fervour. Philosophical reflection does, indeed, tend to divert religion of some of its enthusiasm. This is no doubt a loss. But what is lost in this way is gained in the stability and firmness of a religion grounded in reason. Religious experience established on rational ground is more trustworthy than religious experience which is based on emotional excitement alone.

I should like to conclude by pointing out a further practical consequence of accepting the validity of religious experience. Religious experience is now regarded as one of the most effective proofs for the existence of God. Through the centuries various intellectual proofs such as the cosmological proof, the ontological proof and the teleological proof have been

formulated for the existence of God. Their weaknesses have been set forth by Kant and other great philosophers. The mass of religious experience in the world is now considered as an effective proof for the existence of God. The fact that millions of men have believed in God and that this belief has profoundly influenced their life is of invaluable significance. Religious experience cannot be mere hallucination. If religious experience were to be only hallucination in view of all that we have said about it, can we say that any other human experience is valid? The man who says that he is in love is suffering from hallucination. There never has been real love anywhere in the world and there never will be. What is regarded as love is but an illusion. The whole of human society is built on an illusion. Young men have suffered and died for an illusion. Poets have sung in praise of an illusion. Philosophers have woven their theories of family life around an illusion. If ordinary human experience is valid, why should not religious experience also be valid? If religious experience is valid, there must be an objective reality, God, who alone is the source of the religious experience. But for such an objective reality, the vast mass of religious experience is inexplicable. It is impossible to understand how millions of men and women could have lived and suffered even to the point of death as they did, if God were not a reality. The religious experience of man in all ages and in all countries is then an effective reason for our belief in God.

POST-WAR ECONOMIC RECONSTRUCTION

BY MR. KRISHNA KUMAR SHARMA, M.A.

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WAR is a mighty upheaval which violently disturbs the social and economic equilibrium. The present world war is bound to have far-reaching consequences, the magnitude of which it is difficult to foresee. The war of 1914-'18 produced conditions and created problems, which baffled statesmen. The economic maladjustment from which the world suffered before the present war began was a legacy of the war of 1914-18.

Close upon the heels of that war came this war. This latter war has been characterised by the colossal destruction of material and human power. Practically the whole of the continent of Europe lies prostrate before Hitler. Poland, Belgium, Holland, Norway, Sweden, France and the Balkan countries are all groaning under the unbearable tyranny of Hitlerism. Russia has put up a brave defence and God forbid, if the fine and well-equipped Russian army were also to succumb ultimately to the Nazi onslaught, the future of the human race would become gloomy indeed. Britain and America would then remain the only countries to fight with the Axis powers.

Mighty empires have fallen before Hitler and there has been colossal destruction of material and property. The currencies of various countries have been reduced to a chaotic state and production has considerably suffered. Standing crops have been destroyed and industrial towns have been bombed. There is the problem of feeding the people of the conquered countries. In spite of her economic and even military co-operation and

collaboration with Germany, France has been compelled to pay an indemnity of 400 million francs every day—a payment which is far in excess of what Germany was ever called upon to pay under the Peace Treaty of 1919.

The problems to be solved in the post-war period will consequently be of far-reaching importance. This huge loss will have to be repaired, currency and banking will require to be reorganized and the flow of international trade will have to be revived. After the war of 1914-18, currency readjustment was brought about with great difficulty in various countries. The problems of industrial reconstruction, war debts, and reparation payments proved to be very tough and complicated. The post-war peace would also have to take account of a just distribution of the raw materials of the world.

The question of giving employment to the disbanded armies in various countries would prove a very tough one. That might tax the ingenuity of the statesmen of the various countries of the world. A number of industries will grow up during the war, e.g., the automobile industry, the aeroplane manufacturing industry and the like. They are war-time industries, and the conversion of war economy into peace economy would, indeed, be difficult. It will require the shifting of labour and capital from war industries into peace industries.

All this would require international co-operation, i.e., co-operation between the

leading statesmen and central banks of the various countries of the world. Unfortunately, this could not be secured after the war of 1914-18 to an adequate extent and it may be still more difficult to secure after this war is over.

Every war leaves behind a series of taxes and loans. The latter imply transferences of wealth between different classes of people. The problem of repaying these loans would have to be solved and it would, indeed, be very difficult to secure social justice in this respect.

The war has brought an end to the economic depression through which the world was passing before 1939. Its end would, perhaps, create conditions which, if not properly looked after, might usher another and a more formidable economic blizzard. There is the trade cycle theory and it is not without historical justification. The problem of the post-war economic depression will, therefore, require international co-operation.

There will be world-wide or international problems and will consequently require international co-operation. Hence the establishment of a body styled as International Economic Rehabilitation Commission will be necessary. The League of Nations or the International Labour Organisation were already in existence. They have now become more or less defunct. Their revival to suit the changed circumstances will become necessary.

The future peace will have to be made on social justice. President Roosevelt and Mr. Churchill have already announced their plan of a future world peace. The terms of their plan should apply to all countries, irrespective of their political status and the degree of their economic

development. The future peace should not be based upon the theory of war guilt. There should be no war indemnity imposed upon any country and the repayment of war debts should also be in consonance with the paying or taxable capacity of the people. All countries should have the fullest liberty to improve their economic conditions in the manner in which their accredited representatives think proper. The failure to understand and appreciate their principle would baffle all post-war economic reconstruction efforts.

The problem of disarmament will have to receive due attention. It was embodied also in the Peace Treaty of 1919, but it was not worked in a right spirit. Hence the present war. For securing disarmament, a permanent international commission backed up by some sanction or authority will have to be established. In those conditions the post-war economic reconstruction will have to be established along sound lines.

A few words may now be said about India. Our country has also been affected by war. Exports to the enemy countries have been stopped and our imports have also been reduced on account of the lack of adequate shipping accommodation and the lack of the power of foreign countries to supply goods to us. Insurance premia have also gone up. Our industries have not expanded as much as they could. The currency circulation in the country now stands at about Rs. 280 crores, and the metallic content of the rupee has been reduced and the one rupee inconvertible note has been issued. Control has been exercised over exchange, and the imports and exports of foreign currency into and

out of India have been brought under control. The level of taxation has increased and the excess profits tax has been imposed. A system of price-control has been instituted and certain commodities like petrol have been rationed. Thus Indian economy is also being turned into war economy.

The war opened scope for the development of some of our industries, *e.g.*, the automobile industry, the aeroplane manufacturing industry and the like. But adequate steps have not been taken to bring these industries into existence. Our shipping industry is in a very backward condition. But whatever industries have received the stimulus must continue after the war.

In the post-war period, the war economy will have to be converted into a peace

economy. The readjustment should cause as little inconvenience as possible. The industries which grow up during the war must be allowed to continue in the post-war period with as little disturbance as possible. Then there will be the problems of tariff and transport and of international trade agreements. All these should become a part and parcel of a plan of post-war economic development or economic reconstruction.

The Government should prepare a plan of post-war economic reconstruction from now in which due importance should be given to problems of labour, industries, agriculture, trade, tariffs, finance, transport and the like. Further, India should also be allowed to occupy her due place in the comity of nations by being declared a self-governing Dominion immediately after the war.

Buddha's Message to the Modern World

BY DR. M. HAFIZ SYED, M.A., Ph.D., D.Litt.

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BUDDHA'S light of wisdom is ever refulgent, and for over two thousand and five hundred years he has been trying to remove darkness from human heart. It is rightly said that Buddha had a deep hatred of darkness and boundless love of light. This light is meant for the whole of the human race without any distinction of race or country. We, in the East, especially in India, are proud to own him as our own. He was Indian by birth, by race and by ancestral heredity. He lived his long life of service in this ancient land which, in spite of all her degradation, holds the light of

spiritual culture which may serve as a soothing balm on the lacerated heart of the world of to-day. Some of us who are proud to be Indian, on account of India's glorious past and her never dying spiritual tradition, should not forget that in spite of our age-long humiliation as a subject race, we possess something so great and glorious that any nation of the world may be proud to own.

In the midst of darkness which is enveloping the whole world and which is born of ignorance and unwisdom, no one at the present moment knows how to get at the root of the matter and save

the modern civilization from ruin and destruction. This high-sounding Western civilization, with all its scientific achievements, appears to us to be hollow and bankrupt. Western people, with all their boastful claims, have not yet learnt a simple lesson of common humanity. One nation looks upon another with distrust and suspicion, and instead of co-operation there is dissension and strife. The struggle for existence is so keen that every one wants to live but does not like to let others live. This, in a word, is the root-cause of all evil in our present-day civilization. The light from the East alone can dispel this darkness. Let us see what message has Lord Buddha to give to the modern world.

The vital teaching of the Upanishads, the oneness of all life, is accepted by Buddha. A spirit of the true brotherhood of man is the only panacea for the evil of strife and struggle which is rampant all over the world; not the mere repetition of high-sounding platitudes or the masking of destructive competition by an outward show of friendliness, but a genuine dedication by the individual of his efforts and abilities to the common weal of nations to the parliament of man, the federation of the world. The West has yet to appreciate that brotherhood is not an end to be achieved but a fact to be realised. All life is one and therefore every form of it is brother to all other forms. This is the quintessence of Buddha's teachings. Few thinking men would doubt that in the application of this principle lies the only genuine progress of mankind.

Buddha's attitude to life is different from the average Westerners that a sufficient explanation would be beyond the

scope of this article. Whatever may be Buddha's conception of Supreme Reality—and there are divergent views about it—one thing is certain that he believed in the holiness of humanity and his teachings were meant for the uplift of the whole human race. Distinction of man from man on any ground was foreign to his nature. He believed in common humanity. Life in itself is not worth the living. That which gives it worth is the use to which it is put and the purpose to which it is dedicated and that purpose is to guide and assist each living thing (and there is nothing dead) to the threshold of blissful existence. Earthly life is impermanent, painful and unsubstantial. No human being can escape death. So it is the duty of every one of us to find that which is beyond change.

'All things are impermanent' said the Awakened One, as he lay on his couch dying, in these few words summing up all that he had taught throughout his whole life concerning the nature of the world. The whole conception of his philosophy centres round the unreality and passing nature of the outer world—a fact which no sane or sound thinker can ever possibly deny. If this simple truth were really understood and borne in mind, the Western people would not have plunged into the colossal warfare and brought ruin on them. What Empire has lasted for long? What conqueror has survived? What, has he gained out of his conquest and plunder? These are simple natural considerations which have never weighed with the so-called civilized people.

Science means knowledge and the Buddha taught that knowledge of the

Dhamma must be acquired as 'scientific' knowledge is acquired today by analysis, experiment and reasoning, not by a blind belief in dogmas or an equally unreasoning 'faith'. In other words, the Buddha laid very great stress upon reason and enjoined on his followers to reflect over the happenings of life and its consequences in the dry light of reason. Here again if the Western people were wholly devoted to scientific rationalism and had learnt to decide international affairs more in the light of reason than the consideration of self-interest and greed, they would not have chosen the path of destruction but would have settled their affairs amicably by mutual goodwill and right understanding, which is one of the fundamental teachings of Lord Gautama Buddha. It may be added that one of the elements of the eight-fold path is right understanding.

Another light from the East which has been vouchsafed to us through the Enlightened One, is the conception of a fixed and immutable law under the domain of which the whole of humanity grows on all the planes of its being. It has equal sway on physical as well as moral and spiritual realms of mankind.

The husbandman must take thought for his plants if their lives are to be brought into harmony with the appropriate laws of Nature. What a man does reacts naturally and necessarily on what he is and so affects for all time the growth of the ideal self and its consequent well-being. Just as physical science warns us that if we drink polluted water, our health will suffer, so Buddha warns men that wrong doing is not less certain to work out of the individual self as sorrow and suffering than is right doing to work itself into the self of man as health and therefore as happiness

and peace. The conception of the existence of immutable law forms the bulwark of Buddha's teachings and is wholly in harmony with the scientific ideals of today.

If Western people had any idea of this Sublime Truth, they would think twice before they inflict injury upon each other, for, this law works with unerring precision and would bring fit retribution on individuals and nations who would not desist from wrong-doing.

For the Buddhists, as 'for Confucius, the peace of the world depends on the regeneration of the inner life of the individual. The reconstruction of the world means the reconstruction of individuals. ('Philosophy of Confucius'. C. Y. Hsu, p. 37.) A Buddhist will, therefore, to the extent that he takes any part in 'party politics', presumably support that section of the community which he thinks will give the individual the greatest scope for quiet self-development, but in this as in all other matters, his choice is absolutely free. Buddhism as such has no concern with any country's government; for its field of operation is the inner not the outer man. Buddhism is a matter of self-discipline and development and as such has no concern with obedience to any orders unless self-imposed. On the other hand, every Buddhist is a member of some nation and as such submits himself to that country's government and laws. Presumably to the extent that it encourages concerted action for the benefit of social ends, it may be described as socialistic; on the other hand, to the extent that it encourages individual self-development, it is individualistic, but if it be socialistic

it is a form that strives to level up and not down. The Buddha certainly proclaimed a spiritual equality or brotherhood, but the standard of equality was nothing less than that of perfect man to which all living things will in the end attain. But brotherhood does not imply equality, for brothers may be of a different age. Hence the Sangha, the Order which the Buddha founded, is 'ruled' to the extent that such self-governed individuals need any ruling by the Elder Brother's suggestions being adopted by their juniors, while the voice of the eldest by their juniors will be the most respected of them all. Here we have in miniature a perfect blend of monarchy and oligarchy, while the free and open vote of all the Bhikkhus on a matter of importance represents the cherished Western spirit of democracy. It must not be forgotten that all forms of worldly government may be resolved into a matter of degree and none has any spiritual value or significance. If all men were concerned with nought but self-development, there would be no need for politics as generally understood, still less for the use of violent argument or force.

Each Buddhist does at all times what seems to him most in accord with Buddhist principles and one of these is *Ahimsa*, which is, negatively, harmlessness and, positively goodwill to all forms of life. The Buddhist is, therefore, a peaceful individual, incapable of active hatred for a brother man, still less for a lower form of life. If another harms him, he feels but pity in return, a genuine compassion for the suffering which the hater will experience for harbouring such evil tendencies. Not that

such an attitude implies or produces weakness in any form. It is true that Buddhism paralyses the coarse, brutal energy which manifests in the mad struggle after wealth and enjoyment; for it teaches that real happiness is not to be gained through material possessions but through mental and moral development. ('Message of Buddhism', p. 80.) But, in fact, a Buddhist leads a far more strenuous life than any soldier; for he is constantly and unremittingly at war within himself. 'Warriors, Lord, we call ourselves. In what way are we warriors?' 'We wage war, O disciples; therefore are we called warriors.'—'Wherefore, Lord, do we wage war?' 'For lofty virtue, for high endeavour, for sublime wisdom—for these do we wage war; therefore are we called warriors.'—(Anguttara Nikaya, 'From Lotus Blossoms', p. 57.) It is a curious paradox that while such a ceaseless struggle against the forces of the lower self is being waged within, the outward characteristic of the true Buddhist is his imperturbable peacefulness. For a Buddhist fights against the inward enemies of selfishness and egotism, malice, pride and mental laziness, and in the world of men against disease and penury, injustice and oppression and vice and ugliness in all its forms. Is not such a struggle nobler and more dignified as well as far more profitable than wholesale murder between brother men? A Buddhist strives towards the sublimation of war-like energy into higher forms, but he realises that war is an effect whose cause must be eradicated and that cause, as of all other suffering, he knows to be self-seeking in its countless forms, whether of one man or a nation.

VICEROY AND GOVERNOR-GENERAL

BY MR. M. RUTHNASWAMY, M.A., BAR.-AT-LAW, C.I.E.

THIS is a thorough-going work of research on one of the most important political and administrative offices in the world. It is not so much the emoluments of the office—it is the most highly paid office in the British Empire—but the vast number of people it rules (400 millions)—the large extent of its territorial jurisdiction, (about 1,300,000 sq. miles), the complexity of its functions, the highly-organised and ramified machinery that it controls, that make the holder of the office one of the most important known to the history of administration. He does deserve a monograph all to himself. And all students of administration, publicists, and even politicians—if only to pick up a stone or two to throw at the high dignitary—will be grateful to Dr. Rudra of the Department of Political Science of the University of Dacca, for giving it to the world. The book shows most of the tokens of good research—resort to original authorities (mostly printed), critical appraisal of them, a sense of proportion, mastery of facts, and a fairly impartial narrative.

So far so good. But in the case of a live institution like that of the Viceroy and Governor-General of India, printed authorities are not enough. It would be too much to ask of a monograph writer reading for a research degree in London to look up manuscript sources—they may not be available for the contemporary history of the office, though they are in plenty in the India Office and in India. But there are such sources as Reminiscences, Autobiographies, Collections of Letters,

Diaries, etc., which would have thrown revealing light on the history and politics of this office. Dr. Rudra refers to a few of them here and there like Lady Minto's Reminiscences of her husband, and Lady Betty Balfour's collection of her father's Letters. But there are many more. It is in these minor sources that even Viceroys and Governors-General being *en pantouffles* as the French say, let themselves go and say a lot of things they would not say in their Dispatches and Public speeches.

There is another source that Dr. Rudra might have tapped if he were writing a history of the office and not a mere monograph and that is Tradition. As every historian knows, Tradition is the handing down from generation to generation by mouth or practice of statements of fact and belief. It is an important source when written sources fail and a useful source with which to correct the conclusions of written sources. In the case of an office like that of the Viceroy and Governor-General of India, Tradition would be furnished by work in one or other of the Secretariats of the Government of India or conversations with people who had had something to do with the Government of India at the top like Secretaries to Government, or members of the Legislature, or even newspaper men of more than one political persuasion. He would incidentally have caught the atmosphere in which the Viceroy and Governor-General works and made his work a more lively book than it is. As an example of the kind of mistake Dr. Rudra may have been saved from, if he had not made himself so dependent

* The Viceroy and Governor-General of India. By A. B. Rudra, Ph.D. Humphrey Milford, Oxford University Press.

on printed sources without correcting their information by the spoken word is the criticism he utters of Indian members of the Governor-General's Executive Council (pp. 130-132). Any one who knows the character of the late Sir Sankaran Nair or the strength and shrewdness of the late Sir Fazli Hussain will find it difficult to subscribe to Dr. Rudra's facile disposal of the work and service of Indian Members of Council. A few months

spent in Delhi during Sir Fazli Hussain's tenure would have convinced the author that the Governor-General's Council now and then contains members who do not take the line set by the English majority.

But we must not judge Dr. Rudra's work by what he was not able to do, but by what he has done. And judged so, he must be considered to have made a notable and trustworthy contribution to the meagre literature of Indian administration.

INDIA'S STATUS

BY MR. N. C. KELKAR

THE statement issued at Allahabad by Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru as the spokesman of the non-party Conference is a very valuable document. It clearly states the claim for a status of equality for India in the British Commonwealth. This is not the first time that Sir Tej Bahadur is putting forward India's claim to Dominion Status. For he was a member of the All-Parties Conference in 1928 and was a party to what is called the Nehru Report. That Report claimed to read the Royal Proclamation of December 1919 as pointing the way, not only to "Full Responsible Government hereafter but the right of the Indian people to direct her affairs and safeguard her interests".

But in the Allahabad statement, Sir Tej Bahadur is more positive and emphatic. In the first place, the statement finds fault with the declaration by Mr. Winston Churchill that (1) the Atlantic Charter does not apply to India, but that (2) the more relevant document for India is the declaration of August 1940. The statement then explains how the August declaration is not satisfactory. And, lastly, it asserts that

whether there was or was not unity among the Indian people as to India's political constitution, it was the responsibility of the British Government to make a clear and immediate declaration that India would be made a fully self-governing country and an equal partner in the British Commonwealth.

The progressive steps in such a consummation would be the following:—

(1) Complete Indianisation of all the important Civil services. (2) The conversion of the Indian army into a national army officered by Indians. (3) Full responsibility of Provincial Governments to Provincial Legislatures. (4) Complete Indianisation and non-officialisation of the Cabinet in the Central Government. (5) Joint responsibility of the Central Cabinet to the Central Legislature, whether the Constitution was a Federation or a unitary Government. (6) The right of the Responsible Central Government to deal with all the members of the British Commonwealth on a footing of equality with the same right to safeguards, reciprocity and representation in International Councils and Conferences.

I think in respect of this last point, Sapru, as spokesman of the non-party Conference, goes distinctly further than Sapru as a party to the Nehru Report. For nothing clinches so clearly the political independence of a nation as its right to regulate its foreign affairs in a free unfettered way. The words of the Allahabad statement are important from this point of view. They are:

Immediate steps should be taken to secure that India's representatives at the Peace Conference or any other International Conference shall be selected by the Government in India and be answerable to it and shall on no account be in the leading strings of the Secretary of State.

It is pointed out as an answer to dilatory tactics of the British Cabinet that this change can be effected without amending the Statute of 1935.

There is a maxim in Marathi saying that "the footprint of the elephant covers all other footprints". Similarly this right of India to freely regulate its foreign relations covers all ambiguities as to the meaning of equal partnership in the British Commonwealth. No doubt at the League of Nations, a seat was given to a representative of India though India was not enjoying Self-Government. But that was a patent trick to add to the votes of Great Britain, the Indian representative being under the thumb of the British representative. India at present can depute persons of no higher rank than Trade Agents to Foreign countries. But that arrangement has absolutely no political aspect.

Things are different with Self-Governing Dominions. They may, if they wish, maintain diplomatic representatives of their own in foreign capitals with the rank of Envoys-extraordinary and ministers plenipotentiary. Thus Canada has her own envoys in Paris, Washington

and Tokio. South Africa has hers in Rome, Washington and the Hague. Ireland has hers in France, Germany, United States and the Vatican. Conversely the French maintain Legations in Canada and Ireland; the United States in Canada, South Africa, and Ireland. (*Vide* 'Diplomacy' by Harold Nicholson, p. 175-6.) The Dominion Legations report direct to their own Government and have no special connection with British embassies in the capitals where they exist.

Although the Dominion Governments have not yet established regular Foreign offices, yet a section of the Prime Minister's offices is staffed in Australia and Canada at least by specialists in Foreign affairs. The stipulation, of course, there is, as passed in the Imperial Conference of 1923, under which

members of the Commonwealth are asked not to negotiate treaties with Foreign governments without due consideration of its possible effect upon other parts of the Empire, or on the Empire as a whole.

And nothing has happened so far to disturb the confidence placed in the self-governing dominions, so much so that all this looks like a secret compact. But there is no gainsaying the fact that these Dominions do enjoy some right which is denied to India.

I am inclined to attach importance to this demand in the Sapru statement for the extension of the right of India in Foreign affairs, because it touches a vital point in the political status of any country. That the Dominions were consulted and India was not before Britain joined the war and involved the Empire in it, can easily be explained by reference to this differential status of both. What will Mr. Churchill say to this demand? Does he admit that this lacuna, this defect in the political status of India, is promised to be cured by the August declaration of 1940? I can understand the contention that the Atlantic Charter is not intended to apply to India. But let Mr. Churchill come out and state the exact content of the August declaration.

INDIA AND AMERICA

BY SRIMATHI KAMALADEVI

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SINCE the eclipse of Europe, America has attained an unprecedented importance. It is a country unique in many respects, young, virile, audacious, adventurous; it has dared to challenge and nullify so many of the accepted canons. It has cast into a crucible people of every nationality in the world, and out of it has emerged the youthful American nation, uniform in taste, from coca cola to apple pie, a hurrying, restless, ambitious people.

Everything about America is new and unexpected, from its exquisite kitchens to its "drive in" theatres. That it should have captured the imagination of the world is no surprise.

What does America think of us, is a query that has been troubling every part of the world since Hitler started his march across Europe. For American goodwill is synonymous with American aid. Strictly business-like, the Americans are yet generous to a fault. They pour wealth into any cause that takes their fancy. They are neither very discerning nor very discriminating. Large in heart and big in mind there is nothing petty about them. More fantastic causes thrive in America than anywhere else.

Countries threatened, countries conquered, countries aspiring for freedom, all vie with one other to win America's favour. Their representatives come in hordes from the East and the West, North and the South.

One sole exception to this has been India. Proud and reserved, conscious of her own strength, confident in her self-reliance, she has never knocked at anybody's door. Amidst the scurrying,

begging missions, India holds her head high up and says to them: "We want nothing from you, neither old destroyers nor new dollar bills. We only want you to think, to learn, to understand your responsibilities, the significance of your policies and actions."

What does America think of us, is the excited question that comes from the lips of an Indian today. What he really wonders is, how much sympathy has America for our freedom cause. It is a simple thought untinged by desires for planes and loans. The average American hardly thinks of India. It simply does not exist for him; for it does not figure on his horizon. Americans are essentially business people. Nothing else is quite so real to them. America has no economic ties with India in the shape of investments or trade worth the name. This practically rules India out of their normal every-day life.

But Americans have a child-like curiosity, a restless enquiring mind. They always ask questions. In no other country are there so many discussion forums, so many speakers, so many round-table debates. Every third person one meets is a speaker of some sort, talking on any subject from the breaking of the atom to the influence of the birth stars. Americans would make the very stones talk. Occasionally, India figures in some of these talks. Sometimes an organization like the Foreign Policy Association issues a pamphlet on India. All this is very spasmodic and superficial.

Things were brighter in the old days when Ireland was still a burning issue in the United States and the Irish and the Indians did make common cause.

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The Indian question, however, received a new interest during the Indian Civil Disobedience Movement. To a war weary America, on the brink of economic collapse, Gandhiji's teachings came like a soothing balm. American reporters came in shoals to see this wonder-man in his loin cloth. Even those who came to scoff remained to pray. A member of the American Congress moved a resolution asking the British Government to grant India freedom. The British Press came out with scathing attacks on American politicians, calling them busy bodies, meddling in other people's affairs. The British Parliament echoed with some more withering comments. The British statesmen were shocked by the irresponsibility displayed by American Legislators.

With the close of the Civil Disobedience Movement, the interest died down.

In the mean time, the position of Indians in America has been deteriorating steadily. First came the ban on Indian immigration. It was originally directed against the yellow races, but obviously under British pressure the Indians were included. For this purpose the world was divided into zones, and China, Japan, and India were clubbed into one zone. This was followed by depriving the Indians of citizenship rights. The argument that non-Caucasian races cannot be assimilated could not be advanced in the case of the Indians, since ethnologically Indians are considered Caucasians. Still the Supreme Court of America in its final ruling on this question laid down that the ordinary man in the street would not accept the Indian as a Caucasian; for he did not look like one. In recent years there has been a regular drive against the Indian community, part of a

drive against Asiatics in general. In some States, specially on the West Coast, laws have been enacted depriving them of the rights to own property. Some of the laws have imposed considerable disabilities on the Indians. They are also very much harassed by Immigration authorities, who, in co-operation with the British Consulate in California, are always deporting long settled Indians on some pretext or another. There is no responsible authority to fight the Indian cause or protect the Indians. Although those who came in before 1923 are entitled to domicile rights, their position has become precarious. Those who have already settled are unable to bring their families over. Even the few wives of Indian businessmen are harassed with deportation orders from time to time. Every Legislative attempt to rectify this is frustrated by reactionary American organizations. Even the American Federation of Labour is getting up steam on this point against India.

The majority of the American public is completely unaware of this sorry state of affairs in their midst. There is no chance of their being informed of it, unless India undertakes to do a certain amount of publicity as other countries in similar circumstances do.

The present war, and the question of aid to Britain, have brought India to the forefront once again. People in no country like war. Americans are no exceptions. Intensely averse to involvement in war, the Americans are struggling in vain against an avalanche that is sweeping them into those deadly jaws. Under the circumstances it is natural that Americans should be sensitive to all the implications of aid to Britain, her war aims,

her present policies and commitments, her past follies. These topics are discussed threadbare. At one stage a great cry of a new way of democracy sweeping the British Isles was raised in America by interested parties to win American sympathy. But there was the singular omission of India in it.

On the whole, America has a favourable opinion of India. The Indian students and visitors alike have left a good impression. In recent years, Gandhiji and now Nehru have won great admiration from the public. Nehru's autobiography has weighed the scales heavily in India's favour. The impression has gained ground that a movement headed by such leaders must surely be responsible and popular.

Moreover, having been colonials themselves not so long ago and having had to struggle for freedom, the Americans have a natural sympathy with all those who are in the same position. Americans have no prejudices against colonials as the Europeans have; for they do not have colonial possessions of the type the European countries have bred. One section of the political-minded people have kept up the constant cry of "What about India?" English speakers in America have had a tough time answering uncomfortable questions. British Ambassadors have in succession been heckled. During the discussion on the Lend Lease Bill, India figured prominently.

The British Government finally came to feel that interest in India was not spasmodic and could not be easily brushed aside with superficial arguments. Speakers after speakers returned to England in wroth swearing under their breath "Americans are a queer people". They declared;

"Why must they always drag India in? What has India to do with the present war? What do they know about India, how delicate and complicated the problem is? Why can't they see how many benefits we have conferred on those ungrateful natives much more than what they deserve? What concern is India of America's any way."

From Duff Cooper to Lord Halifax, from Sir Walter Citron to Colonel Wedgewood, to aristocracy and labour alike, India became a headache. A special office was established in New York City, whose sole job was to mark American opinion on India. Week after week, month after month, the barometer kept rising. The need for a new remedy was felt. Get Indians to present the British point of view, that was the thing to do. But the solution was not easy to work. No Indian in America was prepared to sell himself. If local ones were not available, then they would have to be imported. It was risky bringing anyone all the way from India. That would rouse Indian suspicion and draw unpalatable publicity. London was a safer source to draw upon. Sir Feroz Khan Noon (an old hand at this game) and an obscure individual—a Hindu—were foisted on the American public as bonafide Indian leaders, to speak for the two communities of India. In the meantime the much-harassed British Ambassador in Washington had a brain wave. He wanted something more permanent. All the British Dominions have started sending Ministers to Roosevelt's court. If an Indian minister could be added to this galaxy, the American people could be safely lulled into the belief that India has attained political equality with the Dominions. On occasions if a few recalcitrants did get

restive, why what more impressive than a reassuring smile and a few words of quiet confidence from an authentic Indian minister: "We have more than you think, in fact we are practically a free country. My very presence here is proof enough." Nothing could be more convincing. So Lord Halifax wrung a reluctant consent from an unwilling India Government to his bright scheme; for the staid and sober Delhi regime has a traditional dislike of novelties even when they emanate from a former Viceroy. But his lordship even got the man he wanted.

Are these Americans genuinely concerned about India? Some of them, yes, the others merely use it as a stick to wave at England, who, they feel, is always driving them into ruinous wars. Old scores yet left unsettled rankle.

But one cannot ignore certain new trends. One important section representing big interests, mainly concentrated in Wall Street, is stirred by new dreams and new ambitions. It sees the British Empire on the decline. What is more natural than that America should share some of the plums England can no longer keep in her basket? Their statesmen speak in great prophetic tones: "The mantle of responsibility has descended on our shoulders and we must assume it as our supreme duty." They do not dream of old type Empires of yesterday. America lives too much in the present, her eyes look too much into the future not to realise that such empires have no place in the world of tomorrow. But they dream of an Empire of finance and commerce. The British Dominions are being drawn more and more into the American economic orbit. India was not originally mentioned in the Far Eastern

sphere, which America is now busy weaving into her economic net. But in recent months her inclusion has been significant. Mr. Grandy's visit to India to include her in the Eastern economic plan of America is important. But it is not surprising in view of the increasing dependence of England on American co-operation in the East and the probable use of the British Eastern bases by America. These facts are of special significance to us, and consequently American attitude towards Indian aspirations ceases to be a question of mere academic interest and becomes one of practical politics. In fact, the day may not be far off when it may become as important as England's attitude towards India. What role is America to play in this agonising long drawn tussle between India and England? The possibility of an American intervention should by no means be ruled out. There is much scope for speculation on the nature and identity of such an event.

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THE LOVE POETRY OF BENGAL

BY MR. GOPAL K. CHATTARJI, M.ED.

BENGAL can boast of some of the finest crops of love poetry from the very earliest times. Not only is this poetry rich in variety and colour, but it has streamed, almost uninterrupted, now slender and now overflowing in a flood, down the ages. To locate the sources of such literature is to dissect and kill poetry. But one thing can be said emphatically: Love has been and is and perhaps will be always the breath of the people of Bengal.

One of the most fruitful sources of love poetry has been religion. The Tantrikas and Saktas have revelled in the love of Kali, the destroyer, the cruel, the unimpeachable. The Vaisnavas, on the other hand, have delighted in the beatitude of love—the love that springs from among men and women and soars to the endless skies. Both sections, no doubt, have had their backwaters. If among the Tantrikas some, like the Kapaliks, wallowed in the mire of the degradation and mouldering of the soul, the Sahajiyas among the Vaisnavas quenched their thirst with the insipid Lethe of love that does not exist except in the shallows of human passions and desires. But their best has been the best of influences—as best as influences can be.

It would be equally easy to find parallels, good and evil, among the various other sects of Bengal. And they are none too few for the matter of that. Religion, in short, has not been an unmixed blessing. It has led to numerous confusions: the confusion of God, the giver and the taker, the creator and the destroyer, with a god of justice and vengeance. And, at its worst, with a

god who is a shopkeeper, a banya, who gives if you pay, who cures maladies and drags you out of dangers if you trust in Him, if you offer regular and strict prayers, if you count beads from dawn till night, if you are judicious in your charities to priests and beggars.

This, certainly, is true of many ages and many peoples—of the ignorant and the hypocritic. But it reflects one side of the life of the common herd of Bengal and cannot be ignored.

Another great source of inspiration for this poetry is Nature: the changing seasons, the blue sky and the green fields and the myriads of flowers and plants, the endless cycles of rites and ceremonies. The song of the bird has blended into the folk-songs that have been transformed into chastened lyrics. Equally important is the supernatural: the mysteries of the sky and the earth, and the depths of the mind and the soul and of death, the mystery of mysteries.

Yet, it is futile to attempt a separation among the three main springs: Religion, Nature, and Super-nature. For, they are inexorably mixed up in the human mind. Religion is the doing of our daily duties: Nature is but a reflection caught from God and the supernatural is God himself.

Down the ages flowed this stream of love through the green vales of Bharat Chandra, our first great poet of love; the East Bengal Ballads, patches of purple streams through the rice-fields; the ecstasies of the Vaisnava poets who are countless as the stars; and, lastly, the deep seas and the snowy heights of Rabindranath, the poet of all ages and climes, who has touched on every chord of love: the childish love of youth, the love of the body, of torture and

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THE LOVE POETRY OF BENGAL

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hate that aspires for bliss, the love celestial, where the body breaks through its bonds and rises high like the skylark of the soul.

Bharat Chandra has been called obscene by many critics. That there is some truth in this has to be admitted. Yet his obscenity, if any, is sparkling with wit, is never naked, and is far from the dominant note of his poetry. His lyric story, *Vidya-Sundar*, which is almost an epic, has few peers except, perhaps, in the *Decameron*, the *Arabian Nights*, the *Canterbury Tales* and *Don Juan*. Its setting is of beauty of large dimensions, where details shine like gems, and where men and women flit about like fairies in the forest. The fools are befooled, the clowns applauded, and the brave win the fair through thick and thin, through mist and sunshine. And the epic tale ends in a halo of light—a light that has not been recaptured by any other pen.

He has had numerous imitators, really obscene and facile, whose work is deservedly assigned to the pavement stall and hawker bookseller. He did tell his tale with sympathy and charm and with that delight in images which makes trifles into the wonders of the world. The story is of a princess, shut off from the sunshiny world and, in her bloom, pining for a prince from beyond the hills. The prince hears of her beauty from the shrewd and witty gardener's wife, who supplies the princess with boquets and garlands and knows of the fire in her heart. After some bargaining, the good woman conspires to smuggle him through into the princess's apartments, where no man of woman born has ever dared to tread—not, indeed, in his own likeness, but in the guise of a damsel. His appearance and revelations and wooing

are like a miracle in the dark. What follows is full of the tenderest sentiments, the voluptuousness of intrigue and the most touching flashes of the eternal yearning of lovers. The slowly gathering pregnancy is detected in the end, for all their efforts at secrecy. And the story ends in the bliss of a loving couple doting over the first fruit of their love.

If this is obscenity, story-telling will have to be thrown to the winds, and poetry must be either banal or metaphysical.

After Bharat Chandra come the ballad-writers. Most of their work is religious—the religion of the supernatural, beyond the ken of men, guiding their destinies through the wilderness to a haven of blind worship. The most touching is, perhaps, the story of Behula, whose marriage was clouded with the shadow of an awful fate: the death of her chosen husband from the sting of an asp, which could never be averted even by sacrifices to the goddess of the underworld—*Manasa*, the sinister and slaughterous queen of snakes and toads. The bridal night passes in lone silence in an iron chamber through the anxieties of a sleepless maiden, keeping vigil over her dear husband lost in sleep. A chink in the walls, however, is their undoing. For, the terriblest follower of *Manasa* enters through it and inflicts the death-sting, as the sleepy husband is served with milk and fruits by the bride of one night. Then begins a pathetic sacrifice. Behula builds a raft of bamboo twigs, takes her somnolent husband on her lap, and drifts down the river, praying and praying to the terrible snake goddess through dreamless nights and nightmarish days. The travail is over at last. The virgin wins back her husband, and the goddess blesses them with a happy life.

Cruel fates, an inert husband and a loving wife compose the picture which would fail to impress but for this helpless drifting and the sincere devotion of a faithful wife.

On the other extreme is the story of a Guru, a worshipper of Kali the Witch, who falls under displeasure and sinks into lechery, seduced by the guiles of a hundred beauties, ephemeral incarnations of Maya, the Circe of Tantrik mythology. His disciple, a greater favourite of the goddess, assails the bower of sensual pleasures, disguising himself as a beggar woman playing on the tambourine. The Mayas try to keep him out. But the tambourine awakens lost memories in the heart of the lost worshipper, until all the links are united in a chain and his soul flaps its wings to soar back into lost glories. The Mayas vanish in dismay. The Guru bows down to his pupil, but is lifted up by him to be a Tantrik sage once again. The story is a paradox in religious adventure. For, woman is the gate of hell, and Maya, the woman of women, must be appeased by whoever seeks to escape it.

Very different is the atmosphere of the Vaishnava poets, who in spite of subtle differences in dogma, are united in their immeasurable flight through the star-lit and moon-lit nights and their quest amidst dark forests dripping with rain and burning with phosphorescent glow-worms. Their one great theme is love—love through pain and fear, love earthly—the ecstatic serenades in dark nights amid darker bowers lit with love and devotion, bodily as well as spiritual. But the skylark is real with his myriad melodies that fly up and down betwixt earth and heaven and heaven and earth.

These poets had their conventions—the tortuous love of Rada and Krishna among the thorns scattered on the path of this wonderful earth. They had their conceits. But what poet from the troubadours and Villons and Baudelaire, Dante and Carducci, Schiller and Heine, Campion and Herrick, John Donne and Andrew Marvell and William Blake, Robert Browning and Francis Thompson or James Elroy Flecker is free from conceits of his own? Our poets had conceits, at once multi-coloured and unified, but clear as crystal and soft as the wings of innumerable flitting butterflies. We can best compare them to the troubadours who captured in their lyrics the shimmer of sunshine and of starlight, the ripple of slender streams of emerald and jade green, the smile of flowers and of the leafy trees of April.

All this colour and light is reflected in the hair and the face and the eyes of Radhika, the eternal sweetheart of Vaisnava poets.

Marie de France said this of the hair of a damsel:

*Fils d'or he gette tel leur
Cum si chevel cuntre li jur.
No golden thread shines so bright
As her hair against daylight.*

And the unknown poet of Tottel's Miscellany said:

*Her beauty twinkloth like a star
Within the frosty night.*

Compare these with the following lines taken from two different songs of Vidyapati:

1. Under the twilight of evening, she came out of the temple and passed by me like a flash of lightning among dark clouds.
2. A face of gold. And dark eyes, painted darker still, like a pair of bees over a lotus of gold.

Better still are the beauties of the heart—the various visions of the pining maiden in dress and undress, in meetings and in partings, in tears and in laughter.

This is, for instance, how the lover is welcomed:

When my love returns home, I will greet him with offerings of every limb. My bosom will be a shaded pitcher full of cool waters. And my eyes, darkened with 'kajal' (thick 'surma' or pigment for the lashes), will be his mirror.

Here we have an exquisitely delicate tapestry of love, like that woven by the Elizabethan lyricists.

And then the wiles of love. The youth loses sight of his lass, for she has turned her face, pained at his fickleness and yet yearning for him, body and mind and soul. He has to sneak through and win her back in the guise of a manicurist, or a songstress, or a flower girl.

Weary hours of waiting under dark tall trees that are a curtain for love, fragrant with the dust and flowers and leaves.

A bird flits by. The leaves rustle. She is afraid he is coming. With twinkling eyes she makes the bed and looks towards the door for approaching footsteps—*Jaydeva*.

The lover passes the night in another's embrace and never comes. Radha is in a fever of love that has to be soothed abed, by her maids with sandal pastes and lotus leaves all over her trebling lissome figure. The fever does not abate, and death is near, and she prays:

O my maids, don't burn my body when I die; don't please let it drift down some river. But haul it up among the branches of the tamal tree, which is as dark as my fickle and cruel lover.

And when hope lies dying and pants for breath, the Lord comes back unnoticed. And the maze of meeting and parting, and of hope and despair is woven, ever afresh, through eternity.

Overhead is another country where there is no parting; but its beckonings have no response from the lover-poets. They may fly among the stars, but they have no fancy for an etherless world where Nirvana, and not Love, is the presiding deity. The earth is good enough and dear enough, and so is the air. Why soar to a region where one cannot breathe?

This is the appeal of the Vaisnava poets, who are enshrined in the hearts of every Bengali lover and worshipper of

God. It is an appeal that transcends words and transforms life and soul into the mysteries beyond life itself. It is an appeal that rings in every temple, that babbles with the brook and warbles with birds and is wafted like incense through the air.

One cannot help feeling that the greatest of the Vaisnava poets, Vidyapati and Chandidas, not merely tasted of the sweet and bitter of love, but, what is more, plumbed its abysmal depths and found in the life of the Great Lovers, at once earthly and divine, the hope and consolation that have kept their poetry alive. What a pity that the life and poetry of these two poets have been mangled and butchered by the Bengali screen directors and artistes. What a caricature of Vidyapati's love and love-life has been made on the screen and what a medley of incongruous misquotations. Chandidas is an even greater martyr in their hands, for his humble sweetheart has been deformed into a flirt and his great love dragged into the turbid eddies of social intrigue. An admirer would cry for shame at this burning of the effigies of the god of love.

Rabindranath has had the rare luck of being praised by all. But I wonder if a god is pleased with blind worship. Young lovers have read for years and still read his love lyrics. Unthinking girls and women—and, perhaps, tired young men—think that they have understood him. But have they?

His love poetry hovers between the torture and the ecstasy of love and, at its best, lingers, tenderly, over the ecstasy that is torture and the torture that is ecstasy. For pages he can be quoted at his highest—in the mysticism of love. But let us first take him at his lightest: his earliest love poems.

There is, first of all, a couple of complementary poems, long and slightly exuberant, the questionings and complainings of lad and lass—poems that can be compared with the Nut Brown Maid and the innumerable Phillida and Coridon madrigals and ballads of the great Elizabethans; poems, however, that never reach the subtle art and the fragile, yet enduring, simplicity of the English

poets. Almost on the same plane are the Padavali, or Songs, of Bhanusinha, which, like Macpherson's Ossian, were taken for the work of some undiscovered Vaisnava master and, which, as the poet tells us with sparkling humour, earned a Bengali scholar in Germany his doctorate in literature.

Then we come across those lyrics and ballads and stories in verse in which the poet first discovers himself. The longing of lovers, their pain and suffering, the storm rather than the calm, the tragedy rather than the comedy or romance of love are the stuff of which they are made. They are often dramatic and tripping, as in Kacha and Devajani, but are lacking in depth. Through some of the stories, however—the most beautiful of which is that of Vasavadatta, the court dancer, and Upagupta, the Buddhist monk—streams the clear light of dawn: the dawn, perhaps, of the poet's own genius. And, later, we have the longer poems in which love becomes more than ephemeral and more than of the body or of the mind. Such are, to name only two, the story of the conquest over Cupid of Beauty bathing naked in a deep pool, and the poem of the poet's ideal of a sweetheart, woven at once of fancy and of fact. Some of them, later still, dwell on the voluptuousness of love, the painful adoration of the sweetheart of the world. And the most exquisite of them is the poem, 'Urvashi,' the primeval woman, who, like Venus, arose, in full bloom, from the depths of the sea with the poison and the nectar of love in either hand; whose dancing feet made men's blood run quick; and whose sidelong glances made the saints and sages throw away the precious jewel of their spirit, the hoarding of ages of meditation.

The next stage is not far removed. It is the stage when the poet begins to identify God with Love and Love with God. Here the influence of the Vaisnava masters is most apparent. But then Rabindranath

arises higher and weaves intricate patterns of the renunciation and the beatitude of love. Something like the mysticism of the Blessed Damosel infuses itself into such poems. But the mysticism is the mysticism of the East, at once transient and eternal, of the earth and the sky, of the heart and of the soul.

Lastly, we climb the Everest of his love lyrics, the Gitanjali. It is difficult now to discern from these heights the multitudinous courses of men and women. This ecstasy is the Quintessence of Love: the Love curling among the stars and in the worlds beyond them. No stretch of imaginative appreciation could confuse the Lover or the Beloved with anything but God. Yet, the pining of lovers, the desire to sail across unknown seas, the call of the darkening pool of evening, the shipwreck and the rescue of Love run like a stream of gold through these songs. The search past the light and shade of the avenues of the heart; the quest of the one treasure of the deep; the flight after the sun and the moon, the planets and stars and the nebulous worlds of light, farther away, beyond the horizon of imagination—all this is the breath of Love, the very soul of these wonderful lyrics, deeper and clearer than the Ode to Immortality, and higher and more thrilling than Shelley's Skylark.

False echoes of the love lyrics of Rabindranath, the eagle and the skylark in one, groan through the hollow caves of his countless imitators. At best, they harp on the same strings, pitched to a much lower key, more often than not using the same or similar words and turns of expression, banal and superbly vague, the strains often dying in the air for want of a sustaining imagination. It is yet to be seen when the day comes when another great poet will leaven and enliven this eternal theme of Poetry. But who, like him, will dive for the pearls beneath the coral reef and fly for the jewels high up above the clouds?

HORSES IN INDIAN HISTORY

BY MR. C. N. ZUTSHI

THROUGHOUT the ages, horses have rendered man such important services that their exploits have passed into history. The importance of horses in Indian history dates from the very ancient times when the horse sacrifice or *Ashvamedha Yaga* was in vogue. When revived by the Kings of the Sunga and Gupta Dynasties, it was this festival that gave a blow to Buddhism. Perhaps, it would not be too much to say that the share taken by horses in shaping events and changing the course of history has been too valuable to be disregarded.

Horses were India's King-makers. Whenever a King wanted to proclaim himself overlord but was in doubt of his suzerainty being questioned, it was always the Royal horse that was summoned to cut the Gordian knot. A large grey horse, supposed to possess certain lucky marks, was gaily caparisoned with all the royal paraphernalia, and handed over to the priests. The priests would subject it to various ceremonial rites and turn it loose to wander at will. As the animal started on its rambles, it was followed by a large army of fighting men led by the nearest relation of the King, who claimed pasturage for the horse wherever it chose to roam, or wherever it was driven.

This claim of pasturage was, in other words, nothing else but an ultimatum of war to the rulers of the countries in which the horse happened to graze. For by granting pasturage, they acknowledged the supremacy of the King whose army followed the wandering steed; whilst if they chose to refuse pasturage, it was exacted from them by the King at the point of the sword. The result was that, if after following during a whole year the wandering horse the army returned unopposed, the King had a right to call himself Lord Paramount or *Chakravarti-Raja* of all the countries through which the horse had passed.

The successful return of the horse, which marked the unchallenged recognition of the King's paramountcy, was the occasion of a great national festival at which the horse was sacrificed. Pushyamitra of the Sunga Dynasty and Kumaragupta I of

the Gupta Dynasty celebrated this famous festival and claimed to be the most powerful rulers of their times in India.

In the Epic Period, we are told that Raja Ram Chandra turned loose his horse to have his supreme authority recognised, but it was challenged by his own son, Lava, with the result that a quarrel ensued between them which could only be composed when they were made to recognise each other as father and son. In the Great War known as the Mahabharata, the services of horses were requisitioned on a large scale. War-chariots with prancing steeds fully caparisoned were a glory to the combatants. Even Shri Krishna would fain play the charioteer to Arjun on the historic field of Kurukshetra. At the end of the Mahabharata war, the victorious Yudhishtira performed the *Ashvamedha* (horse sacrifice) to proclaim himself *Chakravarti Raja*, an incident which is reproduced in relief in silver-plated brass on a shield preserved in the Jaipur State Museum, the drawings being taken from Akbar's own copy of the *Razmnamah* or Persian version of the great epic.

When actual history began, say some 2,265 years ago and India's gates were flung open to a foreign invasion for the first time in her history, it was horses that gained the day for the invader and paved the way for the Greeks in India, however temporary their foothold might have been. On the banks of the Indus, the gallant Indian King Porus, in his fight against Alexander, relied chiefly on the strength of his two hundred war-elephants which, in eight lines, formed the centre of his army. No sooner did the onslaught of the splendidly disciplined Macedonian cavalry begin than there was confusion among the serried ranks of Porus' war-elephants with the result that the Indian ranks broke leaving the Greeks triumphant.

Mention must be made here of the famous war-horse named Bucephalus of Alexander the Great, as many surprising stories are told of its marvellous sagacity. When the horse was saddled and equipped

for battle, it seemed to realise its proud position and would allow no one to approach it save Alexander. When its master wished to mount it, it would kneel upon its forelegs. Some historians relate that when Alexander was fighting in a desperate battle and had plunged himself too recklessly amidst his infuriated foes, it was Bucephalus that bore its master to a place of safety although it was itself bleeding to death, pierced with the fatal darts of the enemy. Then perceiving that Alexander was safe, it fell exhausted and expired. Alexander so mourned for the horse at its death that he built a city on the spot where his faithful horse had been buried and called it Bucephalus in honour of the noble and trusty steed.

To complete the decline and dismemberment of the Gupta Empire came the invasion of the Huns, who swarmed across the north-western passes and, like a devastating torrent, descended upon the smiling plains of the Ganges. Cradled in the saddle as these people were, a race of reckless riders who rode on horses that lent speed to their massacring and plundering forays throughout India. It was thus horses that stood these white invaders in good stead in breaking up in an incredibly short time the Gupta Empire into a patchwork of bickering principalities.

In the seventh century A.D., whilst Hiuen Tshang was studying Pali and Sanskrit at Nalanda, a great sovereign named Sila-ditya had become Lord Paramount of India with his capital at Vallabhipore. The secret of his greatness as a warrior, whom no one dared to meet on the battle-field, lay in the fact that he had a very fine horse which was so swift that none could overtake it. Once one of his ministers fell out with him and went to his enemies. The refractory minister told his enemies the secret of Sila-ditya's invincibility in battle and suggested that they should somehow manage to injure his horse if they wished to overpower him. This was done. Sometime later, the enemies of Sila-ditya marched against him and in the battle that followed he was defeated, his capital plundered and himself perished

in the flames. Thus ended the career of a great king whose fortunes in battle were a gamble on the horse.

The colourful annals of the Rajputs contain many chequered exploits of the horses too well known to need any elaborate treatment. Who has not heard of the hero of Haldighat, Rana Pratap and his favorite horse Chituc which, though wounded, saved its master's life by leaping a mountain stream when closely pursued by two Mughal chiefs? When Prince Salim's guard fell before Pratap, the lance of the Rajput would have pierced Salim but for the steel-plates which defended the *hondah* of the elephant on which Salim rode. Pratap's gallant steed Chituc nobly saved its lord and is to this day represented in all the historical drawings of the battle of Haldighat with one foot raised upon the elephant of the Mughal while its rider has his lance propelled against his foe. Needless to say that, where Chituc fell, an altar was raised as a monument to the gallant horse; and the entire scene of how Chituc fell may to this day be seen painted on the walls of half of the houses of the capital.

Then, again, the famous horse named Baz Bahadur of Rana Amar Singh saved its master's life at Agra by jumping from over the fort tower on to the plain below. This was when Rana Amar Singh had been summoned to pay the fine of rupees seven lakhs imposed upon him by the Mughal Emperor for refusing to stand on guard at the gate of the Royal palace. When the order was read out to the proud Rana, he stabbed to death Salabat Khan who was to receive the fine; and when there was a stampede for the capture of the Rana, it was the horse Baz Bahadur that leapt with the Rana on its back from over the tower and saved its master's life at the cost of its own. There is still to be found a statue of the

* Colonel Tod quotes Rajput tradition in support of the view that Prince Salim was the leader of the imperial army, but all contemporary writers agree in declaring that it was Raja Man Singh who led them. In point of fact, Prince Salim was only six years of age at the time being born in 1569, and therefore incapable of commanding an army.

horse set up near one of the gates of the fort; the gate is known as the Amar Singh Gate.

Horses have played a conspicuous part in effecting many a momentous escape in Indian history. In those old days when there were no locomotives, horses alone were the swiftest means of conveyance. It was the horse that carried away on its back gallant Pirthvi Raj and Sanjuncta to Delhi in the twinkling of an eye from under the very nose of Jai Chandra—a fateful flight which ultimately sounded the knell of the Hindu Empire. Then, again, had it not been for the fiery steeds posted by Padmani, Bhim Singh of Chitor's deliverance from the camp of Ala-ud-din would have been well-nigh impossible. Bernier also once owed his escape to his horse from the elephant fight which he was witnessing with the Mughal Emperor. Mention must be made of the wiry horse posted by Ram Singh that, bearing away Shivaji on its back, effected the most adventurous escape of the Marhatta hero from the court of Aurangzeb, which is to this day celebrated both in the legend and history of the land. In the disastrous First Afghan War, of the straggling remnant numbering some sixteen thousand of the British retreating army, one man alone managed to escape from the Jugdulluk Pass. It was his jaded horse that brought this solitary survivor, Dr. Brydon, faint and reeling, under the walls of Jellalabad, to bear the harrowing tidings of their Thermopylae of pain and shame.

Now coming to the Mongols, it would be no exaggeration to say that their history was hammered in the saddle. To them the horse was of immense importance; without it they could not have made their swift raids on the neighbouring fertile lands, and they would have remained just poor nomads. In the days of Sung, the horse was king, celebrated by the poets and immortalized by the best artists; and the story goes that they buried a clay image of the horse with the owner when he died. This was because the Mongols understood how much they owed to their horses and regarded them as royal animals, just as the Hindus regard the cow as a sacred animal because much of their prosperity depends upon it.

Who has not heard of the wonderful gem of the Mongolian steppes, the horse of Changez Khan the World Stormer, round the skull of which romance has deeply woven a web of a number of funny stories? It was this horse that made it possible for him to lead his Golden Hordes through Khiv, Bukhara, Samarkand and other cities and conquering Central Asia, part of China and Afghanistan, to reach the Indus where he routed Jalal-ud-din, Shah of Khwarizm who fled to Sultan Altamash of Delhi for protection. In short, it was his horse that enabled Changez Khan to establish one of the greatest land empires known in history. The establishment of this empire was of great importance, because as the Mongols pushed outwards from Central Asia, they pushed other peoples before them into Europe and India; and these movements led ultimately to the Renaissance in Europe and the establishment of the Mughal Empire in India. M. Paul Morand, a young Frenchman, who is still living, writes in his story *The Horse of Genghis Khan*:

This immense stony Valley, (Central Asia) was only deserted now, because its former inhabitants, the Mongols, the Huns, and the Turks had been able thanks to their horses, to gain and conquer China, India and Europe. Genghis Khan had been the master of the world then, but the master of Genghis Khan was his horse.

In the Mughal Period, it was again horses that led to the establishment of a well-known Military Order called the Mansabdari System of the Mughal Empire. Then the wiry steeds of the Mahrattas as inured to fatigue as they themselves were, always worked havoc in the unwieldy masses of elephants of the Mughal armies. It was often the light cavalry charge of the Mahrattas under Shivaji that turned many Mughal victories into routs in the declining days of Alamgir.

If horses made kings, they like true King-makers often proved to be the undoing of several princes on historic battle-fields. In those olden days an Indian army was more a mere rabble than an organised army. Once it lost sight of its leader or king who was invariably made to sit on a large elephant, it was sure to be panic stricken. This lesson a Mughal prince learnt only too

late to redeem his lost fortunes. In the Wars of Succession for the throne among the sons of Shah Jehan, Dara lost his life and the very chance of getting his father's throne at the battle of Samugarh by committing the fatal mistake of changing his elephant for the horse. At the critical time for Aurangzeb, when Dara was within an ace of victory, he left his position on his beautiful Ceylon elephant, from the back of which he was urging and cheering his troops onward and jumping on a horse, he rode to the front to join his men who seemed to be getting the upper hand at the front. It was then that the inevitable happened. The army seeing Dara's elephant standing riderless thought that their leader was killed, and they broke and fled in panic. Thus the memorable battle of Samugarh reduced the fortunes of Dara to the vile dust, and proclaimed Aurangzeb Emperor of India, who, but for the fatal mistake of Dara preferring the horse to his elephant in the critical hour of the battle, would have either ended his days in obscurity as a *fakir* that he feigned to

be, or probably might have had a bloody end in battle.

In the Mutiny of 1857, it was again the horse that saved Luxmi Bai, Rani of Jhansi, from many predicaments. Since the Mutiny began, it was the horse that stood the Rani in good stead in carrying on her whirlwind campaign in Central India. In all the paintings of the Mutiny, the Rani is shown uprising herself on her charger, holding a lance in her hand and calling out to her men to stand firm.

Coming to our own day, horses are not denied their share of making one sort of history or other. Who does not know Punjab-Ka-Beta of Wadia Movietone and Bahadur of Prakash Movietone that have made film history? In Dr. Roussel's stable, established in 1911 at Paris-Romainville, there are 1,400 horses which are making what may well be called medical history by supplying a serum that goes into Hemostyl, a specific for anaemia a boon to the ailing humanity. If all this is not making history, what else is anyway?

INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH IN INDIA

By DR. JIVRAJ MEHTA

THE important part that research plays in the development of Industry, Agriculture, Commerce and National Defence in a country can hardly be exaggerated. In fact, it may be said that industrial research is the barometer of the industrial progress of a country. It is, indeed, a matter of shame that a vast country like India with tremendous natural resources, both in raw materials and in motive power, should have to depend on other countries for her economic and industrial life. We feel this dependance all the more to-day ever since the break-out of the war when India has lost a substantial part of her export trade and has also suffered from a sudden stoppage of the import of many commodities essential for the economic life of the country, such as machinery, heavy chemicals, important drugs, etc. In order to make India self-sufficient so

that we may not find ourselves in such a helpless predicament as we did during the last war and as we find ourselves again to-day, it is essential to utilise these resources to the best advantage of the country. This can be done through the use of science on a more extensive scale than what has been done so far. Science can help in the utilisation of raw materials as well as of waste products, which were exported before the war for use in the economic life of the country. Science in all its branches is intimately and indissolubly concerned with the organisation and development of industries ministering to the peace-time and war-time needs of all modern communities. Those countries which have realised this fact are spending large sums of money on scientific researches which help their industries. The figure estimated for the U. S. A. is about three hundred million

dollars as against a few paltry lakhs spent to similar purposes in India. With the exception of the U. S. A. and the U. S. S. R., there is no country in the world with natural resources so vast and so varied as India. Even a small country like Japan has taken long strides after the last war, and new developments have been witnessed in almost all branches of its industries, and some of them may now be said to have reached world-level, being second or third largest producer in the world. Germany, in spite of her natural deficiency in raw materials, has made herself practically self-sufficient by producing synthetic products of every possible variety and by the fullest possible use of her waste products scientifically. In this unfortunate country, industrial development is very slow, and very little effort is made to apply science to industry. This backwardness was realised during the last war when the Government of India addressed the Secretary of State in 1915 as follows:—

After the war India will consider herself entitled to demand the utmost help which the Government can afford to enable her to take a place, so far as circumstances permit, as a manufacturing country.

This policy was accepted by the Secretary of State for India, and the Indian Industrial Commission under the Chairmanship of Sir Thomas Holland was set up. The war, however, ended and many of the findings of the Commission were shelved as the findings of many similar Commissions have been shelved on the archives of the Secretariat. All hopes of well-organised industrial research thus vanished.

So far, therefore, as India is concerned, till recently researches were not organised on any plan or on sufficient scale, and whatever researches in industry were carried on, they were not of much practical interest from a manufacturing or industrial point of view. In 1934, the Industrial Research Council was established, but from the proceedings of the Council, it is apparent that no organised researches were conducted by the Scientists all over the country. The main function of the Council was to collect information about the progress made in

scientific discoveries and placing that information at the disposal of those who applied for it. The second function of the Council was to invite papers or theses on certain subjects recommended by Directors of Industries for investigation and to award prizes on those theses. The poverty of these efforts would be discerned on a study of the theses for which prizes were awarded. One was on a paper on the Tower Clock ringing mechanism, another on Precision manufacture in India, a third on some critical conditions in silvering of glass, a fourth on the purification of Indian glass-making sands, etc. It will thus be apparent that the researches undertaken had little relation to industrial development and that even if there was a possibility of industrial utilisation, there was no agency which would take up the research and try to see its industrial potentialities.

Research consists in a scientifically evolved development concerning not only

- (a) mechanical devices and appliances including machines of all types and for all purposes, but also in
- (b) processes, formulae and technique of production according to climatic conditions and availability of raw material, as well as distribution and use of all articles of commerce, including transport and communications, meeting the wants of men in their daily life in peace and in war; as well as in
- (c) motive power for all production and distribution processes, machinery or devices; its production, distribution and use.

Careful linking up and co-ordination of all research work in every department of pure and applied science is indispensable if real Research is to bear the desired fruit. Spasmodic, unconnected, un-co-ordinated and disjointed efforts in the field of scientific research is worse than useless, as not infrequently it involves reduplication of effort and outlay.

The appointment of the Board of Scientific and Industrial Research by the Government of India was, therefore, welcomed by all, and it has collected information about researches that have been carried out in the various Universities

and Research Institutions and also tried to avoid overlapping and duplication. About 200 Scientists are now working under the auspices of the Board of Scientific and Industrial Research and this regimentation of a certain number of Indian Scientists is having its effect, and schemes of research have begun to take shape for industrial utilisation. It is a matter of gratification that within a short period of about a year the Board has been able to produce some important results of practical value in industry. The Government have also established the Industrial Research Utilisation Committee whose main function is to suggest ways and means for utilisation of the researches carried out by the Board of Scientific and Industrial Research and in various Universities and other laboratories.

The amount of five lakhs placed at the disposal of this Board even as initial grant shows an extremely poor conception of the vast magnitude of the task involved. One also wonders if the purpose of the Board, so poorly financed, can really co-ordinate even the immediate needs of the war with the long-range policy of the industrial development of the country as a whole. One's experience in this country has hitherto been to be presented with a fine facade or with a high sounding scheme, whether it be with reference to Scientific Research or whether it be with reference to a social or educational institution but with nothing or very little behind or inside it. These may, no doubt, impress a casual observer but cannot satisfy the inner urge of those keen on a substantial development of the country in every walk of life.

It is needless to emphasise the necessity of close collaboration between industries on the one hand and research workers on the other, if research is to be of assistance in the development of industries in the country. The Indian Chemical Manufacturers' Association has been evincing a keen interest in the co-ordination between the manufacturers of chemical and pharmaceutical products on the one hand and research Institutions in the country on the other. At the last Annual General Meeting of the Association a resolution was passed recommending the

formation of a Board of Representatives of this Association and of various research Institutions for finding out ways and means for the better utilisation of the opportunities of research with a view to rapid progress of the chemical and pharmaceutical industry in the country. It is well known that although a number of researches have been carried out by several Universities and other Institutions, very few of them have been commercially utilised. There is a tendency among research scholars to remain aloof from industrialists, who in turn do not fully appreciate the work done by such scholars. Time is ripe when the efforts of research scholars and industrialists should be co-ordinated and it is a matter of satisfaction that both the parties have now realised the necessity of each other's co-operation and that they are anxious to arrive at a co-ordination of efforts. In pursuance of the resolution adopted by the Association last year, Universities and Research Institutions in this country were approached and it was pointed out to them that the non-existence of a channel of co-ordination had resulted in the wastage of many valuable researches which, if properly utilised, would have considerably added to the material welfare of the country. It was, therefore, decided to pool together the information about researches in chemicals and drugs that were going on or were likely to be undertaken in future. The Universities and Research Institutions were requested to supply these particulars to the Association and to suggest ways and means for co-operation and co-ordination. It is gratifying to note that replies have been received from most of the Universities and Research Institutions giving the items on which researches were carried out so far in their respective laboratories. The Universities and Research Institutions have also suggested that periodical meetings of research workers and manufacturers might be arranged so that the requirements, of the different manufacturers and the feasibility of meeting these demands might be discussed from various points of view and decisions from a practical point of view might be arrived at. It often happens that researches are carried out on products which are already being manufactured and in such cases

suggestions of the manufacturers would be of real help.

It is suggested that the Universities and Research Institutions should provide facilities in their laboratories to the manufacturers of Chemical and Pharmaceutical products to have certain researches carried out by the research workers under the auspices of the Universities. This would be greatly helpful both to the manufacturers who would get the advantage of well-equipped and established laboratories for carrying out researches, as also to the Universities, inasmuch as their research work would be guided on more constructive lines and the expenses for such research would naturally be borne by the manufacturers concerned. At present a few Universities have got these facilities and it is essential that the same should be extended, and such Universities which do not so far provide these facilities might also come forward to help in this collaboration.

It is, no doubt, one of the important functions of Government to organise industrial research. The Government should set apart an adequate amount for the purpose of encouraging and organising researches. I am strongly of opinion that the Government should at least set apart an adequate portion of the Excise Revenue collected from the Chemical and Pharmaceutical products and preparations only in order to provide for the establishment, maintenance and assistance of research and field laboratories in the various Provinces. Important Indian States should act likewise. It is not merely the starting of the research institutions or departments that is going to save the country in the struggle for existence that will go on for several years to come between the different countries after the termination of the war. One will have to keep abreast of the race in research. It is, therefore, essential that the industrialists on their part should also come forward from time to time with generous endowments in the Universities and other Institutions for industrial research. A certain cess might be levied on the chemical and pharmaceutical manufactures which would provide sufficient funds

annually for the maintenance and extension of research departments, i.e., in the same way as the road fund cess is levied on petrol, the sugar cess on cane sugar, the tea cess, the jute cess etc. the essential conditions being that money so raised shall be entirely devoted to the industrial research and should not serve as an additional means of adding to State revenue as is unhappily the case with the sugar cess at present. The Government can also help such industries as are carrying on research work, in the shape of exemption from custom or excise duties, lower freights on the Public Transport systems; free or preferred charge communications service, e.g., postage and telegraph rates; subsidised supply of raw material, or skilled labour needed for such researches. These things a national Government would readily do, but looking to things as they at present exist in India, we shall have to wait a long time before we can make any headway if we depend entirely or mainly on Government resources or on Government initiative for such industrial research. It is, therefore, upto industrialists themselves, as well as the wealthy persons, to undertake this great national work. The industrialists in this country are generally only concerned with their immediate needs of profit making. Very few of them perceive the long-range value of research to their own pocket. Among the industrialists who have helped in the work of research or who have taken an initiative in such work themselves, the outstanding examples in our country is the great house of Tatas. If many more industrialists follow their example, there would be a marked development of industries in the country. It is also up to the Universities to help in the field of research by maintaining research departments or giving scholarships or fellowships to those who carry on research. Our Universities have been unfortunately mostly concerned with pure science. They have not paid much attention to the industrial needs of the country and have thereby shown their lack of knowledge of the real problem that confront us. Moreover on account of the lack of contact with

manufacturing needs or of field laboratories, there is a likelihood, which is already noticeable, about the Professors and other teaching staff in even technological departments or laboratories not giving sufficient attention to applied research. It should be the function of the manufacturers and their technicians to keep in constant touch with the staff of the Technological and Chemical Departments and to keep them on the track of applied research. This responsibility must be theirs until applied research is well established in our research departments. Theoretical research or research in pure science is going on all over the world. Our scanty resources do not really permit us to spend much money thereon. What we need is more and more Applied Research and all the limited resources that we have should be devoted to that purpose. It must not, however, be understood, that applied research is for big business only. Much applied research is also called for the protection and development of the Village Industries—the very small industries that have been carried on for countless generations in the seven hundred thousand villages in India in one form or another. Any progress in that direction will add materially to the comfort and amenities of the villagers who form the backbone of our country.

I would also draw attention to the great need of establishing a regular system of apprenticeship, which ought to be made compulsory and universal by law in every domain of industry, agriculture and commerce. It will benefit the employer as well as the employed, not to speak of the community, which will thus be spared the spectacle of the "educated unemployed". Even to-day all contracts for stores supply contain a clause for compulsory employment of such workers in the factories and workshops producing and supplying such stores. Why should the Indian factory and workshop owners not bind themselves to this system and make it a success? Such an arrangement will bridge the gulf that exists at present between a B. Com. graduate and his employer in a commercial firm or between the B. Sc. (Tech.) and the Factory Manager. Most trades in ancient India

and some even at present owe their success to the training received by the businessmen while working as apprentices in the trade from early youth. Apprenticeship along with high technical or commercial education will go a great way in encouraging the growth of industry in the country.

In conclusion, let me state that it is not enough to organise and provide for research. Means must be devised at the same time, so that results by such Research are forthwith utilised—whether in the shape of the trained worker, or new formulae, processes or appliances—by those concerned. All kinds of Publicity must be organised to bring this about. Special Bureau for the trained employments must also be set up; and employers required by every possible means to employ only such trained and certified men and women.



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April '42.

Mahayana Gandhism and International Aspect

By Mr. K. M. MUNSHI

It is difficult to speak of the international situation as it stands; for the exigencies of war make the truth inaccessible. But we can trace the forces which have led to the war, and the forces as they will be arrayed after it.

One of the greatest forces in human evolution is the group idea. That the group is all important, the individual is but its constituent and instrument is an idea which has led humanity to evolve increasingly larger and more compact groups.

In Europe, in the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries, the group idea expressed itself through the concept of the sovereignty of kings. This sovereignty was unfettered by any obligations. It found in the king a living instrument of expression. It subordinated morality to the position of its handmaid. The individual was a subject, a means to secure the strength of sovereignty, not an end in himself.

The sovereignty of kings passed to the State, when kingly power came to be vested in the Parliament in England. The nation-state thus became an instrument of coercion of its subjects and a source of danger to other nation-states. Sovereignty implied the power to mould the individual and crush him if necessary. It also implied a denial of any control in its dealings with other sovereigns. Human personality and the supremacy of the moral order became words which sanctimonious statesmen could use for exploiting the moral instincts of the men whom they wanted to govern.

The rulers of Britain, for two hundred years and more, exploited the weaker peoples of the earth to enrich their little island, but with characteristic tact they blunted the edge of their internal struggles by an allegiance to human freedom, by which, however, they only meant the freedom of their own equals in their own land.

But the idea of national sovereignty dominated Europe. It displaced the power

of the Church which was based on the assumption that a universal moral order, which it represented, was the basis of a supra-statal law. Hegel, the great German philosopher, made of the state idea a super-arching entity—like *virata purusha*—distinct from the individuals composing it and entitled to their ungrudging loyalty. The nation-state was thus conceived as an entity existing by itself and invested with superhuman attributes.

The head of the nation-state was both its representative and its visible embodiment. Thus came about the apotheosis of the group idea, which found its apostle in Hegel, its technician in Marx, its high priests in Mazzini, Lenin, Mussolini and Hitler. The individual was but an insignificant tentacle of this mighty octopus, with no inalienable rights, no personality and no independent life of his own. With the privilege of using unrestricted force, the nation-state utilised the gun-powder and the diverse other instruments of destruction against individuals and rivals, till it believed itself omnipotent in theory and in practice a danger to human progress. And when men learnt to fly, it placed a facility in the hands of the State which made it a vulture of devastating rapacity.

From the earliest days the Hindu thinkers found in man the divine spark, the *atma*, which to him was a source of power and freedom; which, for him, was the source of dignity. The Greek idea of human personality was another aspect of the same spark. When Jesus Christ vindicated his right to be a Son of Man against the power of Rome and the wrath of Israel, representing respectively the political and social groups of his day, he secured the triumph of the human personality over the group forces of the day. Through Christianity, this idea fought the idea of national sovereignty, but failed to achieve a triumph except for some time in France, England and the U. S. A.

During the World War 1, Kaiser represented the All-High State-idea. In order

to win the war, France and England secured Wilson's sympathy, who in freedom loving U. S. A. had worshipped the doctrine of human personality. The Allies who won the war in the name of democracy, betrayed it in the hour of victory. Infatuated with the idea of the nation-state, they put up little dummy states all over the world draped in national sovereignty, but really pulled by the wires they held.

Lenin improved upon the Marxian technique and evolved the totalitarian State, controlled by the party, a sullen machine which flourished on consuming the human dignity of the individuals who formed part of it. Mussolini borrowed the model of Lenin, but improved upon it. The national sovereignty was found in the party and was to be exercised through the Duce. The latter was the All-Highest, for he was the State, more effectively than what Louis XIV thought he was.

For a time France and England pretended to control the irresponsibility of national sovereignties through the League of Nations. But being the two most powerful nation-states of the world, they were more anxious to retain their own sovereignty rather than try to regulate it. Both fell out. Britain helped Hitler to power as her big stick to beat Russia and France with. Hitler copied Mussolini's model; created the All-High Nation-state, with himself as its only representative; and became a big stick indeed, not only to beat France and Russia with but even Britain herself.

In the meantime human personality languished and withered under the shadow of totalitarianism. Moral order in Europe became the creed of pious ladies and simple-minded parsons. Armaments were piled up. World War II. commenced. We have now a war between two international combines, one the Anglo-Saxon, the other the Axis. Let us not deceive ourselves. We come in nowhere except as bondsmen. The Anglo-Saxon combine, if it wins, will create an international structure which will disarm the rest of the world and enforce its rule upon it. The world would be straightened out for

its domination. If the war goes the other way, an Axis combine will deal similarly with the world. National sovereignty is dead.

We know where we stand. Even Dominion Status, as we know from the last 25 years' bitter experience, is a turnip dangled only to force the pace of the donkey. In this war, our place is to serve Britain, not to share power. Streit, the American author, who once in theory included India as one of the constituents of a world union of democratic nations now only wants a Union of White Nations. The Atlantic Charter is not to apply to us. India will remain as she was, a dependency of coloured subjects. India will not be the only weak nation. All peoples outside the victorious combine will share the same fate.

At the end of the World War II, the successful international combine, equipped with irresistible military power, will hold all weak nations within its grasp. There would be no more wars because the combine will have the monopoly of the instruments of mass destruction. The members of the combine cannot fall out with one another because they will be busy dividing the spoils of a war-weary world between them and the weaker nations will have no mechanical strength to fight them. Human personality will be discredited, for giving it importance would mean raising the unarmed nations to the level of the armed ones.

Even now as the radio blares out the war news hour after hour making day and night hideous, thoughtful men even in the West are searching a way out of this stifling grip of group domination. Prof. Corell in his *Man The Unknown* has boldly asserted that the whole conception of the good life and consequently the organisation of society have gone astray since the *Renaissance* which, we had been taught so far, was the last word in human perfection. Mr. Mumford an American author of repute, in his *Faith For Living* emphasises that forgetfulness of the durable ideals of life which in the past kept humanity going in its most anguished and shattered

moments has helped to bring about the present catastrophe. Material organisation, he asserts, is no substitute for moral order. Reason is no alternative to coercion. The alternative to coercion, according to him, is what the religious call conversion, Salvation or Grace. But, states the author, pre-conception must begin with the individual if it is to end in a better society—a belated tribute to the place of human personality in the scheme of things. Mr. Stuart in his *Personal Relation and the Future of Europe* also emphasises non-material issues of reconstruction after the war. The author finds an organic relation between the immoral society and the irreligious individual. According to him, moral authority and not power is the chief motive force of every system of government and every form of public policy. Civilised men and women will, he believes, support any public policy which seems morally right. The eminent political thinker, Dr. Delisle Burns, in his pamphlet *After-war Peace*, emphasises that spiritual and moral development is an essential prerequisite of any new order. In the Christianised tradition he finds great moral ideas which must inspire men and what their reason can apprehend. Francis Williams in his *Democracy's Last Battle* believes it to be the tragedy of our time that democracy has been caught in a web of materialism.

But all this advocacy of reverting to a belief in the moral order and a respect for the human personality will be pure theory unless effective means are placed at the disposal of humanity to struggle against organised forces of violence.

Is there then, no hope for the human personality? Will any struggle for maintaining the dignity of human personality and human freedom be at an end? This cannot be, for if that were so human beings will descend to the level of the dumb-driven cattle.

If we analyse the source of power, it will be easy to see that this will not happen.

The ultimate source of power is the strength of the human spirit, not the strength of the instrument which it wields. The will to resist is the source of all

strength and that will is an attribute of human personality. When the instruments of violence are concentrated in the hands of one combine, the human beings against whom that force is used will combine their wills in a supreme effort of resistance, though after this War, the world outside the victorious combine will be deprived of the use of violence.

When an unarmed man is to face an armed man, his only chance is his capacity to resist by the force of spirit.

The Gandhian logic is unanswerable. Suppose an armed man wants to convert me to his views and I refuse to be converted. He threatens my life. I still refuse to yield. He cuts my throat. I die without being converted. In this struggle who is the victor? And who, the vanquished? The victor is not the armed assailant. I am the victor, for the armed assailant failed to convert me.

In the conditions which will emerge after the War, the instruments of violence in the hands of the weaker nations and the defenders of the human personality will be infinitely less powerful than those which the victorious combine can wield. They will have to be supplemented by what may be termed 'non-violent' instruments of resistance. Gandhiji has presented the world with such instruments in the shape of non-co-operation, boycott, inviting penalties, self-immolation and mobilisation of the moral conscience of the people by inviting suffering on a large scale.

Each one of these methods was known to individuals in the past and was spontaneously used by groups of men for non-violent resistance. These activities were based on co-ordinated, individual, non-violent efforts. The wife resisted the unreasonable husband by refusing to cook for him. The early Christians resisted by self-invited martyrdom and triumphed over the Roman Empire. The Mahajans in the medieval India resisted unrestricted kingly power by closing their shops. The Brahmins in Benares fasted to resist an alleged tax imposed by the East India Company. Hindu castes enforced their sanctions by a social boycott which some times was more terrible in its effects

than the tortures inflicted by the Inquisition. Guru Teg Bahadur sought self-immolation to resist the fanatic zeal of Aurangzeb to convert the Sikhs to Islam. The Rajput women in medieval India flung themselves on the funeral pyre of their husbands in order to escape the lust of alien invaders. Eighty thousand souls at Bardoli shook the foundation of British power.

The instruments of non-violent resistance, therefore, have added vastly to the armoury of resistance so valuable to humanity. These will be the instruments by which the weaker nations of the future will vindicate the dignity and honour of the human personality. By them alone will an individual retain his freedom in the future.

But I must guard against being misunderstood. Faith in Non-violence—*Ahimsa*—no doubt stands as a fundamental aspect of the law of Moral Causation. But my purpose for the moment is only to study non-violent resistance in its worldly aspect, as a technique of corporate resistance. Examined in this way, certain considerations stand out.

First, non-violent resistance, while it abjures the use of force which inflicts physical injury, to be effective must exert coercion, economic, social, emotional or moral.

Second, for ordinary men, whose spiritual strength is limited, non-violent resistance can only be an additional medium through which resistance can be offered. The armoury of resistance, if available or inevitable, could not be forsworn except under exceptional circumstances.

Third, as awakening the moral conscience is a form of moral resistance, giving up any forum for ventilating one's opinions—except when abstention is the chosen form of resistance itself—weakens its force and in this view there is no inherent antagonism between parliamentarianism, i.e., indirect action and direct action.

Fourth, the adoption of non-violent resistance to be effective must not sink into non-resistance on account of either

incapacity or unwillingness. But insistence on absolute non-violence often leads to that result.

Fifth, non-violent resistance requires greater courage and tenacity than violent resistance, which more often than not is the result of impulse.

Sixth, in its individual form, non-violent resistance may take the form of love or be inspired by it; in its corporate form it does not; but the suffering of the living or the martyrdom of the inoffensive stirs the moral conscience much more intensely than the shortlived sufferings of violent combatants.

Seventh, in the present initial stage at which the technique of mass non-violent resistance rests, it cannot deal effectively with organised violence unless the cause is not only just but is felt to be obviously so by those who use violence.

Eighth, in times when wars are not on, non-violent resistance has greater chances of being effective if the fight is uncompromising and disciplined.

These considerations may not, perhaps, conform to what Gandhiji has said about Satyagraha. But the same could be said of Mahayana (big cart) Buddhism. Buddha would have disapproved of many of its tenets; so would the Hinayana (small-cart) Buddhists sneer at it. But Mahayana Buddhism was as effective a Church as any other for the ordinary man. Gandhism, like Buddhism, to be accepted by the world must assume the shape of Mahayana Gandhism which the ordinary man can accept in daily life.

We, therefore, of the helpless nations are not as helpless as we imagine. We will have to take stock of instruments available to us in order to secure the redemption of the weaker groups and the freedom of the human personality. We must, therefore, look forward to the hopeful days when the human personality will be saved by a world-wide resistance carried on by individuals freely combined in order to fight the octopus of the Almighty Group, for that is what totalitarianism stands for.

A RECORD OF COMMUNAL RIGHTS

By DR. R. P. PARANJPYE

A few years ago, as an effort towards a solution of the Communal problem I suggested that as religious conversions often led to communal riots on alleged grounds of force or fraud, a law be passed for the formal registration of religious conversions and for the enforcement of several safeguards in connection with them. I had explained my suggestion in the *Indian Review* and had afterwards drafted a bill incorporating my ideas. Although the idea met with a certain measure of support from various quarters, it has unfortunately found no sponsor in the legislatures. I am far from believing that mere legislative measures will eradicate communal differences. Without a change of heart they are sure to continue. But even a change of heart will not quite suffice without suitable legislative and administrative measures to put a check on communal friction before it becomes acute.

A most potent cause of communal riots is music before mosques and processions and similar semi-religious matters. Till a few years ago such processions accompanied by music were allowed on all public streets except in a few cases. But now it has become usual with Muslims to require the cessation of music before all mosques and they often use violence to enforce their demand. On the other hand, the Hindus who have usually exercised such rights are unwilling to give them up at the point of the lathi or the sword or brickbats. The magistrates issue orders to stop such processions when they fear a breach of the peace without regard to legal rights. They are, perhaps, right in issuing such orders for the moment, when the police force at their disposal is not adequate to stop a riot, without entering into the legal rights of the communities. Proceedings are then begun in the regular courts to decide upon these rights, and their long-drawn-out nature tends to increase the friction.

Another cause of friction is an alleged interference with Muslims places of worship or tombs. It is no unusual incident to see a tomb suddenly make

its appearance in an unexpected place or some remains of a mosque being discovered where some building is on the point of being erected or projected. Many of these incidents are obviously manufactured. Places which for centuries were known to be entirely secular are given a religious significance. Everybody must have known examples of this kind. Then continual disputes arise as to the merits of the matter and any amount of lying is resorted to for proving either one side or the other. Although Muslim claims of this nature are more frequent, similar claims by Hindu castes or sub-castes are not unknown. Objection has been raised to the laying of electric wires on certain roads because they might interfere with some procession of some section of the public which may occur only once a year. The right to take a palanquin carrying an idol or a religious head crossways so as to interfere with the traffic on the whole road has occasionally led to prolonged litigation. All those facts make it eminently desirable that all such religious or semi-religious rights and privileges enjoyed by any sections of the community should be recorded once for all so as to leave no shadow of doubt about their existence or nature. Then when a dispute arises, all that the police will have to do is to marshal the force necessary to preserve order against all illegal claims.

I suggest, therefore, that a complete record be made of all such religious or semi-religious rights and copies of it should be kept in the locality concerned and also in several central places like the headquarters of the province, the district and the taluqa concerned. Such a record should be open to public inspection and should be regarded by the police and the courts as a final proof of the matter in dispute. If afterwards trouble arises in spite of this written record, it would be easy to fix the responsibility on the aggressors, and any damage caused should be made up by the aggressor community. Government already maintains a register about rights in land and anybody can obtain a certified copy

of the relevant extract from this record after paying a small fee, and further this record is kept up to date by revenue officers.

Naturally the compilation of such a record cannot be undertaken when the feelings between sections, of the inhabitants of a place are strained; but when everything is quiet in a town or a village, Government can encourage such a compilation in various ways. Village panchayats may undertake the task in villages and responsible committees containing prominent men of all communities may try to make a preliminary draft in towns. Those drafts should be widely published in the places concerned and special responsible officers, preferably belonging to none of the communities concerned, should be appointed to hear any complaints against this draft and draw up the final record. Of course, if there are too many complaints and the proposed draft is not likely to give general satisfaction, the attempt should be given up for the time being. As an inducement to the inhabitants of a village or town to assist in the peaceful carrying out of this task, Government may notify that whenever a town or a village compiles such a record on its motion and secures general acceptance for it, a fraction of the land revenue for one year will be remitted to all the inhabitants of that place. If only a few complaints against it are brought forward which have to be decided by a superior officer, the amount of this remission should be correspondingly reduced.

A record of this nature once made and registered should not be altered on any account if such alteration means the addition of some new rights of the character under consideration. But if any community voluntarily wishes to give up any of its rights and privileges, it should be allowed to do so after due notice provided that a senior officer, preferably of the judicial service, is satisfied that no undue pressure has been exercised. Along with the compilation of such a register, a law will have to be passed regulating the creation of new places of worship. These should be construed only

according to prescribed bye-laws and with the permission of the local authority and approval of the executive officer in charge of the district. Permission for such new places should only be given if they are not likely later to lead to friction or encourage the demand for new restrictions on public amenities. Similar regulations will have to be made about places of burial or cremation, or for the slaughtering of animals, especially cows.

Theoretically I am of opinion that public roads should not be used for processions, especially with music, if they cause inconvenience to any section of the population. Some of these, as for example, marriage processions, served at one time to give wide publicity to such domestic occurrences. In these days, however, this kind of publicity is hardly necessary. A better kind of publicity would be achieved by the registration of all marriages. Funeral processions are taken out by many castes with music and it would be difficult to stop them all at once. Such a general banning of all processions with music is thus not immediately practicable. People must be educated to consider public streets as means of communication and not places for demonstrations. These latter can be easily arranged in private or special premises. Where the people of any locality were fairly homogeneous in caste or religion, such questions did not arise. But with the changing conditions of these days, some of our old institutions have to undergo changes also. Especially must all citizens learn to feel that it is a part of good citizenship to abstain from inconveniencing or even hurting the feelings of any section of the public, that rights involve corresponding duties, and that resort to violence is not the best way to assert one's rights. Progress of our country requires also an increasing realisation of the fact that religion is a matter for the individual and should not consist of mere public demonstration. But till such ideas receive wide acceptance, the simple proposal I have made may, perhaps, help to soften animosities and bring the various communities a little closer to one another.

THE WARDHA SCHEME OF EDUCATION

BY

MR. C. G. VARSHNEYA, B.Sc.

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I

The following is meant to be in the nature of a reply to principal Seshadri's article published in the October issue of the *Indian Review*.

I must make it plain at the outset that I do not pose to be an educationist—amateur, professional or expert,—nor do I find myself competent enough to join issue with a person of the eminence and calibre of Principal Seshadri. My only claim to take up cudgels for Basic Education is that, having worked in the Hindustani Talimi Sangh, I have gained some first-hand knowledge of Basic Education at work.

To my mind, the 'tragic disillusionment' spoken of by Mr. Seshadri exists in his own imagination. His complaint is that that 'amateurs' have been allowed to enroach upon the sacred precincts of education reserved for 'experts' and have done something which 'generations of educationists and statesmen could not accomplish'. If India could produce a few more amateurs like Vinobaji, Dr. Zakir Hussain, Prof. Saiyadain and other framers of the Basic Education Syllabus, surely the days of the so-called experts would be over!

As regards the 'linking of education to politics', it must be remembered that the scheme was formulated by some front-rank Indian educationists, a majority of whom had nothing to do with politics. The mere fact that it was sponsored by Gandhiji and adopted by the Indian National Congress cannot, by any stretch of imagination, entitle anybody to dub it as a political stunt.

II

It is not quite correct to say that the two fundamental principles of the scheme were that it made education self-supporting and some manual craft or other was to be the basis of all teaching. In fact, the only fundamental principle of Basic

Education is that education is to be imparted through the medium of some purposeful and productive activity, call it manual work or craft or by whatever other name you please. If the sale proceeds of the articles turned out by children fetched something, it was a welcome and useful adjunct calculated to relieve the financial burden on the State to some extent.

The idea of imparting education through some sort of creative activity is not new to Basic Education but has been worked out by European and American educationists. It was, however, given to Gandhiji to suggest agriculture and spinning as the two Basic Crafts for the toiling masses of India, because these crafts satisfy the two most fundamental human needs—food and clothing. Any attempt to implant an education 'with the highest features of cultural progress' on the empty stomachs and half-naked bodies of the poor village children of India is doomed to dismal failure. True, Gandhiji gave equal importance to the self-supporting aspect of the Scheme, but once the task of framing the syllabus was entrusted to the Zakir Hussain Committee, he retained only a sort of paternal interest in it and left the practical details to be worked out by experts (not, of course, of Mr. Seshadri's conception). Even as regards the self-supporting aspect, I can do no better than quote Mr. Manu Subedar, an eminent economist, who cannot be accused of any political bias. He wrote:

A great idea . . . has been examined and commented upon by various people according to their limitations. The reaction to a work of art in the minds of those who have not cultivated an appreciation of art is much more a measure of their imperfection than a detractor of a merit of the subject. Similarly, when Mahatma Gandhi put forward the notion of self-sufficient education, all sorts of cynics and pinch-beck Nopoleans of education turned their hostile battle-cries on it. These critics . . . are even unable to recognise their own deficiency in so far as they have never attempted to use their hands on any operation to produce anything for

sale outside We have also heard from these critics much concern about school pupils being exploited and school masters being commercialised. Some of these evils are, to my mind, much more rampant in the existing system of education.

On repeated and close thinking, both as an economist and as a man engaged in industrial operations for more than 20 years, I am convinced that it will be possible to evolve a successful scheme out of the ideas which Mahatmaji has thrown out.

Mr. Seshadri is incorrect when he says that the sponsors of the Basic Scheme promised 'to introduce a system of universal elementary education' without any additional expenditure'. On the contrary it has been made amply clear that Basic Education requires a good initial expenditure of money, while the extent of income derived from children's work is still in an experimental stage. It is the paramount duty of the State to provide money for the education of children, just as it finds money for defence purposes in war time.

Mr. Seshadri has repeated the familiar, and oft-quoted charges about 'children working for their teachers', 'obtaining money from the work of little children', 'educational institutions running as factories for the employment of children', etc., without substantiating them in any way. I make him a present of the remarks of Mr. Powell-Price, Director of Education, United Provinces.

There have been criticisms, due mainly to the fact that people do not know what actually is being done and what results are achieved. It is said that this is a political stunt—a sort of Nazi discipline, in which children are dragooned into an army of supporters. Our reply is: 'Come and see them.'

III

Basic Education is, no doubt, craft-centred education, but it does not follow from this that all knowledge is to be imparted through the medium of craft and craft alone. The Zakir Hussain Committee has unequivocally stressed the need of two other mediums of instruction and correlation—the physical and social environments of the child. Whatever knowledge cannot be correlated with the Basic craft can and should be correlated with these two equally important but

overlapping mediums, for life cannot be divided into watertight compartments. And, what is outside the physical and social environment of the child is hardly worth his knowledge in the primary stages. Moreover, a basic teacher is not necessarily tied down to correlation alone: he is at liberty to try his hands even at the orthodox methods provided always that the knowledge he imparts is not forced on an unwilling child but is related to something with which he is familiar or in which he is interested. Nearly all the subjects mentioned by Mr. Seshadri are being taught in the Basic Schools through these three mediums.

IV

During the period the Congress ministries were in power, Basic Education was a new-born baby and nobody was prepared to adopt it on a large scale without some preliminary arrangements and experiments. In the exuberance of his zeal to make capital out of what he considers the 'luke-warm attitude' of the Madras Congress ministry, Mr. Seshadri has unwittingly given away a point he sought to establish earlier, namely, that Basic Education was introduced on the 'crest of a wave of political excitement'. If politics had had anything to do with the introduction of Basic Education, all the Congress ministries could easily have been asked to adopt it uniformly and simultaneously. But the real fact is that there was absolutely no linking of education with politics and the Basic Scheme was placed before the country to rise or fall on its own merits or demerits. The resignations of the Congress ministries did not see an end of the experiments started by them and Basic Education is now being put to test free from all political prejudice.

The C. P. Government has no doubt closed the Vidya Mandir Training Institute, because it had served its purpose, but Basic Education has been adopted by it as its final aim and two compact areas of Wardha and Seoni have been selected for experiment. Basic Normal Schools have been opened at both these places for the training of Basic teachers.

The story of the progress of Basic Education in the United Provinces cannot be lightly dismissed. Here, about 5,000 primary schools have been converted into Basic Schools and very good results are being achieved. Speaking recently at Nainital, Mr. Powell-Price (D. P. I.) explained that Basic Education was education on new lines and would revolutionise the attitude and outlook of the villager. He informed his audience that, in his province, the scheme was proceeding slowly but steadily and, by next year, all the primary schools would be transformed into basic schools. Mr. N. R. Dhar, D. P. I., speaking at Allahabad in the same vein said

Basic Education, if adopted in other provinces on the same scale as has been done in U. P., will lead ultimately to industrialisation of the country. . . . Today, the general trend of new education all over the world is to emphasize the importance of handwork, civics and science even in elementary education. All this has been emphasized and adopted in the Basic scheme.

The Bihar experiment, though on a limited scale in the compact area of Champaran, is being conducted in real missionary spirit and should serve as an object-lesson to those who indulge in empty criticisms.

In Kashmir, Basic Education is making much headway and I can quote verbatim from the reports and speeches of Prof. Saiyadain how the new system has transformed children into happier, freer and mentally and physically alert beings. How can any one writing about Basic Education overlook what is being done in Kashmir?

In Bombay, experiments are being carried on in the three compact linguistic areas of Dharwar, Loni and Katargam. The results are very encouraging but the future depends upon the attitude of the present Government.

The Orissa Government gave up the experiment, because it probably found itself too poor to finance it. But the thing has already caught popular imagination and work is now being carried on through non-official efforts and agency with even greater success. The statement issued some time ago by Dr. Zakir Hussain in this connection makes the position abundantly clear.

If Bengal, Assam and the Punjab did not consider Basic Education 'worth experiment', it was because certain people would not touch with a pair of tongs anything associated with the name of Mahatma Gandhi or the Congress. If at all 'politics has been mixed up with education', it is in not giving a fair trial to the Basic Scheme rather than in its enforcement.

The varying results from province to province are due to varying local conditions and circumstances as also to the attitude of educational officials who are loathe to leave the old rut, because they feel chary of putting up with the demands made on their time and energies by the Basic syllabus.

One thing more. I may be permitted to mention that a large number of Indian and European educationists, public men and statesmen have welcomed and praised the Basic Scheme. For example, every one knows that Sir C. P. Ramaswamy Iyer is a relentless critic of Mahatma Gandhi; but when he goes out of his way to commend the Wardha Scheme to his countrymen, it must cause Mr. Seshadri some serious introspection. The members of the Zakir Hussain Committee are out of question, but what about Mr. John Sergeant, Educational Commissioner with the Government of India, who has also a good word to say about Basic Education? Can any one deny that the Basic Scheme has been approved by the Central Advisory Board of Education with certain modifications? The Education Reorganisation Committees appointed by various Provincial Governments also recommended Basic Education. I doubt very much if anybody can have the hardihood of stigmatising all this as amateurish interference.

In the end, I may assure Mr. Seshadri that workers of Basic Education are not unconscious of the tentative nature of the scheme and of their own shortcomings and they always welcome constructive suggestions and helpful criticisms calculated to enlighten and smoothen their path of progress.

Release of Political Prisoners

PUBLIC demand for the release of political prisoners is based on the firm conviction that a generous gesture from the Government will pave the way for a settlement of the deadlock. Yet another opportunity for conciliation has been lost by the dilatory tactics of the Government.

Mr. N. M. Joshi had given notice of his resolution for the release of the politicals a long time ago, with a view to enable the Government to make up its mind even before the debate in the Central Assembly. The public had been prepared to expect a generous response from the Government. Sir Reginald Maxwell's answer caused a cruel disappointment. Government were still in consultation with the Provinces on the question as if they never did anything before without waiting for their approval!

It is significant the disappointment is shared by a growing section of public opinion in England also. Like the *New Statesman and Nation*, the *Manchester Guardian* and the *Daily Herald*, the *Times* too has evinced its keen sense of disappointment.

For hopes have been widely expressed that prompt response by the Government to Mr. Joshi's resolution would pave the way to reconciliation, which both sides equally desire and which both equally need.

Urging the British Government to seize the chance of a lifetime, the *Manchester Guardian* goes on to observe:

It would be thoughtless to say that the Government did nothing after the August proposals. It sent many Congress leaders and their supporters to prison, including Pandit Nehru. It is a waste of time to demonstrate that Mr. Nehru was justly sentenced for disaffection. He, like others imprisoned, said things so that the law would be compelled to imprison him. But to imprison an Indian leader is not an adequate method of giving his country the freedom we have promised.

Evidently the argument does not impress Mr. Amery and Mr. Maxwell.

Resolve the Deadlock

The accident of a number of prominent leaders of the Congress being released about the same time and the outspoken utterances of many leading Congressmen in favour of the resumption of the parliamentary programme, have naturally led to speculations about the future of congress policy. The release of C. R., who, in spite of his studied silence, has been known to favour such change and the forceful utterances of Mr. Satya-murthy and others for freedom of action within the Congress have thrust the question to the forefront.

Mr. Bhulabhai Desai, leader of the Congress party in the Assembly and other members of the Central Legislature are no less convinced of the futility of the programme of negation still favoured by the Mahatma.

It would certainly have facilitated matters greatly if at such a time Government had the imagination to release all the political prisoners to enable them to confer together. Such a gesture would have had a wholly beneficent effect on the situation. For in spite of Mr. Gandhi's embarrassing statement that the release will evoke neither appreciation nor response, Government would have done the right thing and cleared the ground for a new approach.

But it will be idle to pretend as the *Times* points out, "that this move, however well conceived, and however well received, will solve deeply-rooted and complex problems".

The release of prisoners is no doubt an indispensable condition of a fresh start. But it is not a policy in itself. Progress must be sought on new lines if a renewal of the deadlock is to be avoided.

Quite bluntly therefore, the *Daily Herald* tells the British Government "to end its sit-down strike on the India problem to cut out the distant language of diplomacy, to approach the matter in a fresh and more human and therefore more generous frame of mind".

Mr. Jaiprakash and Congress Socialists

The sensational disclosure of a couple of letters or extracts from letters alleged to have been written by Mr. Jaiprakash Narain now in Deoli Detention Camp to his wife and to his successor in the Secretaryship of the Congress Socialist Party has reacted on the public in different ways. That the attempt to direct the programme and policy of the party from the camp and to smuggle the letters is reprehensible goes without saying. But one wonders at the puerility of the attempt and the abnormal mentality that could conceive of such infantile methods of political work. The substance of the extracts even without Government's unwarranted annotation, betrays a mind at once naive and unbalanced and it is passing strange that a socialist leader who has had to grapple with realities should have indulged in such pitiful illusions. If the letters are assured to be genuine there is ample evidence that the detention camp has dreadfully unbinged the writer's mind. Government can hardly take such stuff very seriously.

Mr. Jaiprakash Narain's strange conduct cannot do much harm either to the Government or to the country, but it is the Congress and Mahatma Gandhi who stand to suffer by his admittedly disloyal action. It may be that in the West such underhand dealings, if successful, may pass for praiseworthy diplomacy, but Mahatma Gandhi with whom truth and non-violence are the cardinal tenets of his philosophy, will have none of it. Assuming the correctness of the charge against Sri Jai Prakash Narain, says Gandhiji,

the method advocated by him is against the policy of truth and non-violence adopted by the Congress, and he deserves the severest condemnation.

and it is evident from the way they have absolved Jaiprakash's wife from complicity in the affair and refrained from taking further action on Jaiprakash Narain himself that they have considered the episode closed.

Mr. Jinnah and his League

Mr. Jinnah is taking every opportunity to show his chagrin at the Viceroy going ahead with his scheme in spite of the League President's repeated warnings. These warnings and threats have become so habitual with him that they have ceased to count. On October 28, he staged a walk out of the League members of the Assembly and he took care to prefix the demonstration with a statement full of sound and fury, warning the Government that if they ignored his protest, "it will hurt their cause". Plainly it meant that such a policy would affect their war effort adversely. Pakistan, said Mr. Jinnah on another occasion, is "our charter" and he vowed that the League would never give it up. But the final ultimatum was reserved to the meeting of the Council of the League which hurled defiance at the Viceroy's Muslim nominees to the Expanded Council and warned the British Government that

no further steps be taken, or adjustments made in the future even within the framework of the present Constitution and law without the approval and consent of the All-India Muslim League, and once more warns the Government that any action in this connexion without the approval of the Muslim League will be deeply resented and the responsibility for the consequences that may ensue will be entirely that of the Government.

Government do not seem to be much perturbed by this threat. But this amazing resolution is of a piece with the League's blustering methods. For it says, in effect, that there shall be no constitutional development in India without the consent and approval of the Muslim League. Rather a tall order.

CONTRIBUTIONS

THE Editor solicits contributions on all topics of general interest, and in particular on subjects bearing on the political, commercial, industrial and economic condition of India. Short articles on topical subjects are preferred. Contributions accepted and published will be duly paid for.

It may be stated that a page of the Review takes in about 700 words.

All contributions and books for Review should be addressed to Mr. G. A. Natesan, Editor, *The Indian Review*, Esplanade, Madras.

U Saw's Mission to England

U Saw, Premier of Burma, went to England with the definite object of persuading the British Government to concede Dominion Status to Burma. He has returned a disappointed man. He met Mr. Amery, Secretary of State for India, who is also Secretary for Burma and Mr. Churchill, the Prime Minister, and had long discussions with them. But the result has not been encouraging. At a recent interview he has politely and despondently announced

that he is not satisfied with the results he has achieved in the negotiations on Burma's constitutional issue. He was treated with courtesy and hospitality. He has not got out of Mr. Churchill or Mr. Amery, what he had hoped to get, an assurance that Burma would after the war be raised to the full status of a Dominion.

Now Burma is doing her bit for the war and is indignantly conscious of the continuous threat from Japan. But her expectations of rapid political progress are based on other valid grounds as well. And yet Mr. Amery could offer no more than the vague promise

that in the discussions we have undertaken to hold as soon as the war is concluded, we mean to go as far and as we can on the road towards that high status (Dominion Status).

This stale formula could mean anything or nothing and is no straight answer to the Burmese Premier's categorical demand. Why should Britain be equivocal? In Burma there are not the same communal bitternesses as in India, which are trotted out as obstacles to Indian freedom. What then should have stood in the way but the mere unwillingness to part with power? But Burmese loyalty is as firm and unwavering as India's. For though Japan is not to be ignored the Burmese feel with their Premier that

it is better to trust the devil we know than the devil we do not know.

That is not very flattering to Britain but U Saw has no bitterness and he expressed himself with a naive homeliness.

Mr. Amery on the Atlantic Charter

Mr. Amery's latest performance at Manchester beats his own record for mischievous and misleading speeches. For what is one to think of his astounding claim that the August offer of Dominion status was "no less far reaching in its scope and far more satisfying" than the Atlantic Charter? If that is so, he might as well offer it to Britain's good Allies Russia and U. S. A. and see their reaction to his offer!

Equally amazing is his claim that "what the Magna Charta has won for us in the rights of the individual under the law we have given to India." This is frankly testing the credulity and good sense of the Manchester audience. Are there gulls in England who could swallow this stuff? Mr. Amery may be assured there are none such in India.

It is needless to accuse Mr. Amery of being perverse. He has said in downright words that there is no possibility of Britain parting with her power in India. For he straightway asks:

"Where is the body in existence or to be constituted which can in that sense speak for India or express an agreed demand?"

"Of course there is not one, but more than one" comments the *Reformer*,

but it is difficult to make Mr. Amery see them because he is determined to look at India only as a group of dissentient and warring units, and not as a whole. Before an international and impartial tribunal India would have no difficulty in establishing that she is as much a political unit as the United States and Soviet Russia with their vast extent of territory and variety of population. But it does not suit English statesmen of the type of Mr. Amery to regard India except as an irreconcilably divided country. . . .

Either he is very ignorant of what is passing around him or he is trying to deceive India and is, as often happens when one tries to deceive others, deceiving himself. Where is the body to speak for India, he asks? There may or may not be such a body, but one thing is certain and that is that he or anyone whom he represents cannot answer for India. The only inference to be drawn from this and others of Mr. Amery's speeches, is that it is folly to expect him to be of any service to the attainment of Indian freedom.

The Andhra Maha Sabha

The Andhras, like the Bengalees, are a gifted people and the Andhra Desha has produced men of towering eminence in different walks of life. Scattered in different districts of British India and the States, there is yet an unmistakable homogeneity among them. Eloquent expression to the needs and aspirations of Andhra Desha was given at the recent Maha Sabha at Vizagapatam under the presidentship of the Maharaj Kumar of Vijayanagaram. The demand for a separate Province was, of course, stressed with eloquent emphasis, but the most striking passage in the Maharaj Kumar's address was the clarion call which he made on the Zamindar class to march with the times or perish.

The duties of landlords to which order I happen to belong are pretty clear. That their position in National India is of outstanding importance, there cannot be least doubt. They have a distinct responsibility to discharge. They must grow out of their age-long conservatism and remodel their ideas and ideals in terms of the new order. They cannot afford to lose sight of the fact that the ballot box is after all the deciding factor and it would be political suicide if they forfeit the sympathy and support of the people. That being so, the best thing for members of our order is to move with the times and not ignore the writing on the wall.

The Maharaj Kumar pleaded for a change in general outlook among all people the world over and stressed the importance of winning the peace which was as important as winning the war.

Our political leaders were not unreasonable in their demand for a square deal for India. It was a matter of great disappointment that those who called upon us to fight in this war were not wise enough and bold enough to say that the war was for the freedom of India as well.

While the President pinned his faith to Gandhi and his message of non-violence, Mr. Venkatapathi Raju, in his inaugural address, struck a different note.

Mahatma Gandhi and Mr. Jinnah, he said should demand that an army of ten millions should be raised and trained and equipped in India to safeguard this country against any possible attack... would it not be a better method of winning freedom to deserve it by maintaining peace in the country and preventing aggression from outside?

Nevinson and India

Genuine regret is felt in India at the passing of H. W. Nevinson, the high souled British journalist, who visited this country during the crisis of 1907 and 1908. A distinguished war correspondent who had recorded almost every campaign from the Greco-Turkish War of 1897 to the last Great War of 1914, Mr. Nevinson had won his spurs in many fields. But his record in India as correspondent for the *Manchester Guardian* during the stirring days of the Congress fiasco at Surat was unique in many respects. Unlike many other correspondents of British and American journals whose knowledge of India is mainly drawn from Government House Parties and the Secretariats, Nevinson had the gift of imagination and sympathy with the people of this country which won him many friends among Indian nationalists. As he himself wrote in one of his letters to the Editor of this *Review*.

I was intimately associated with both Gokhale, whom I regard as the wisest Statesman I have ever known, and the finest nature of a man and Tilak, the leader of the Extremists, a fine scholar of fiery temperament. I also know Aurabindo Ghose, the profoundly thoughtful saint among the Extremists. All the other leaders of Indian opinion in those days I knew and admired though their opinions were very contradictory.

His liberal outlook and generous sympathies helped him to understand the troubles of a subject country panting for freedom and his frank and outspoken comments in the columns of a widely read British paper was the talk of the day. Doubtless his vivid impressions of nationalist leaders and his criticism of bureaucratic self-complacency must have opened the eyes of intelligent Englishmen at home to the distracted conditions in India. To gifts of temperament he had the additional gift of style, which has made his *New Spirit in India* a classic of its kind.

British Offensive in Libya

BRITISH and German troops are, in the words of *Reuter's* special correspondent, locked in combat on the battle-fields of the Western Desert made famous by General Wavell's victorious campaign of a year ago. "The appeal of our Russian Ally has been answered and a fresh front opened up against the Axis. Although the German-African Corps provides more stiffening for the Italians in Libya, who are far more numerous than the Nazis, the essence of the struggle now proceeding is that it constitutes one, the first test of strength between Britons and Germans since Greece and Crete and two, troops from British Isles are playing a predominant part in the operations, the proportion of Dominion soldiers engaged being smaller than that of previous campaigns. The imperial forces have advanced far into Libya.

As we go to Press, British and South African forces, in co-operation with Indian troops, have captured Jalo. An Italian *communiqué* has been issued admitting the loss of this strongly-held position.

Mr. Churchill's Declaration

"We do not know whether the efforts of the United States to preserve peace in the Pacific will be successful, but if they fail, I take this occasion to say—and it is my duty to say it—that, should the United States become involved in war with Japan, the British declaration will follow within the hour," declared Mr. Winston Churchill at Mansion House, London, on November 10.

The Prime Minister said that the war might well involve the greater part of Asia, "nay, it may soon spread to the remaining fourth of the globe".

We are told from many quarters that we must soon expect what is called a peace offensive from Berlin. I make it absolutely clear that whether we are supported or alone, however long and hard the toil may be the British nation and the British Government at the head of the nation, in intimate concert with the Governments of the great dominions, will never enter into any negotiations with Hitler or any party in Germany which represents the Nazi regime.

Stalin's Challenge to Hitler

Dwelling on the temporary set-backs suffered by the Red Army, Stalin remarked in the course of his address to the Moscow Soviet on the occasion of the 21th anniversary of the Soviet Revolution that one of the principal reasons was that there was no second front in Europe against Germany.

"This means that the Germans considering their front to the west to be safe are able to pit all their armies and their allies in Europe against our army." The situation is now such, proceeded M. Stalin, that the Soviet Russia leads the war of liberation alone against Germany and her allies.

M. Stalin referred to Anglo-American aid and said that Soviet Russia had already begun to receive tanks and aeroplanes. Moreover, all the subjugated peoples of the world had come to her help. Russia must do all in her power to help them and then let them live a life of complete liberty in their homeland as they want to.

"To do that," concluded Stalin, "we must break the life of the German war machine."

President Roosevelt's Plea

Full support to Russia was promised by President Roosevelt in the course of his speech at the International Labour Conference Session at Washington. He declared—

The epic stand of Britain, China and Russia will receive full support of the free peoples of America. The people of this country insist on their right to join the common defence. The American people have made the unlimited commitment that there be a free world. Against that commitment no individual or group shall prevail. The American worker has not to be convinced that the defence of the democracies is his defence.

The President paid a tribute to the work of M. Stalin at the Moscow Conference and said that America insisted on her right in joining the common cause. The American worker has no illusions about what will happen if Hitler won. His own safety was not assurable if three-fourths of the world was slave and one-fourth free. The question before them was whether they should make sacrifices now or postpone it like France till it was too late.

Ribbentrop's Boast

Europe will be "saved" from revolt by the German tank and the dive-bomber. This point was made by Herr von Ribbentrop, speaking at a lunch in Berlin to signatories of the Anti-Comintern Pact. Herr von Ribbentrop said:

Mr. Churchill should know that the tank and the dive-bomber preclude the possibility of a revolt in disarmed territory. In any case, the peoples of Europe have not the faintest inclination to revolt.

It was clear, however, that reconstruction of "our Continent" could not be completed in a day.

Birth-pangs are unavoidable. But the majority of the people of Europe are completely in agreement of one point, namely, that Britain has no business on the Continent in future.

Bitterly attacking President Roosevelt, Herr von Ribbentrop said that even helped by the United States, Britain could never hope to equal Germany and her allies on land or sea and in the air.

The odds obviously are against Britain. When the main fighting services of Germany and her Allies are employed against the British Isles by air, sea and land, Britain will be laid waste and must sooner or later suffer defeat.

England and Ethiopia

The *Manchester Guardian* editorially castigates the British Government over the general treatment of restoring full independence to that country. It recalls that Mr. Churchill, in congratulating the Emperor on his restoration, addressed him as "lawful Sovereign" and remarks: "But unfortunately this innocent idea is a delusion, for Ethiopia is still administered as enemy occupied territory. Our recognition of Italian conquest has not been formally repudiated and the Emperor has not yet been formally recognised as a *de jure* Sovereign."

The *Guardian* cites Mr. Berriedale Keith on the point that Italian concessions have lost all legal and moral validity when the Emperor was *de facto* restored. "In any event," says the *Guardian*, "it is not for us who played so sorry a part in confirming Italy's destruction of Ethiopia's rights now to hamper the Ethiopians in getting them back. For some unhappy years, our policy was as shameful as it was inefficient."

Scrapping the Neutrality Act

After an eleventh-hour intervention by President Roosevelt, the House of Representatives dramatically gave Congressional approval by an eighteen votes majority (212 to 194) to the legislation scrapping the Neutrality Act bans on the arming of American merchantmen and sending them to combat zones.

The result of the vote, which virtually amounts to repeal of the Neutrality Act, has been received with genuine enthusiasm in England and in all Allied quarters.

The importance of the decision cannot be exaggerated. It means that America is not only producing but is guaranteeing delivery of tremendous supplies of war materials to Great Britain and to Russia.

A general and rapid expansion of American activity along the sea and air routes to Britain is expected in authoritative quarters to follow the revision of the Neutrality Act.

Jap-American Talks

It is learned authoritatively that the United States and Japan have failed to find a formula for the peaceful settlement of differences. War or peace in the Far East may hinge on Japan's next move. An earlier message stated:

"The Secretary of State, Mr. Cordell Hull, has handed over to the Japanese Ambassador, Admiral Nomura, and the Japanese Special Envoy, Mr. Kurusu, a "document", presumably summing up the attitude of the United States towards a peaceful settlement of the Pacific problem."

The document was based on certain principles frequently reiterated by Mr. Cordell Hull. These principles, it is believed, could be translated into practical terms in the Pacific, if Japan would stop armed expansion including the invasion of China and occupation of French Indo-China and seek to build up commerce by peaceful means. But as a prelude the Japanese would have to enter into an agreement, pledging that they would not march against Singapore or the Netherlands East Indies and would by friendly arbitration or other means end the hostilities in China.

DIARY OF THE MONTH

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Nov. 1. Assembly Congress Party meets in New Delhi, Mr. Bhulbhai Desai presiding.
—Mr. B. Sambamurthy, Speaker, Madras Assembly, is released.
Nov. 2. Rt. Hon. Sapru issues Statement *re*: present situation.
—Germans claim capture of Odessa.
Nov. 3. U. S. warns Finland to discontinue operations against Russia.
—Maharaja of Parlakimidi meets Governor *re*: Coalition Ministry in Orissa
Nov. 4. Demonstration against Lord Halifax in Detroit.
—Japanese troop movements in Indo-China.
Nov. 5. Japanese Envoy flies to Washington.
—Sardar Patel asks Misra group to resign from Orissa Assembly.
Nov. 6. M. Litvinoff is appointed Soviet Ambassador to U. S. A.
—President Roosevelt addresses I. L. O. Conference in Washington.
Nov. 7. The American Senate votes in favour of Neutrality Act by 49 votes to 38.
Nov. 8. Hitler, speaking at Munich, gloats over his success in Russia and challenges Britain.
Nov. 9. Working Committee of the Liberal Federation at Delhi demands equal status for India.
—Mr. N. M. Joshi sees the Home Member after meeting Deoli detenus.
Nov. 10. Home Secretary, Mr. E. Conran Smith, announces that Subhas Bose has gone over to the enemy.
—Dr. Ganganath Jha is dead.
Nov. 11. Mahatma Gandhi issues a statement on Indo-Ceylon Pact.
Nov. 12. Gandhiji pleads for fair and decent treatment to prisoners and says that discharged prisoners will be asked to re-offer C. D.
Nov. 13. The House of Representatives passes the Neutrality Revision Bill by 212 against 194.
—Deoli hunger-strikers are urged to give up fast.

Nov. 14. H. M. S. *Ark Royal* is sunk.
—J. P. Narain refuses to give up hunger strike. Gandhiji's appeal to Government.
Nov. 15. India Railway Conference Association meets at New Delhi.
—Emergency Session of Jap Diet meets to decide war or peace in the Pacific.
Nov. 16. Canadian troops arrive in Hongkong.
Nov. 17. Central Assembly discusses Indo-Ceylon Report.
—Sir J. Dill is announced as successor to Sir Roger Lumley, Governor of Bombay.
Nov. 18. Home Member's statement in the Assembly on Mr. Joshi's resolution on release of political prisoners.
Nov. 19. Gen. Weygand, Vichy Commander in North Africa, is dismissed.
—Mr. Amery's statement on the Impasse.
Nov. 20. Mr. Churchill announces that British offensive in Libya has begun.
—Congress Party meeting in Delhi decides to function in opposition.
Nov. 21. Big battle in Libya is reported and German forces are driven off.
Nov. 22. British troops occupy Bardia.
—U. S. coal strike ends, mine workers accepting President Roosevelt's proposal.
Nov. 23. Deoli hunger-strike ends.
—New Ministry formed in Orissa.
Nov. 24. Gombat falls into British hands.
—Mr. Cordell Hull summons a conference of representatives of Britain, China, the Netherlands and Australia.
Nov. 25. American troops move into Dutch Guiana.
—Indian troops capture Aguila.
Nov. 26. Speaking at Berlin, Ribbentrop denies peace offensive and boasts of the strength of German arms.
Nov. 27. Mr. Amery says in the Commons that the release of prisoners is in New Delhi's discretion.
Nov. 28. Mr. Eden defends British policy in India.
—Jap-American talks fail.
Nov. 29. Jap Premier denounces Anglo-American "exploitation" in East Asia.
Nov. 30. Report of Jap attack on Thailand.
—All troops in Singapore are ordered to stand by.



The WORLD of BOOKS



SCIENCE IN CHAINS. By Sir Richard Gregory. Macmillan War Pamphlets, 3d. net.

Yet another interesting book in the new series of war pamphlets issued by Messrs. Macmillan is Sir Richard Gregory's indictment of the Nazi way with Scientists. As President of the British Association and for many years Editor of *Nature*, Sir Richard is a leading figure in the world of Science. In these pages he describes how Modern Germany has outlawed itself from the great commonwealth of intellectual freedom. In so far as German thinkers are bound to adjust their thinking to the dictates of the State, it cannot in the nature of the case be either free or genuine. It is deplorable to think that in Germany today "no thesis can be submitted for scientific examination until it has passed the Nazi censor". This is a lamentable position unworthy of men of Science to submit to.

TO THE PEOPLE OF BRITAIN AT WAR FROM THE PRIME MINISTER OF AUSTRALIA. Longmans Green & Co., London.

This is a collection of the Speeches delivered in Great Britain by Robert Gordon Menzies, ex-Prime Minister of Australia. It includes his fine broadcast message to the women of Britain. Mr. Menzies has written a special Introduction describing his visits to the Imperial Forces in the Middle East and to the Mediterranean Fleet.

EAGLE'S FEATHERS. By Nigel G. Tranter. Ward Lock & Co., Ltd. London.

Hugh MacAimish's ambition was to rehabilitate the Highlands of Scotland and to people it with some of the more distressed of his people with the money earned by an American railroad belonging to him. The magnificent fight he puts up against the odds chiefly consisting of the apathy of the beneficiaries and the aggressive opposition of the owners of shooting rights in those parts is vividly drawn. And at the end he succumbs to the charm of one Highland lassie and decides in spite of the magnificent failure to stay there. This is a powerful story bringing out delightfully the contrast between the sentimental American who hated flops and the superior English who hated change. A book that can be recommended.

VIKRAMORVASIE OR THE HERO AND THE NYMPH by Sri Aurobindo. Published by Sri Aurobindo Asram, Pondicherry.

Vikramorvasie is a translation into English blank verse of the well known drama in Sanskrit by Kalidasa. The translation was first published in 1911 and this is the second edition. The story deals with the love of Urvashie, an apsara or nymph of heaven with king Pururavas and abounds in passages of great beauty and emotion reflecting the varying moods of the lovers. The translation does full justice to the original in language and thought and deserves to be widely read.

SCIENCE OF ECONOMICS. By J. M. Kapoor, Vol. I, Part I. The English Book Depot, Lahore. Re. 1-12.

The aim of the author who is on the staff of the Hailey College of Commerce, Lahore, is to present to the Indian reader in a lucid and attractive manner the fundamental nature, the scope and content and the method of economics as expounded by eminent authors in standard works. Mr. Kapoor displays considerable erudition and a rare capacity for lucid presentation.

Mr. Kapoor is unwilling to admit that Economics can be an art as well as a science, but he is obliged to recount at a later stage its utilitarian and human aspects and to recognise the difficulty of dissociating the means from the ends and of a clear-cut division between economics and politics or ethics. A complete division in the social sciences is neither easy nor desirable. As Mill said: "A person is not likely to be a good economist who is nothing else."

In his attempt to exalt the purely scientific nature of economics, our author brushes aside as irrelevant moral and spiritual issues, but he is later on obliged to refer to them as of great importance when he discusses the inroads on freedom and morality that a Socialist regime would involve. Mr. Kapoor seems to be satisfied on the whole with the existing economic organisation, which gives comfort to millions and billions of people and he exhibits undisguised disgust for the few who are in trouble that naturally raise a hue and cry. He advocates a Fabian approach to the reform of the existing organisation with which we can all agree if it does not lead to shelving of issues.

THE RIGHT DIRECTION OF REAL PROGRESS. Translated into English by Chunilal Vraglal Mody, B.A. (Hons.) Published by Secretary, Bombay Shroffs Indigenous Bankers' Association. Price Rs. 2-8.

His Holiness Acharyadeva Shrimad Vijayaramchandrasurishvarji of the Jaina Svetambar Murtipujak is a great and erudite teacher and preacher who has been exercising a profound influence on his Jaina followers and disciples. His sermons are delivered in Gujarati, and the author, himself a devout disciple of the Swamiji has now rendered six of them into excellent English. The subjects dealt with are: 1. Know the self 2. The great purpose of human life. 3. Purification of the soul. 4. The means of happiness. 5. The way to peace, and 6. Whither Progress? and the titles indicate their wide range. The sermons are couched in popular language, illustrated by stories and parables embellished by apt quotations from sacred writings.

MODERN MARATHI SHORT STORIES. Edited by B. G. Shinde. Published by him at Sarog Prakashan, Sharad Villa, Bombay 19.

The Editor claims the book as being the first of its kind. It contains English translation of ten short stories originally written in the Marathi language. The stories on the whole are well constructed, effectively expressed, and faithfully reflect the emotional moods of various classes of the Indian community in the Maharashtra Provinces. The stories collected in this volume evince considerable talent in the selection of the subject-matter and in the manner of telling it. The characters live and the situations are very exciting. Some of the stories reveal great insight into the psychology of men and women.

THE PHILOSOPHY OF FAQUIRS. By Nawab Amin Jung Bahadur Sir Ahmed Hussain, K.C.I.E., C.S.I., M.A., LL.B. Published by Shaikh Muhammed Ashraf. Kashmiri Bazar, Lahore.

In these days when the Hindu-Muslim relationship is so much canvassed, it is refreshing to read this brochure containing discourses and articles on the philosophy of Faquirs. The learned author equates Vedantism with Sufism and uses the Arabic word "Tasaw-wuf" meaning "divine sentiment" to cover both and as comprising two schools of thought—the monistic, i.e., the Advaitic and Visishtadvaitic sufism and the positive or the Dawaitic sufism. The author has taken great pains to render an abstruse subject as clear and practical as possible by means of analytical tables.

THE NON-HINDU INDIANS AND INDIAN UNITY. By Savitri Devi. Published by B. K. Bramhachari. Hindu Mission, 32-B, Harish Chatterjee Street, Calcutta.

The author thinks that Hinduism has lost its flexibility and it has failed to assimilate to itself Mohammedanism and Christianity as it did assimilate earlier extraneous religions. She pleads for separating religion from politics—religion being a personal and individual concern, politics a national concern. Nation first, Religion afterwards. The book enters a strong and moving appeal for a national ideology in India; for "India first and India last" in all civil, social and political matters; for all who have made India their home, whether they be Hindu, Mussalman, Christian or Parsi, whatever their creed or religion, or want of it.

BOOKS RECEIVED

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WILL WAR COME TO INDIA? By N. G. Jog. Foreword by Rt. Hon. Dr. M. R. Jayakar. New Book Company, Bombay.

MIRA AND MAHAVIR OR BELIEF IN GOD. By N. V. Thadani. Hindu College, Delhi.

INDIAN ADULT EDUCATION HANDBOOK. Edited by Emert Champress and H. B. Richardson. With a Foreword by Sir S. Radhakrishnan. Indian Adult Education Conference Committee, Indore.

PRACTICAL NON-VIOLENCE. By K. G. Mashruwala. Navajivan Press, Ahmedabad.

A DISCIPLINE FOR NON-VIOLENCE. By Richard B. Gregg. Navajivan Press, Ahmedabad.

PUBLIC FINANCE AND OUR POVERTY. By J. C. Kunnappa. Foreword by M. K. Gandhi. Navajivan Press, Ahmedabad.

MIND AND DEITY. By John Laird (Gifford Lectures). George Allen and Unwin Ltd.

PRAGMATIC PHILOSOPHY. By C. Chakrabarti. Vijaya Krishna Bose. 81, Vivekananda Road, Calcutta.

VILLAGES AND TOWNS AS SOCIAL PATTERNS. By Dr. Benoy Kumar Sankar. Chatterjee & Co., Ltd., 15 College Square, Calcutta.

THE ASTROLOGICAL SELF-INSTRUCTOR. By Prof. B. Suryanarain Rao. The Astrological Office, Basavangudi, Bangalore.

ANCIENT SIND: A study in civilization. By C. L. Masiwalla. D. J. Sind College, Karachi.

THE MENACE OF HINDU IMPERIALISM. By Swami Dharma Theerthah Maharaj. Hindu Missionary Mission, Lahore.

LIFE NEGATION. By A. Coomarasawmy Tampoe. Luzac & Co., London.

HISTORY OF ENGLAND FROM THE EARLIEST TIMES TO 1603 (IN TAMIL). By T. R. Sessa Iyengar, M.A. Blackie & Sons (India) Ltd., Madras.

DIVYA SURI CHARITAM (TAMIL). By Sri Srinivasachariar. With Foreword by V. Vasudevachariar. Published by K. Devanadachariar, M.A. 134, Fifth Main Road, Chamarajpet, Bangalore City.

CONSTITUTION-MAKING IN INDIA. By P. Kodanda Rao. The Hitavada, Nagpur.

EDUCATION. Compiled from the writings of Swami Vivekananda. Sri Rama Krishna Math, Mylapore, Madras.

REPORT ON THE MARKETING OF RICE IN INDIA AND BURMA. Manager of Publications, Delhi. Re. 1-4.

Hyderabad

HYDERABAD BUDGET ESTIMATES

The budget estimates of the Nizam's Government for 1351 Fasli (1941-42) issued recently place the anticipated receipt at Rs. 915'73 lakhs and expenditure at Rs. 913'77 lakhs leaving a surplus of Rs. 1'96 lakhs.

According to the revised estimates for 1350 Fasli (1940-41), the total receipts improved from Rs. 926'51 lakhs to Rs. 962 lakhs while the surplus was improved to Rs. 60'57 lakhs against the anticipated surplus of Rs. 8'92 lakhs.

A note says that it has been possible to produce another surplus budget notwithstanding the prolongation of the war and failure of the south-west monsoon, which resulted not only in a considerable fall in land revenue but also necessitated the starting of relief works in districts badly affected by deficient rainfall and granting of Taccavi for fodder and well-sinking.

The budget statement also contains a brief review of the state of Hyderabad's finance at the time when Sir Akbar Hydari retired from the service of State. It mentions that six reserves were created between 1331-32 Fasli by Sir Akbar Hydari soon after he became the Finance Minister, the total present balance of which is Rs. 8,153'3 lakhs.

BAN ON PROFESSIONAL BEGGING

H. E. H. the Nizam has given his assent to the Bill for the prevention of professional beggary in the State, which was passed in the Legislative Assembly last June. Its enforcement will be brought about after due arrangements have been made, particularly as regards the establishment of poor houses.

Mysore

MYSORE AND HYDERABAD

A Notification issued by the Government of Mysore says that the Governments of Mysore and Hyderabad State have agreed that with effect from the date of this notification, they will act upon a system of strict reciprocity in the matter of extradition of fugitive criminals in accordance with the following conditions:—

The extradition of fugitive criminals to the Hyderabad State from Mysore will be regulated by the provisions of Mysore Extradition Act of 1938 and the surrender of fugitive criminals by the Nizam's Government to the Government of Mysore will be arranged in accordance with the principles of the Hyderabad Extradition Act of 1316 Fasli.

It has been further agreed that persons charged with offences which are extraditable under the law in force in British India are to be surrendered by one Government on the requisition of the other.

DOCTORATE DEGREES

In connection with the Mysore Government's sanction to the proposal that the University of Mysore be permitted to institute Doctorate Degrees in Arts, Science, Engineering and Medicine, holders of M. A. or M. Sc. degrees will be permitted to appear for their Doctorate degree four years after their qualifying for either of those degrees. A B. E. could appear for the Doctorate five years after becoming a B. E. and the Doctorate could be taken four years after taking the M. E. (the M. E. degree being newly instituted). All the examinations for Doctorates would be by external examiners.

Baroda

FACTORIES IN BARODA

Apart from the Workshop of the G. B. S. Railway, there are two important Iron Works in the State, viz., (1) The Sayaji Iron Works and (2) the Baroda Bolt and Engineering Works.

The Cement factory at Dwarka has recently increased the capacity of its plant by 50 per cent. In previous years its output was about 80,000 tons a year and now it produces about 1,20,000 tons a year.

The Salt Works at Mithapur, situated on the north-western corner of Kathiawar, are producing salt of superior quality, which is mostly exported to Bengal. The production reached the maximum level in 1939-40 when 75,000 tons of salt was produced.

There is one Sugar factory at Gamdevi with a crushing capacity of 250 tons a day.

There are two Match factories in the State, one at Petlad and the other at Bilimora.

There is a Rubber factory in Baroda called the Gujarat Rubber Works, Ltd., which is manufacturing moulded rubber articles used in machinery.

THE TATAS IN BARODA

The Baroda State has always given aid to industries which have a prospect of successful working. As a result of the efforts of the State extending over a number of years, new industries have developed. The Tatas have established in the State one of the most important key industries for the manufacture of heavy chemicals which required enormous capital and high technical knowledge. The Company has already spent Rs. 125 lakhs and had a large programme of expansion.

Travancore

TEMPLE GRANTS

Orders stopping permanently grants to private temples which have not been thrown open to all classes of Hindus have now been issued by the Travancore Government.

A press note in this connection recalls that in 1937, Government ordered the suspension of all grants to private temples within the State which were found to be non-co-operating with the Government in carrying out the objects of the Temple-Entry Proclamation. Since then grants have been revived in respect of such temples as accepted the principles underlying the Proclamation and a majority of grants had been revived by the end of 1940. The Government have now ordered that grants due to all private temples as had been thrown open to all classes of Hindus for worship by September 17, 1941, may be revived while grants to other temples are permanently stopped.

UNIVERSITY EDUCATION

In March 1941, the Travancore University presented 716 candidates for the Intermediate Examination, 290 for the B. A. and B. Sc. Degree Examinations, 80 for the L. T., 101 for the F. L., 46 for the B. L., 4 for the M. A., and 27 for B. A. (Hons) and B. Sc., (Hons.). The number of successful candidates in these examinations being 311, 180, 65, 45, 35, 4 and 20 respectively.

BENEFITS FOR HARIJANS

A sum of Rs. 47,000 has been allotted for the current year for the uplift of backward communities in the State as against Rs. 33,000 last year. Of this, nearly Rs. 35,000 will be spent on land acquisition, provision for burial grounds, etc., for these communities.

Gwalior

CONSTITUTIONAL CHANGES

Certain lines of constitutional development were announced in the Proclamation of His Highness the Maharaja Scindia of Gwalior on the Vijaya Dashmi Day.

It is stated that certain adjustments of a momentous nature have been made within the framework of the scheme announced in 1939 and the interval that has elapsed between the two Proclamations has been utilised for devising measures for the fulfilment of His Highness' intention to provide for greater and more effective association of his people in the administration of the State.

The strength of the Praja Sabha or the Lower House, which was formerly 35 has now been raised to 90 and of this number 55 instead of 50 will be elected representatives of the people. Similarly both the Chambers, the Praja Sabha and Raj Sabha will have identical powers and the range of their functions will be co-extensive according to the new Proclamation. Both the Houses will have the right to discuss the heads of the State budget, and Bills may now originate in either Chamber, but shall not be deemed to have been passed unless they have been agreed to by both the Chambers. The powers and functions of both the Houses have also been enlarged in many ways.

Gondal

THE MAHARAJA'S GIFT

His Highness the Maharaja of Gondal has donated one lakh of rupees in aid of Indian families whose supporters are killed or incapacitated in the present war.

Cochin

DANCING IN TEMPLES

"Government consider that the Devadasis have no right either in law or in fact to demand that temple authorities should recognise their dancing as part of the observances connected with festivals and pujas of the temple," says a Cochin Government Order, adding that dancing by Devadasis as a necessary adjunct of temple celebrations, observances and daily pujas should be discontinued.

Government had received complaints against the grant of perquisites and privileges to Devadasis in the Tirumala Devaswom temple and against dancing by Devadasis in the temple.

Kashmir

CHANGES IN MINISTRY

Changes in the Kashmir Ministry have been ordered by the Maharaja. Khan Bahadur Raja Mohammed Afzal Khan, Home Minister, retires from State service and Khan Bahadur Zafar Ali Khan, Development Minister, becomes Home Minister. Sir Peter Clutterbuck, Chief Conservator of Forests, has been appointed Development Minister. Rai Bahadur Pandit Kak, Chief Secretary, has been appointed Minister-in-waiting to His Highness.

Indore

HOLKAR'S DONATION TO RED CROSS

His Highness the Maharaja of Holkar has donated a sum of Rs. 50,000 for Russian Red Cross as a token of his admiration for the valiant fight Russia is putting up against Germany. Writing to the Resident of Central India, His Highness says: "I cannot find adequate words to express my admiration for the magnificent and heroic struggle that Russia has been waging against our common enemy."

INDIANS OVERSEAS

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Ceylon

INDO-CEYLON PACT

MR. T. R. V. SASTRI

Explaining the main features of the Indo-Ceylon Agreement in the course of a letter to the *Hindu*, Mr. T. R. Venkatarama Sastri, who was one of the non-official members of the Indian Delegation, says:

It will take too long to give an exhaustive note, but I should like to give a very short note on what might easily have been missed or misunderstood. All residents in Ceylon can acquire a domicile of choice in Ceylon. No resident can be sent out of Ceylon.

There is provision in existing Ceylon law for deportation of the destitute which will have to be remembered in connection with some of the provisions of the agreement. The residents are not prevented from moving out of Ceylon, but they will come back to their own jobs, or in some cases to similar jobs and in other cases even come back and seek jobs. This is to avoid destitution and deportation.

Future emigrants like past residents can have the property-cum literacy vote, which is a compendious description of Article 8 of the Order-in-Council, 1931.

Those with unlimited time passport can acquire domicile of choice, which is not open to those with time-limited passport. For the future, Ceylon choose its permanent population by issue of passport without time limit. This does not mean that it excludes others. Ceylon is not after exclusion but is out to prevent the growth of rights in the persons admitted to Ceylon.

Certificate is given by Ceylon while domicile is recognized. There is nothing in common between domicile and certificate of permanent settlement. Certificate and Indian domicile can exist together, but not Indian and Ceylonese domicile.

MAHATHMA GANDHI

Mahatma Gandhi has issued the following statement on the proposed Indo-Ceylon Pact:

On merits, the Ceylon proposal is open to objection in the same manner as the Burman. I suggest to Ceylon Ministers that there is no reason whatsoever for hurry. Adjustment can easily be made about the supply of labour but wholesale legislation may be left over till after the war. The war is a terrible tragedy, the like of which is unknown to history. But the tragedy will be deeper still if, at the end, we find ourselves living the old way without radical changes in every walk of life.

But if the plea for patient waiting falls on deaf ears, he suggests much the same thing that he has suggested for Burma.

I should have no difficulty in persuading experienced legislators that in legislation affecting men in the street and addressed to the masses, the simplest and shortest method is the best. I, therefore, suggest that the whole of the Indian population found in Ceylon on a given date (kept secret) should be registered and clothed with full rights of citizenship. Those who may be outside Ceylon, but who can unquestionably be proved to be *bona fide* residents of Ceylon should also be registered on application. This procedure obviates the intricacies which permeate the proposal under examination.

The term 'domicile' should find no place in such legislation. The English law of domicile is the worst possible. Judges have been known to have been confused over the interpretation of the term. Human liberty is a precious thing which must not be trifled with by legal subtleties and interminable wranglings in courts of law. The wrangling attains no dignity because it takes place in a law court. Men should know definitely where they stand in given circumstances.

So far as Labour is concerned, I have no doubt that Ceylon should have the sole right to import as much as it likes under contracts easily to be understood and mutually agreed to between the two Governments.

The suggested quota system should have no place in an honourable understanding.

ASSEMBLY AND THE JOINT REPORT

The joint report of the Delegations from India and Ceylon was discussed in the Central Assembly on November 17, on the motion of Mr. M. S. Aney, Overseas Member. There were three amendments but the Home member accepted the one moved by Mr. Hussainbhai Lalji (Ind.) which expressed the opinion

that Indians in Ceylon on the prescribed date of the agreement and those who had been residents in Ceylon within a specified period before the date of the agreement, should have freedom of entry into Ceylon and no regional and occupational restrictions should be imposed upon them.

They should be entitled to full rights of citizenship on completion of the prescribed period and for the future, provisions should be made for entry and occupation to safeguard Indian trade interests and unskilled labourers who permitted to emigrate, should be assured of freedom of movement and choice of employment and opportunity to acquire full citizenship rights.

Burma

INDO-BURMA PACT

The Burma agreement came up for discussion in the Central Assembly on November 4, Congress Members attended in almost full strength and the galleries were full, expecting a heated debate on the most controversial of the subjects in the agenda of the House. Sir Abdul Halim Ghuznavi moving his resolution declared that the Indo-Burma Agreement was a gross violation of repeated assurances given in Parliament regarding India after the separation of Burma and by other high authorities of His Majesty's Government, the Government of India and the Government of Burma. He emphasised that the present agreement was condemned by every section of opinion in India.

After Sir Abdul Halim Ghuznavi had formally moved his resolution, two amendments were moved by Mr. Akhil Chandra Dutta and Sir Henry Gidney.

Mr. M. S. Aney, in replying to the debate, said the Government of India were fully aware of the strong feeling against this agreement and the question has been engaging the attention of the Secretary of State. The Government of India had urged the postponement of the issue of the Order-in-Council.

The House passed without a division Sir Henry Gidney's amendment. Mr. A. C. Dutta withdrew his amendment.

INDIAN SETTLERS IN BURMA

The Members of the Standing Emigration Committee at their meeting on November 16, met Mr. Hutchins, Government of India's Agent in Burma, and discussed with him the question of Indian settlers in Burma in general and the Indo-Burma Immigration Agreement in particular.

General

INDIANS OVERSEAS DEPARTMENT

The creation from October 14 of a department of Indians Overseas is announced. The Department will deal with the following heads of business:—(1) Regulation of emigration from India to other parts of the British Commonwealth including questions relating to the rights and status of such emigrants, and of the entry into India of immigrants from such parts. (2) Pilgrimage to Hedjaz, other than pilgrimage to Hedjaz via Iraq; and (3) repatriation of Indians from other parts of the British Commonwealth, and of Indian pilgrims stranded at Jedda.

TO AID OVERSEAS INDIANS

Swami Bhawani Dayal Sannyasi, Agent of the Natal Indian Congress, who has arrived in India, in a Press statement says:

"It is my desire to settle permanently in Adarsh Nagar of Ajmer, where I am building my Pravasi-Bhawan. Though the Bhawan will be my private and personal concern and not a public institution, yet I am going to make full use of it for the service of Indians overseas. Firstly, I wish to write and publish a series of books from this Bhawan on the problems of Indians abroad. A beginning in this direction had already been made. Secondly, I intend to train a number of young men who may come forward to study the question concerning our countrymen settled in various parts of the world. Thirdly, I desire to open in this Bhawan the India Office of the Natal Indian Congress, of which I have been appointed the Agent during its third conference held in Durban recently, to keep our people and the Government of India informed of the real situation and further developments in the Union of South Africa, Pravasi-Bhawan Adarsh Nagar, Ajmer. India, will be my future address."



TOPICS From PERIODICALS



RADIO IN PEACE AND WAR

Prof. S. K. Mitra observes in the latest issue of *Science and Culture* that during the present war, science has offered new and strange tools, both for offence and for defence to the belligerent nations. Some of the strongest and most powerful of these tools are evolved by the branch of Science, popularly known as Radio. Since Marconi made his inventions nearly half a century ago, the science of radio has been put to multifarious uses both in times of peace in civil life and also in times of war in directing military operations.

It is, perhaps, in broadcasting and in its sister developments, television and picture transmission, that radio has its most spectacular and popular application. In the democratic countries broadcasting and television are regarded as novel means of entertainment and as adjuncts to newspapers for quick distribution of world news. But in totalitarian States, e.g., the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and Germany, radio broadcasting from its very infancy has been taken up seriously and developed with definite objectives in view.

Development of radio formed an integral part of the First and the Second Five-Year Plans of the U. S. S. R. In their comprehensive planning, they did not neglect one single item which might impede the progress of radio and its application.

Like Russia, Nazi Germany has also made detailed plans—with the characteristic thoroughness of their races—for utilisation of radio broadcasting.

As in Russia, so in Germany broadcasting is fully under State control. Almost every home is provided with a broadcast receiver. Being a highly industrialised country, this has been comparatively easy for Germany. As early as 1933, a people's set was evolved and priced at 70 marks only. But the objective of Nazi Germany in developing broadcasting is quite different from that of Soviet Russia, the underlying key-note being political propaganda. Since the accession to chancellorship of Hitler in 1933, the microphone has been at his and his propaganda minister Dr. Goebbels' disposal. Hitler's rise to power has been largely due to his successful utilisation of broadcasting for addressing enormous audiences.

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The writer asks: What is being done in this country in regard to the threefold aspect of development of the radio science, namely, the training of technicians, research both fundamental and applied and fostering of radio industry? So far, the only activity on the part of the Government has been the development of broadcasting, which today has become a fully State owned and State controlled concern.

But unlike the rapid and phenomenal development witnessed in other countries, the development here has been meagre and extremely slow. Not long ago criticising the attitude of the Government of India for providing utterly inadequate funds for the development of broadcasting in this country, a British expert remarked that the sum allocated for broadcasting in a country having an area of 2 million square miles and inhabited by 400 million souls was not much more than that provided for a television service for the city of London. As for training of technicians there is no recognised institution or organisation for imparting instructions to radio craftsmen. We exclude the training centres controlled by the military departments.

As for fostering radio industry, not even a start has been made in this country.

In these days when so much attention is being paid to the problems of India's defence against probable foreign aggression and the army in India is being enlarged and mechanised on modern times, the indispensability of radio in modern war technique must not be lost sight of. The Government should pay serious attention to encourage manufacture of radio apparatus and equipments in this country not through any motive of attaining self-sufficiency in the particular industry, but because radio today is so vital an instrument of war. Like arms and munitions, India cannot look forward to foreign countries for the supply of radio technicians and equipments at a time when she may be involved in a life and death struggle.

Radio research in India at present is being carried out through individual efforts in some of the Universities. This is not enough. Government must create a Radio Research Board on the lines similar to those of United Kingdom and Australia where every possible training is given to the Radio industry.

THE MONROE DOCTRINE

The Doctrine first enunciated by James Monroe, the fifth President of the U. S. A., in his address to Congress on Dec. 2, 1823, has remained the very bed-rock of the American foreign policy since then. Mr. R. Satagopan, writing in the *New Review*, discusses the implications of that doctrine. The Monroe doctrine may be conveniently divided into two principles: the non-colonisation principle and the non-intervention principle. The former was prompted by the fear of the Russian colonisation of America and the occasion has been judged proper for asserting as a principle in which the rights and interests of the United States are involved, that the American continents, by the free and independent condition which they have assumed and maintain, are henceforth not to be considered as subjects for future colonisation by any European powers.

The non-intervention principle was prompted by the conditions in Spain and Portugal, which were finding it increasingly difficult to maintain their colonies in the New World. President Monroe wanted to emphasize for all times that the territory in America could not be the objects of transfers depending on the fate of the European wars. He propounded non-intervention into two aspects: non-intervention of the U. S. A. in European affairs and the non-intervention of European powers in American affairs. He, therefore, laid down that:

We should consider any attempt on their part to extend their system to any portion of this hemisphere dangerous to our peace and safety. With the existing colonies or dependencies of any European power we have not interfered and shall not interfere. But with the Governments who have declared their independence and maintained it and whose independence we have, on great consideration and on just principles, acknowledged, we could not view any interposition for the purpose of oppressing them or in controlling in any other manner their destiny by any European power in any other light than as the manifestation of an unfriendly disposition towards the United States.

... It is impossible that the Allied powers should extend their political system to any portion of either continent without endangering our peace and happiness; nor can any one believe that our southern brethren, if left to themselves, would adopt it of their own accord. It is equally impossible, therefore, that we should behold such interposition in any form with indifference. If we look to the comparative strength and resources of Spain and those new Governments and their distance from each other, it must be obvious she can never subdue them. It is still the true policy of the United States to leave the parties to themselves in the hope that other powers will follow the same course.

In 1845, 22 years after the Monroe doctrine, President Polk declared against any intervention on the North American continent by any European power, but it was defective, says the writer, that it ran against the original doctrine by leaving South America out of account. During the American Civil War, Napoleon III of France tried to set up a monarchy in Mexico, but after the conflict the U. S. insisted on the withdrawal of the French troops from the American soil. In 1866, when Chile was at war with Spain, the U. S. Secretary, Seward, laid down the principle in the same unmistakable terms. In 1870, President Grant reaffirmed the principle on a question relating to Santo Domingo, 'that hereafter no territory on this continent shall be regarded as subject of transfer to a European power'.

The Americans are not the only ones to have a Monroe doctrine. A principle of a similar kind was proclaimed both by England and by Japan. In a note addressed to the U. S. on May 19, 1928, dealing with the proposed treaty for the renunciation of war, Great Britain asserted:

There are certain regions of the world, the welfare and integrity of which constitute a special and vital interest for our peace and safety. His Majesty's Government have been at pains to make it clear in the past that interference in these regions cannot be suffered. Their protection against attack is to the British Empire a measure of self-defence. It must be clearly understood that His Majesty's Government in Great Britain accept the new treaty upon the distinct understanding that it does not prejudice their freedom of action in this respect. The Government of the U. S. have comparable interests any disregard of which by any foreign power they have declared they would regard as an unfriendly act.

EDUCATION FOR RESPONSIBILITY

Every one who has contact with the young can do much to start a new spirit in education—the spirit of responsibility, says Elizabeth Cross in an article in the *Aryan Path* for October. Instead of the old aim for self-expression which has left the individual a unit, we need to stress our social natures and show how every privilege must bring with it an added responsibility. This theme can permeate every activity and every lesson both at home and at school.

The mother has, of course, the first and finest opportunity of helping her child to a happy and worth while development and can begin from the very earliest years. It is essential that the child should have sufficient companions and if there are no brothers and sisters, then some arrangements must be made to let him play (and quarrel!) with the neighbour's little ones. This is the only way in which he can learn how to share and the sooner this is started, the better.

When we come to the matter of school, the teacher has an opportunity of furthering the work, partly by showing the pleasure of co-operative schemes and by discouraging all competition, partly by the very content of lessons.

Without sacrificing truth, it is possible to emphasise similarities instead of differences in the geography schemes, in history, in biology; we can show how the fundamentals of life are always the same even though climatic conditions and political changes may make some striking differences.

The teacher can co-operate with the parent in introducing the child to a larger world of social service. The child can learn many useful crafts that will make him more truly independent.

The wise mother will let the little child help in the household tasks, while he is still eager to join in; she will make it plain that she expects all her family to take their fair share of running the home that makes them comfortable.

An indulged child is bound to be unhappy as it becomes more and more selfish and more and more unpopular with its companions and with all who have to care for it.

INDIA'S FIGHT FOR FREEDOM

Writing in the *Reynold's News* under the caption "Give India a chance to fight for her freedom," Mr. H. N. Brailsford says:

We must trust that General Wavell will do all that a brilliant soldier can do for India's defence. But it is an anachronism that we should be defending India, she ought to do that for herself.

After reviewing the war efforts in India, he observes:

Poor men can always be found to serve in the ranks and factories for pay; but as yet the will power and intelligence of these people are not enlisted in a truly national effort.

India will not fight for us or for the King-Emperor as a nation; she will fight only for her own freedom. She will do it with her might as and when she has a National Government of her own to lead her.

Mr. Brailsford, after referring to the stand taken by the Congress and the Muslim League in regard to the war, says: "Had we cared to win India by satisfying her self-respect, she could be raised as our free ally." To the question: "Can anything be done to win this great ally?" he replies:

Mr. Churchill does not lack imagination. If for half an hour he would make an experiment, supposing that he had come into the world endowed with talents, courage and brown skin, he would rally Indians easily as he rallied us in the summer of French collapse.

Eloquence could not do it. If we try to win them, it must be done in a large way. The prisons must be flung open and the seven Provinces must have Indian ministries once more.

But what matters is, to create a National Government, with that name and the powers that go with it, to lead the war effort of the emancipated people. The formal Constitution can wait till after the war, but we must undertake now that India's National Government shall shape it.

There must be no more of those fatal reservations which arm the Minorities with a veto over the nation's will.

Finally, we must call into this Government, not the "Yes" men, but the strongest and boldest of India's trusted leaders.

Concluding, Mr. Brailsford remarks:

Mr. Churchill is a big man, but has he the stature for such a great action as this? If he dared to do it, he would win America as well as India, and fire the European masses with hope.

INDIA AND THE WAR

Under the above heading, the *New Statesman and Nation* discusses the Indian political situation in relation to the war. After observing that the demand of the Burmese Premier, U Saw, for a plain undertaking that Burma shall become a Dominion immediately after the war, should startle nobody. The writer says:

If the Government temporise, as they probably will, or refuse, U Saw suggests that the consequences may be unpleasant and even dangerous. 'Japan', as he put it, 'is very clever.'

This, says the *New Statesman*, is an adroit way of recalling to mind that the Japanese have used the Buddhist faith to establish fraternal ties with the Burmese, "who might, if we follow U Saw's train of thought, be as happy in Japanese co-prosperity system as in the British Empire unless, indeed, we choose to make them equal partners with the full status of a Dominion.

This sharp reminder of some possibilities latent in the new situation in Asia may be salutary if it leads our Government to review our political as well as our military defences.

Pointing out that the battle is approaching India as well as Burma, the *New Statesman* says that if the Russians have to yield much more ground near the Caucasus and the Caspian Sea, India's fate might weigh in the final issue as heavily as many armoured divisions.

Reiterating the plea for reconciliation and urging that Britain should come to an understanding in India, the paper says, it is dangerous as well as unworthy to delay.

The war has swung eastwards and this Empire is no longer the only great power involved on our side. We gather that the feeling is growing in the younger generation, which is not pacifist in Gandhiji's sense, and also on the Left, that it is intolerable that their great nation, as the hour of our destiny approaches, should remain a passive spectator of the struggle in which her future is involved as directly as our own.

A conference of Indians living in England, many of them young men and most of them adherents of the Congress, met recently in London and proposed that India should in every way actively support the war effort if it can be done with self-respect. Commenting on the proceedings of that Conference, the paper goes on to say:

They believed that it is hard for us to judge that a parallel movement on the same lines is gaining ground in India and even within the Congress.

If that is so, there is hope; if we are worthy of the leadership we claim we shall welcome it and come to terms with it. Of course, there must be a complete and generous amnesty.

But if India is ready to fight, not for us and not for the King-Emperor, but for herself and the defeat of Nazi racialism, she will do it gladly and proudly but only under a national government of her own.

The paper by no means suggests a formal constitutional change in war time. Things can be done by turning the Viceroy's Executive Council in effect into a National Cabinet.

Only one further step would be required to undertake that this National Government shall prepare and carry through the process of self-determination after the war in negotiation with this country which pledges itself to respect India's decision whatever it may be.

On those terms alone can we hope for the full co-operation of India in the war that will decide her future together with our own. The British need this ally as certainly as they need Russia.

CONGRESS ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE

By accepting office, Congressmen were able to do some good to the Provinces in which they worked, says the *Modern Review*, though the autonomy given to the Provinces is of an extremely limited character. "But the edge of, the desire for complete independence was blunted by the acceptance of a compromise." And many Congress Ministers openly declared their dissatisfaction with the sort of Provincial autonomy and said in effect "that what little good they have been able to do was

nothing in comparison with what they desired to do". The question of the re-acceptance of office has again been raised, says the *Modern Review*:

If they accept office now they can no doubt do the same sort of good work which they did before as ministers, etc. But conditions are now different. The provincial governors are now carrying on the work of administration in the Congress majority provinces. They are devoting as much attention as possible to the "war effort". If Congressmen become Ministers, they must do the same kind of work. How can they do so without throwing overboard their leader Mahatma Gandhi, who is against war? Once indeed most of the Congress leaders did throw Gandhiji overboard. They promised to help the British Government in its war effort, provided a National Government of the kind suggested by them were formed in the Centre. But the British Government made no response. The Congress leaders who had rejected Gandhiji's leadership again accepted him as their dictator. The attitude of Government has become stiffer than before. By expanding the Viceroy's Executive Council, by forming the Defence Advisory Committee and by constituting a National Civil Defence Council, which has no powers and no responsibility, Government, perhaps, thinks that it can do without the co-operation of the Congress. If Congressmen now want to offer their unwanted co-operation by accepting office, they must approach the authorities in sack-cloth and ashes and forswear their allegiance to the Mahatma. It is for them to make their choice—we offer them no advice as none is required.

No doubt war is coming nearer India. But, asks the writer,

when has the Government said that it is not getting all the recruits, money and materials that it wants and that, therefore, Congress must come to its help. On the contrary in reply to the fifth American question chosen by Mr. Amery for answer, he said in part: "Since the outbreak of the war, India's army has grown from some 200,000 to 750,000 and will soon be over a million. Every Indian in the army is a volunteer, not a conscript, and there are long waiting lists. . . India's young navy and air force are also worthily playing their part. India has developed a vast industrial machine for supplies of every kind. . ."

Commenting on this complacent attitude of the Government, the writer observes that Mr. Amery ought to have said

"every Indian in the army is a mercenary." Months ago the *New Statesman and Nation* said that India is such a miserably poor country that any number of recruits can be had for a pittance. And Prof. Gulshan Rai has shown in the *Tribune* that in the Punjab, the chief recruiting province, the poorest districts have furnished the largest number of recruits.

SCIENCE AND CIVILIZATION

This is the subject of an interesting study by Mr. Chunilal Mitra in the *Prabuddha Bharata*. Civilization, he says, brings with it the idea of progress. They are not only inter-allied but often synonymous. Growth of the progress of our being means also the growth of civilization. It consists broadly in the well-being of mankind the constituents of which are the subjugation of nature, the perfection of social machinery and the personal development of the individuals. And what is science but the study of the various departments of nature and the generalizations of this study? It is at one and the same time the study of man and his surroundings.

In fact, science has made our problems easier, life happier, and journey better. For, the problem of science is part of the wider problem of life—the problem of all experience. Nay, the motive force of science and philosophy, art and religion is the same. Science tries to explore the hidden treasure and philosophy attempts to know the unknowable. Civilization is co-extensive with science. They do not conflict but complement each other.

Civilization is what we use, while culture is what we are and so long it cannot be otherwise the horrors and havocs, the pitfalls and turmoils of our civilization are not because we are more scientific but because we are less so. However, it is one thing to say that we dislike (or like?) our crushing civilization of machinery and inequality, of bondage and artificiality; it is altogether a different thing to say that for all this science is liable.

It would be punishing Paul when Peter is the real culprit. So, the latter should take care and sacrifice everything to save the innocent former. Otherwise, the case is injurious for both; and humanity will be tired of civilizing the apparatus of living till it is well-nigh civilized to death.

THE PATRIOT KING

Dr. C. R. Reddy, Vice-Chancellor of the Andhra University, writes on "the Idea of Patriotic King" in the columns of the *Travancore Information Annual*—a sumptuous number with many attractive features. In this article, Dr. Reddy holds "that in spite of the exaggerated stuff talked about democracy by the ballot box, there is room even in the most progressive of worlds for a "Government by a Patriot King".

The phrase is Lord Bolingbroke's, and Dr. Reddy thus summarises the attributes of a Patriot King:

His desires, objectives and purposes are centred in the strength and welfare of the people. No people can be strong for a long period if they are not materially prosperous. But it is possible for people to be made fat without being made strong, which is one of the charges against the Government of some of our Indian States. But as without power there can be no stability, good Government will also aim at efficiency from the point of view of the physical force and organised power. The Patriot King will have no Party; he will belong to none and he will create none. He would be guided by the general good and the general will of the people. The general will is not always ascertainable by votes. Votes may be cast on irrational grounds. They may be procured by appeals to superstition, to transcendental lunacy and all the arts and tricks of propaganda in which capital is made out of the vices and weaknesses of the voters and not by appeal to rational politics and higher thought or morality. Votes are intended as a means of selecting right representatives. Obviously, therefore, votes cannot make a representative the right and proper person. Its function is recognitive, not creative.

Therefore the Patriot King is not dependent on votes. He has no temptation to yield his better judgment to the clamour of the multitude. But in some way, Dr. Reddy thinks that he will call into his Council the best men of the country. This is the sense in which Aristotle used the term Aristocracy—Government by the best. If through the votes of a stupid or a gullible mob or the folly of a bad king, worthless people are called to counsel or power, then it is a perversion of true Government and this degenerate type called Oligarchy. Similarly, the perversion of Democracy is Mobocracy; the perversion of Kingship is Tyranny.

PATRIOTIC POETRY

In the October number of *Mangalore*, the organ of the Catholic Association of South Kanara, Rai Saheb A. L. Pinto writes in praise of patriotic poetry quoting freely from Shakespeare down to the last poem from the pen of Tagore. Mr. Pinto confines himself to patriotic poems in English and, of course, we have the well known lines of Shakespeare's John of Gaunt in praise of England:

This Royal throne of Kings, this sceptred isle, etc. and other pieces from Burns and Macaulay and Scott and Rupert Brooke's superb sonnet:

If I should die, think only this of me:
That there's some corner of a foreign field
That is for ever England. There shall be
In that rich earth a richer dust concealed;
A dust whom England bore, shaped, made aware,
Gave once, her flowers to love, her ways to roam,
A body of England's, breathing English air,
Washed by the rivers, blest by suns of home,

familiar to all students of literature. To us in India, the lines from Toru Dutt, and Sarojini and Rabindranath are of particular interest. Equally valuable is the English version of the well known song *Bande Mataram*, which occurs in Bankim Chandra Chatterjee's "Anand Math"—a song which has echoed and re-echoed through all India since the days of the Partition of Bengal. But the local patriotism of Mangaloreans will be stirred by the lines that Mr. Pinto has resurrected from the records of the St. Aloysius College and a fine piece from the "Goan Fiddler" with which he concludes the article. The latter reads:

Hills and valleys every where,
On each hill a cross or shrine,
In each valley cots and farms;
Other lands may be as fair,
Yet what land, what land but mine
Is so blest with peaceful charms?
Land of the palm and cashew tree,
Dear as life art thou to me

—lines truly descriptive of Mangalore and its environs.

INDIA'S PROBLEM

In the course of an article in the *Railway Review*, Sir Hari Singh Gour points out that a "Civil Service Government" will not solve India's problems. He says:

A programme of active co-operation on the part of the people in return for freedom would act as a charm to galvanize the people into active co-operation, not only for the defence of Britain's freedom but of their own freedom. Such was the return that India made in the Great War of 1914-18, and she would do so again; only her men and materials have to be mobilized for her own defence and something worth defending.

The essential fact of democracy is that it is the only human institution that enables a man to attain his full stature in all spheres of life; political, religious, intellectual, economic and personal. That India has had only a foretaste of this ideology under British rule would be apparent to any student of history.

That India has still to attain that stature should be apparent to any student of Indian history. That good government is no substitute for self-government is both a political and an ethical truism and it is up to England to help India to come into her own.

Moderate politicians like Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru, says Sir Hari Singh, have lost faith in a peaceful settlement.

His overmodest proposal has been rejected with scant courtesy, as sent to a wrong address. He is advised to address it to a central party which should stand behind the Government. But it is not even hinted at what is to be the programme of such a party. Those who offer gratuitous advice know little of what the Moderates have suffered in India.

With the Congress the rule is "Keep to the Left"; with the Government "Keep to the Right." Nationalist and Moderate opinion that ventures to walk along the centre runs the risk of being knocked down by both.

No constitutional progress is possible unless there is an end to communal conflict.

But communal conflict has been accentuated by communal electorates. Communal and religious tension had been used to thwart progress in

Canada. But it was due to the genius of the Earl of Durham that Canada was freed. The same solution would quiet the Muslims and unite India.

In the midst of tumult and confusion, a new force is growing up in the world. It hopes to re-establish peace on the basis of moral law. That law, says Sir Hari Singh, demands the emancipation of all subject peoples.

Firstly, because freedom develops a man's mind and character whereas slavery debases both. Secondly, freedom brings out the best in man; slavery the worst he is capable of. Thirdly, freedom promotes human progress; subjection retards and even destroys it. Fourthly, freedom ensures security whereas subjection imperils it.

For those reasons alone, it should be the concern of all mankind to free India; because India has in her freedom illumined the darkest recesses of the globe by her culture, art and ennobling creed. Her freedom for a thousand years under Buddhism is a golden page in her history. Another such page she will again open if she is set free to develop her own ideology under the beneficent aegis of the British Crown.

May the light of reason, fair play and lasting comradeship dawn to close an unsavoury episode in the history of India.

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N. GOPALA IYER,

Secretary.

U. F.

GURU GOVIND THE MILITARY MYSTIC

The heroic story of Guru Govind Singh and the way he chose his first Khalsa is told by Mr. T. K. Mirchandani in the *Prabuddha Bharata* for November. The story has often been told but it is worth repeating. When the Guru was thirty years old, he invited all the Sikhs to attend the great Vaishakhi fair at Anandpura.

He pitched a tent on an open plot and ordered a confidential Sikh to go at mid-night and tie up five goats in the adjoining enclosure. Next morning he drew up his sword and asked his Sikhs if there was any one among them ready to die for him. After some time one gave his name. The Guru took him within the enclosure. He cut off a goat's head with one stroke of sword. The sound was heard by the Sikhs outside. The blood passed through the drain outside and was seen by every Sikh. The Guru showed the dripping sword to his Sikhs. The Guru again asked them if there was any one else among them ready to die for him. In this manner he got one by one five Sikhs ready to die for him. The Guru then said to the Sikhs: 'In the time of Guru Nanak there was found only one deserving devotee named Angad, in my time there are found five Sikhs totally devoted to me. The Guru then caused his five devoted Sikhs to stand up. After sweetening some holy water he stirred it up with the two-edged sword. He then repeated over it some sacred verses which he had selected for the occasion and dissolved in it the divine spirit, the Guru then gave each of the five a palmful of Amrita to drink. He sprinkled it five times on their head and eyes and told them to repeat: 'Wah Guru ji ki Khalsa, Wah Guru ji ki Fateh.' He then embraced each of his five Sikhs and fixed his gaze into the eyes of each of them in order to give each of them that transcendent experience of Self where no speech or intelligence can enter. The eyes of the Guru and his five Sikhs met. Heart met hearts. The embrace was only a device for transmitting the spirit. The Guru cast dazzling and penetrating glance into them and transmitted the seed spirit, the seed light, the pure living word, the holy ambrosial nectareous Name, to each of them by some inscrutable and mysterious manner. Each of them became one with God. Each of them saw the supreme Self in his innermost, immaterial, luminous, lotus-shaped heart. Each of them knew God as He was. Each of them realized his identity with God. Each of them saw that every thing was God and nothing but God and God was the sole Reality. Like a bright flash of lightning everything became manifest to each of them.

When the Guru had thus administered baptism to his five tried Sikhs, he fell

at their feet and stood up before them with clasped hands and begged them to administer baptism in the same way to him as he had administered to them. They represented their unworthiness to baptise the great Guru.

The Guru replied to them: 'As Guru Nanak made Angad his Guru so have I made you my Guru. You are in my Form and I am in your Form. You and I are one for ever. There is no difference between you and me. He who thinketh that there is any difference between us erreth.' According to his direction the five Sikhs baptized the Guru in the same manner as they were baptized.

Several other Sikhs were baptized in the same manner. The Guru thus established a Khalsa brotherhood of seer-soldiers, military mystics and said:

'He in whose innermost heart the Light of the perfect One shineth is a pure member of Khalsa.' 'Khalsa is the Guru, and Guru is the Khalsa.' The Guru then told the Khalsas to wear five articles with the initial K., viz., Kesh (long hair), Kanga (comb), Kirpan (sword), Kech (short trouser), Krab (steel bracelet). The Guru then called the five Sikhs whom he had baptized, Panch Piaras (five friends) or Panch Muktas (five liberated ones). Guru asked the Khalsas to lift up the sword only in defence of the faith, with God's Name fixed in the innermost heart and told them to meditate and love the glorious Name continuously with each breath, while doing good actions.

INDIA IN PERIODICALS

INDIA'S FOREIGN INDEBTEDNESS. By P. C. Jain. [The Modern Review, November 1941.]

THE LITERATURE OF SOUTH INDIA. By K. Ramakotiswara Rao. [The Aryan Path, November 1941.]

CHANGES IN THE LOW CASTES OF CENTRAL INDIA. By S. Fucho. [The New Review, November 1941.]

THE CARVED WOOD OF THE TEMPLES IN TRAVANCORE. By Dr. Stella Kramrisch. [Travancore Information Annual.]

EDUCATIONAL HANDICAPS OF SOUTH INDIA. By A. Rama Iyer, M.A. [The Indian Journal of Education, October 1941.]

SRI RAMAKRISHNA'S MESSAGE TO MODERN INDIA. By Prof. S. N. L. Srivastava. [The Vedanta Kesari, November 1941.]

RELIGIOUS REVIVAL IN MEDIEVAL INDIA. [Prabuddha Bharata, November 1941.]

INDIA'S NEW INDUSTRIES AND INVENTIONS. [The Young Messenger of India, October 1941.]

MULTUM IN PARVO

NEWS * DEPARTMENTAL * NOTES

Questions of Importance

NON-PARTY LEADERS' APPEAL

An appeal to the British Government, to issue, in clear and definite language that after the war India's status shall not be that of a dependency, but of one of perfect equality with Britain, is made in a statement issued by the Rt. Hon. Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru, in pursuance of a resolution of the Standing Committee of the Non-Party Leaders' Conference, which met in Allahabad on November 1 and 2.

The statement criticises the Prime Minister's speech in regard to the applicability of the Atlantic Declaration to India and says that the Viceroy's declaration of August 1940 "is not wholly consistent" with the third point of the Atlantic Declaration dealing with "sovereign rights and self-government".

In the opinion of the Committee, the question of the internal condition of India should not be allowed to stand in the way of making a declaration.

INDIAN LIBERALS' RESOLUTION

A meeting of the Working Committee of the National Liberal Federation of India was held in New Delhi under the chairmanship of Sir Vithal Chandavarkar. The present political situation was discussed and the following, among other resolutions, were passed:—

(1) The Working Committee protests against the exclusion of India from the purview of the Atlantic Charter by the Prime Minister of England. His speech is inconsistent with the appeals made to India to regard the war as a struggle for the enlargement of the bounds of freedom and democracy. The Committee is convinced that

in order to get the whole-hearted support of Indians, the British Government should bind itself to establish the equality of India with England and Dominions unconditionally both in respect of internal government and external relations within a very brief period of the termination of the war. The Committee is further of opinion that in any international peace conference which may be convened after the war, India should be represented by delegates responsible to the Government of India.

(2) While favouring the expansion of the Executive Council, the Committee regrets that no substantial power has been transferred to Indian hands and reiterates the Liberal Party's demand that all portfolios in the Viceroy's Executive Council including those of Defence and Finance should be held by non-official Indians representative of public life in this country.

(3) The Committee is of opinion that it is necessary in the interests of India and particularly of the provinces under Governors' rule, that both the Government and the Congress should revise their attitude and that the political prisoners should be released and the *satyagraha* movement should be called off.

CONGRESS PARTY IN OPPOSITION

Mr. S. Satyamurthi, Deputy Leader of the Congress Party in the Central Legislative Assembly, has sent a telegram to Mahatma Gandhi, Sardar Vallabhai Patel, and Dr. Rajendra Prasad. He says that the Congress Party in the Central Assembly was practically unanimous favouring its functioning actively as main opposition. In this it has the support of the electorates. He adds that this opinion should require consideration as the case is as strong as Bengal, Assam, Punjab and Sind.

Releasing the telegram to the Press, Mr. Satyamurthi says in a statement:

Practically every member of the Party is definitely in favour of our functioning in effective opposition in the Assembly.

When thus the Party makes up its mind—I may add that the Party was never in favour of boycotting the Assembly—I believe no authority but the Indian National Congress in full session and the A. I. C. C. between the session of the Congress can overrule the decision of the Congress Party.

MR. AMERY'S OBITER DICTA

In the course of his speech at Manchester on November 19, Mr. Amery, Secretary of State for India, said:

There could not be a more typical instance of loose thinking than the clamour for what is called the application of the Atlantic Charter to India and the protest against the Prime Minister's perfectly clear explanation that Article 3 of the Charter primarily referred to the restoration of national life in Europe and in any case did not qualify in any way our own declaration as to India's future with which it is in entire harmony. After all what does that Article say?

It says that among the principles on which the Prime Minister and President Roosevelt base their hopes for a better future for the world is respect for the right of all peoples to choose the form of Government under which they will live.

How far does that carry us with regard to India? It gives no indication as to whether India is to be regarded as one people or several; it does not say by what method the form of Government is to be decided; it lays down no procedure, no time table. On all these points it naturally does not attempt either to give guidance or impose precise obligation. I can well imagine if in answer to the demand for a statement of our Indian policy we had answered merely in terms of the Atlantic Charter, the derision and indignation which would have met so vague and unsatisfying a reply.

The answer we did give in August last year was no less far reaching in its scope and far more definite in the procedure envisaged and in the pledge involved.

Meanwhile there is no immediate solution that we can bring for the simple reason that there is no temporary interim step forward which does not run the risk of prejudging, at any rate in India, the ultimate solution. That was why the Congress would not look last year at the proposed extension of the Viceroy's Executive by the inclusion of political leaders, though we endeavoured to do so on lines which, in our opinion at any rate, could not in any way have prejudged a future settlement.

SIR RADHAKRISHNAN'S PLEA

Dr. Sir S. Radhakrishnan, in his address to the Agra University Convocation, declared:

Graduates of the year, you will soon face anxieties of life. We are intellectually poor, inwardly torn, profoundly uneasy and ignorant of the future. There are forebodings of evil. The bonds that unite us are rudely sundered by politics.

We have a small but influential minority of leaders who depend for their existence on Indian disunity or at any rate profit by it and therefore feel no sort of longing for Indian freedom and unity. Our one purpose should be to see India united, tranquil and gracious with a new way of life. India, impoverished and harassed, the prey of

schism and division must be raised to a happy and prosperous condition with internal unity and illumination of spirit where youth will have opportunity and age security. We must cut through the confusions created by the short-sighted politicians and the timid careerists who play upon old prejudices. We must strive for the great ideals of economic justice, social equality and political freedom. For them hard work, self-control, and effective propaganda are essential. Our chief weapons are common sense, sanity and coolness. The universities are here to equip us with them. It does not matter if we fail in our attempt, for the meaning of life is not in accomplishment as in the effort to grow better. We must dare to fail before we can hope to succeed. This age has no parallel for the magnitude of its enterprises for those who would be men and I do hope and pray that you will acquit yourselves like men.

SIR SIVASWAMY AIYER ON COMMUNAL PROBLEM

"The Pakistan movement is a dangerous piece of lunacy fraught with disaster to the whole country," said Sir P. S. Sivaswami Aiyar, addressing a meeting of the Madras Rotary Club on November 4.

The creation of separate electorates, Sir Sivaswamy Aiyer said, had led to the widening of the cleavage between Hindus and Muslims.

So far as the members of the Hindu community are concerned, "there is a general feeling that they do not get sufficient protection from the Government and that there is a desire on the part of the authorities to favour the other community. Whether this suspicion is well-founded or not, it is difficult to say. I can only say that the belief is widely prevalent that the Government are not interested in promoting a reconciliation between the two major communities for the reason that the communal misunderstandings and quarrels will ensure their position as arbitrators between the rival communities. The creation of separate electorates has led to the widening of the cleavage between the two communities which has been steadily growing since then. In creating a system of separate electorates, the Government have sown the dragon's teeth and cannot escape their share of responsibility for the tension between the two major communities. The disputes between the two communities have generally been more acute and prolonged since the introduction of the political reforms. The Pakistan movement, which has been started within the last two or three years, has also tended to promote estrangement. I would only say that this movement is a dangerous piece of lunacy fraught with disaster in the country."

We have now to see how this unfortunate state of things can be improved and harmony and goodwill may be promoted.

NEW MINISTRY IN ORISSA

The following Press Communiqué was issued by the Secretary to the Governor of Orissa on November 23:—

With the concurrence of His Excellency the Governor-General, His Excellency the Governor of Orissa has, this morning by a Proclamation under Section 93 of the Government of India Act, 1935, revoked the Proclamation under that Section hitherto enforced in Orissa.

On being invited by the Governor to form a ministry, the Maharaja of Parlakimedi has named as his colleagues Pandit Godavaris Misra and Moulvi Abdus Subhan Khan.

His Excellency has summoned these three gentlemen to be sworn in as Ministers tomorrow morning.

They were accordingly sworn in the next day. It is learnt that the Maharaja of Parlakimedi, who will be the Chief Minister, will hold the Home, P. W. D., and L. S. G. portfolios, while Pandit Godavaris Misra will be given Finance, Education and Development, and Mr. S. A. S. Khan, Revenue, Law, Commerce, Labour and Health.

BRITAIN IN INDIA AND BURMA

In the House of Lords, Lord Addison (Labour) paid a special tribute to the "heroism and endurance of the Indian troops whose gallantry and courage in every place will be difficult to over-estimate when the time comes for stories to be told".

Lord Addison expressed disappointment that the King's speech made no reference to India and Burma. "While we understand why this is so," he said, "I hope that notwithstanding the terrible anxieties of the war, we shall not lose any opportunity of promoting better understanding and free development in future, both with India and Burma and that we shall do everything we possibly can to allay the present unrest and get the active co-operation of many responsible party leaders in India, which at present is withheld."

INDIANISATION OF R. I. N.

The Council of State accepted a resolution moved by Pandit H. N. Kunzru recommending that full use be made of material available in India for the recruitment of officers for the Royal Indian Navy with a view to its Indianization.

His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief accepted the resolution on behalf of the Government.

Pandit Kunzru said that the demand for the Indianization of the R. I. N. was part of the general demand for the complete Indianization of all defence services of the country.

The resolution was supported by Mr. V. V. Kallikar and Mr. P. N. Saprú.

RIGHT OF FREE SPEECH

Mr. S. Satyamurthi has released to the Press Mahatma Gandhi's letter giving him freedom for expression of his views.

Here are the relevant extracts from the letter:—

"... You need no permission... The Congress constitution recognises the right of free speech by Congressmen... No one wants you or expects you to gag yourself even for one day. You are free save for the restraint you put upon yourself by reason of ill-health or otherwise. My statement demands the freest expression of their views by Congressmen. Therefore, please feel free to express yourself in any manner you like and whenever you like. Your difficulty has evidently arisen from the mistaken notion that you were labouring under a legal gag which needed lifting."

DEFENCE EXPENDITURE

India's expenditure on defence services was mounting and for 1941-42, the daily average might amount to as much as Rs. 25 lakhs as against the pre-war figure of Rs. 12 lakhs, said the Finance Secretary, Mr. C. E. Jones, in reply to a question by Raja Yuveraja Dutta Singh in the Council of State.

A COURSE IN JOURNALISM

The recent decision of the Punjab University to start a six months' course in journalism was implemented when the Senate of the University at its meeting recently approved the recommendation of the Syndicate for the appointment of Mr. Prihvi Pal Singh as whole time lecturer in journalism for a period of six months with effect from November.

PROF. AMARNATH JHA

Professor Amarnath Jha was re-elected Vice-Chancellor of the Allahabad University for the second term of three years.

It may be stated that three names, namely, those of Professor Jha, Rao Raja Shyam Behari Misra and Sir Syed Wazir Hasan were recommended by the Executive Council.

DR. C. R. REDDY

Dr. C. R. Reddy, Vice-Chancellor of the Andhra University, has been offered by the Government of India a seat on the Board of Scientific and Industrial Research which he has accepted. This seat carried with it membership ex-officio, of the Industrial Research Utilisation Committee.

NAGPUR UNIVERSITY

The Nagpur University has decided to exclude five students of the King Edward College, Amraoti, from this year's University Examinations and rusticate them till the end of June 1942, for "misconduct". The misconduct alleged related to an agitation against the Principal of the College and a hartal in the Colleges of the Province on July 11.

STUDENTS AND POLITICS

"I am of the clear and emphatic opinion that it is neither good for politics nor for themselves, nor for the country if students take active part in politics," declared Mr. S. Satyamurti, M.L.A. (Central), addressing the students of the Hindu College, Delhi, on "Students and Politics".

Mr. C. Rajagopalachari, ex-Premier of Madras, presided.

Students, proceeded Mr. Satyamurti, were not qualified to play any useful part in politics. Politics in all countries of the world, except in Totalitarian States, where opposition was physically killed, functioned through parties and party leaders. In order to go before the public and command the confidence of the voters, the leaders had to assert that their own views were right and those who differed from them were wrong. Hence, it was not desirable that the future citizens of the country should even in the formative years of their life start by being so categorical in their beliefs.

PT. R. K. CHAUBE

Pandit Ram Kumar Chaube, M.A., LL.B., B.T., a professor of the Benares Training College, who sat for the M. A., Examination in Pali this year at the Calcutta University, has come out successful obtaining first place in the second class.

Pandit Chaube had already obtained his M. A. degree in eight different subjects, namely, English, History, Philosophy, Mathematics, Hindi, Sanskrit, Persian and Urdu from either of the two universities, viz., Calcutta University and Benares Hindu University. Pandit Chaube is 49.

THE LAW IN MODERN INDIA

In all matrimonial matters, or succession to property, or land tenure, the law in modern India recognises Hindu, Muslim, Parsi or Animist customary law, as the case may be. The Privy Council in London—the ultimate Court of Appeal for the Empire—has to administer these laws which may actually differ considerably in principle from British law. Indian judges sit on the Privy Council, and the Privy Council Bar includes practitioners, both English and Indian having expert knowledge of the various customary laws in India.

CRIMINAL TRIBES IN U. P.

The Government of the United Provinces have decided that in future, tribes will not be declared criminal as a whole and that only such individuals will be registered as are given to habitual commission of crimes. A few tribes, however, such as Haburasbahriahts and Ghysies, who are very dangerous and more or less incorrigible, are still notified and registered as before, while all other tribes have been de-notified.

JUSTICE KUPPUSWAMI IYER

The Governor-General has been pleased to appoint Rao Bahadur C. N. Kuppaswami Ayyar, District Judge, South Malabar, to act as a Judge of the Madras High Court during the remaining period of the absence on leave of the Hon. Mr. Justice Gentle and to continue to act as a Judge in the vacancy due to the latter's appointment to the Calcutta High Court till the arrival of his permanent successor.

HINDUSTAN TIMES CONTEMPT CASE

In the *Hindustan Times'* contempt of Court case, judgment was delivered on November 14, by the Chief Justice and Mr. Justice Collister finding Mr. Devadas Gandhi, the Editor, and Mr. Devi Prasad Sharma, the Printer, and Mr. R. L. Singhal, the Meerut correspondent of the *Hindustan Times* guilty of contempt.

Mr. Devadas Gandhi was sentenced to pay a fine of Rs. 1,000 or in default to undergo one month's simple imprisonment. Mr. Devi Prasad Sharma was fined Rs. 500 or in default one month's simple imprisonment.

Mr. R. L. Singhal, the Meerut correspondent of the *Hindustan Times*, was sentenced to two months' simple imprisonment.

Mr. Devadas Gandhi, however, told Their Lordships that he would prefer to go to jail, because Mr. Singhal was sentenced to imprisonment without any option of paying fine.

The Respondents were also directed to pay costs to the Government Advocate at the rate of Rs. 80 per day.

U. P. PRISONERS

In a recent judgment of the Allahabad High Court on a revision application filed by Hafiz Nurul Hasan, it has been ruled that mere giving of notice to a District Magistrate of intention to offer Satyagraha did not constitute a prejudicial act punishable under the Defence of India Rules.

The United Provinces Government have accordingly decided to release all Satyagrahi prisoners in the United Provinces who were convicted for giving such notice, says a press note.

INSURANCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

At the meeting of the Insurance Advisory Committee held in Delhi under the chairmanship of the Commerce Member, it is understood that the Superintendent of Insurance explained some of the rules proposed to be issued by the Government under the Insurance Act.

Among the suggestions made by the Committee with regard to these rules was one that policyholders' directors should not retire by rotation but that all of them should be made to retire at the end of the prescribed period, the object being to avoid annual elections which involves considerable cost to the insurance companies.

It is further understood that the general financial position of the insurance companies came under review and that the Committee unanimously endorsed a suggestion that during the period of the war and for a year there after the payment of bonuses to policyholders should be prohibited by such measures as the Government might adopt. The payment of interim bonuses to matured policies would, however, be permitted. The suggestion, it is explained, follows the arrangements that is in operation in the United Kingdom where, by voluntary agreement, practically all the insurance companies are following this principle.

It is learned that the Commerce Member suggested for the consideration of the Committee a revision of the rates of premium for future policies in view of the general level of interest rates and requested the members to obtain the views of their Associations on this question for the next meeting of the Committee.

FAMILY PENSION FUND

A press note issued by H. E. H. the Nizam's Government says that His Exalted Highness has been graciously pleased to sanction the Family Pension Fund Scheme and the Public Insurance Scheme. The former which is intended to relieve the survivors of Government servants from monetary difficulties in case of their premature death will take effect immediately while the Public Insurance Scheme will come into force a year later.

The Family Pension Fund is being instituted to replace the present system of compassionate pensions. The new scheme will take the form of a whole life policy with premiums limited up to 55 years of age. It will be obligatory on all Government employees who are in the superior services and whose age does not exceed 45 years to contribute in addition to the 2 per cent. which they have already got to contribute to the State Life Insurance Fund, 6 per cent. of their salary to the Family Pension Fund to which the Government contribution will be 2 per cent. The total would thus come to 10 per cent. of the salary of an employee.

The scheme would cost the Government Rs. 4,87,632 annually in so far as employees in the superior services are concerned. In the case of Government employees in the inferior services, for whom State Life Insurance is not at present compulsory, the Government will contribute for a life policy at the rate of rupee one per head per month. This will cost the Government Rs. 6,22,224 per annum. Holders of voluntary policies under the State Life Insurance Fund will be allowed to convert their policies to the Family Pension Fund Scheme to make up the total of 6 per cent.

REPATRIATION OF STERLING DEBT

The Central Assembly passed without a division, Government not objecting, Mr. Jamnadas Mehta's resolution recommending that in any fresh scheme of repatriation of India's sterling debt care should be taken to see that the cost of such repatriation on Indian revenues is not unduly heavy.

The resolution as moved by Mr. Mehta contained the words at the end, "as was the case in the last scheme". Mr. Mehta moving it gave figures which, he said, showed that the total losses to India of the last repatriation scheme amounted to Rs. 35 crores. This, he said, included the amount of the discount £11 millions paid when raising these sterling loans and Rs. 20 crores due to the failure to buy these stocks at the lowest point of the market and due to the Government open market operations. Mr. Mehta declared that it was really England who wanted the money for her own war needs and, therefore, as creditor should have foregone a part of the money, because she was getting it back earlier than she should.

Mr. Mehta, however, did not want to quarrel with the past but wanted to make suggestions for the future. He suggested that the rate for future repatriation should be the mean between the rate in 1939, namely, 82 and the rate to-day, namely, 99. This would be 90 and he said repatriation should take place at the rate. He also wanted a portion of the existing accumulation of sterling balances to India's credit in England should be used to buy the company-managed railway securities as also Port Trust sterling securities and to transplant to India plant and machinery for the

production of war materials for the Middle East and the Far East. Such transplantation, he said, would result in more efficient production, because the danger and dislocation caused by bombings would be less in India; it would also lead to greater industrialisation of the country.

Mr. Mehta also suggested the appointment of a small committee of the House to go into all the proposals he had made and also the proposal that gold should not henceforth be allowed to go out of India but should be purchased here so that it was surprising how small was the movement of prices in the period from the date on which sterling was available to the Government of India to undertake the transaction until the transaction was actually through.

IRANIAN OIL

Iran produces about 10 million tons of crude petroleum a year and is one of the chief oil-producing areas in the Middle East. This oil field has been developed by the Anglo-Indian Oil Company which began work in 1909. A pipe line which starts from Haft Kel brings the oil down to Abadan on the Persian Gulf, where it is refined and made ready for export.

One of the most productive items of revenue is the royalty which the Company pays to the Iranian Government every year. The amount paid by the Company to the Government in respect of royalties and tax and which is added to the Government reserve was about £3-1/2 million. This money was, therefore, of great help to the Shah in building his Caspian to the Persian Gulf railway, which was financed entirely from Iranian revenues. The Soviet Union, the United States and the British Empire between them share about 65 per cent of Iran's total trade.

MYSORE WOMEN'S CONFERENCE

On the motion of Rajakumari Leilavathi, President, the Mysore State Women's Conference, adopted a resolution urging the need for at least two women in the Mysore Executive Council to represent the cause of women.

Rajakumari Desaraj Urs, Sri Gowramma Mrs. A. S. R. Chari and Dr. Ratnamma Isaac supported the resolution which was adopted.

Moved by Miss Frodsham and seconded by Mrs. A. V. Ramanathan, wife of the Law Minister to the Government, the Conference adopted a resolution requesting the Government to appoint women police in centres of large population. In the course of the discussion it was pointed out that the appointment of women police was desirable for the personal examination of women prisoners when necessary and for accompanying women prisoners on long distances on railway journeys and that they might watch the interests of women and girls to safeguard moral danger.

The Conference urged the appointment of ladies on the Cottage Industries Committee recently set up by the Government; the provision of a decent sum for home industries; the affording of equal facilities for women to become Presidents of District Boards and Municipalities; and the setting apart of a Home for beggars where they might be taught some handicrafts, and diseased beggars to be kept in a separate Home.

WOMEN POLICE IN LONDON

Women candidates for the London Police must not be younger than 25 or older than 35. Experience has proved that some of the most successful work has been done by women over 30.

GUJARAT WOMEN'S DEMAND

A plea for equality of rights and responsibilities between men and women was made at the annual conference of the Gujarat branch of the All-India Women's Conference, recently held at Broach. The Conference stated that as Hindu women suffered from a number of legal disabilities in the matter of right of inheritance, marriage, divorce, etc., the whole Hindu law should be modified on the principle of equality of men and women. The Conference urged the enactment of piecemeal legislation for the immediate removal of social injustice till the codification of Hindu law was completed. It supported the bills introduced in the Central Assembly for removing defects in the Hindu Women's Rights to Property Act of 1937, and pressed for their adoption in a proper form. The Conference also demanded equal pay and privileges for men and women in the same professions and services, with maternity and other benefits for women workers in local bodies. It recommended provision for popularising birth control methods in hospitals and dispensaries.

The Conference was presided over by Dr. Miss Dun and lasted for two days.

MISS SANTHA RAMANATHAN

Miss Santha Ramanathan, daughter of Mr. A. V. Ramanathan, Minister for Law, Mysore, took her B. A. degree with distinction at the Mysore University Convocation. She won the Weir Gold Medal for general proficiency among lady graduates; the A. K. Kayamma Prize for Sanskrit, and the Anna Purnamma Prize for good conduct and general efficiency.

H. G. WELLS' 75TH BIRTHDAY

Speaking at a luncheon in honour of his 75th birthday, H. G. Wells said that such gathering was preposterous. "If you consider the tragic things happening in the world, then it is a shameful thing that you should have come here to celebrate the birthday of an old gentleman with wreaths before he is dead. He hoped that there will be no publicity of this either here or in America. It does you no good to advertise the fact to the world that you are in an advanced state of senility."

"GREAT BRITAIN AND THE EAST"

Mr. William J. Brittain is the Editor of "Great Britain and The East", following the resignation of Sir Alfred Watson, former Managing-Editor of the "Westminster Gazette" and Editor of the "Statesman", Calcutta. Sir Alfred Watson will continue to write for the journal. Mr. William J. Brittain, who was formerly Editor of the "Sunday Dispatch", becomes Chairman and Managing-Director of "Great Britain and the East Limited."

C. E. BUCKLAND

Mr. C. E. Buckland, who has died in London at the age of 94, was understood to be the "Father of the Indian Civil Service" which he joined 73 years ago. He compiled single-handed a "Dictionary of Indian Biography".



H. W. NEVINSON

the well-known British journalist who passed away last month.

DR. GANGANATH JHA

The death of Mahamahopadaya Dr. Ganganath Jha, ex Vice-Chancellor of the Allahabad University, removes a veteran scholar and educationist from the



DR. GANGANATH JHA

sphere of his labours. Dr. Jha was born on September 25, 1871. He was educated at Darbhanga and Queen's College, Benares. From 1902 to 1918, he was Professor of Sanskrit in the Muir College, Allahabad, and from 1918 to 1923, he was Principal of the Sanskrit College, Benares. He was thrice elected Vice-Chancellor of Allahabad University from 1923-32.

SUBHAS CHANDRA BOSE

"It has been common talk in certain quarters in this country for some time that Subhas Chandra Bose is either in Rome or in Berlin and has entered into a pact with the Axis Powers to assist by fifth column methods any German invasion of India. Leaflets to this effect have made their appearance in this country and leave no doubt that he has gone over to the enemy," said Mr. E. Conran Smith, Secretary, Home Department, replying to a question in the Council of State of the Hon. Raja Yuvaraj Dutta Singh.

DR. SACHCHIDANANDA SINHA

Our hearty felicitations to Dr. Sachchidananda Sinha on attaining the 71st year of his life of service. Dr. Sinha is widely respected in the country as a politician and journalist of high standing. But to his own province of Bihar, which he largely helped in creating, it is a blessing that he remains hale and hearty at the age of three score and ten years.

DR. A. LAKSHIMANASWAMI MUDALIAR

At the Convocation of the American College of Surgeons held at Chicago, on November 3, the Fellowship of the College of Surgeons was conferred on Dr. A. Lakshmanaswami Mudaliar, Principal, Madras



DR. A. LAKSHIMANASWAMI

Medical College, and Superintendent of the Government Hospital for Women and Children, Madras. This is the first occasion on which this high distinction has been conferred on an Indian.

TREATMENT OF KALA AZAR

Kala Azar, a tropical disease which is caused by the bite of a fly and is fairly common in Northern Africa, has been found to respond to treatment by a new drug. The discovery of this drug has reduced mortality from Kala Azar in the Mediterranean and North Africa from between 30 and 40 per cent. to under 10 per cent., said Professor Warrington Yorke at the annual meeting of the Incorporated Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine.

MEDICAL EDUCATION

A resolution demanding that there should be only one uniform minimum standard of medical education in the country, which should be recognised by the Indian Medical Council, was adopted by the annual general meeting of the Bombay branch of the All-India Medical Licentiates' Association.

MEDICAL DISPENSARY AT POONDI

The Government of Madras have sanctioned the opening of a Rural Medical Dispensary under the charge of a Rural Medical Practitioner at Pooni in order to provide medical relief to the labourers and other persons engaged on the Pooni Reservoir Scheme.

DIET OF "C" CLASS PRISONERS

A statement signed by several eminent medical men from all over India has been issued in connection with the jail dietary for the 'C' class prisoners in Nagpur Jail, about which there was a controversy in the Press. 'C' class prisoners in that jail had threatened a hunger strike in case milk, which they used to have before, was not again added to their dietary but this was averted on Gandhiji's intervention.

The statement shows the necessity of improving the jail dietary for 'C' class prisoners, not only in the C. P. jails but in all jails throughout the country.

From the names of the signatories it would be seen that they come from the different Provinces of India, from Assam in the East to Sind in the West and from Madras in the South to Punjab in the North. The list includes such gentlemen as Presidents of the Medical Council of India, of the Indian Medical Association and of the College of Physicians and Surgeons, Bombay. Many of the signatories are either at present or have been heads of or professors at some of the medical colleges or superintendents of teaching hospitals in the various provincial towns.

TEA DRINKING

In his article on "The Chinese Art of Eating" contributed to the Health Number of the *Calcutta Municipal Gazette*, Mr. Lin Yutang, the well-known author of "My country and My People", says:

"We are very temperate in matters of drink except with regard to tea. Rarely does one see a drunken person on the street. There are books on tea and the manner of drinking it just as there are books on incense and wine. Tea, more than any other of man's inventions brings pleasure to the daily life of a whole nation and has brought about the institution of tea houses, which are as numerous as the cafes of the Occident."

MEALS FOR BRITISH SCHOOL CHILDREN

Within the next year, Government expects that midday meals costing on an average four pence per head will be provided in schools for a million children, writes the *Daily Telegraph* Political Correspondent.

KING EDWARD VII RUPEE COINS

King Edward VII rupees and eight-anna coins will cease to be legal tender after May 31, 1942, states a *Gazette of India* notification.

It is the Government of India's policy progressively to replace the standard silver coins by the new King George VI coins with the security edge in order to minimise unnecessary use of silver for coinage purposes as also to discourage counterfeiting. The King George VI coins are minted of an alloy which is a harder metal to work, while the security edge makes counterfeiting much more troublesome and expensive.

There are ample King George VI rupees and one-rupee notes either in circulation or held in reserve, to permit the recall of the King Edward VII coins without causing inconvenience to the public.

The King Edward VII coins will be accepted at all Government treasuries, post offices and railway stations until September 30, 1942. Thereafter and until further notice, they will only be accepted at the Reserve Bank.

IRAN'S NEW EXCHANGE RATIO

The sterling exchange rate has been altered by a decree recently from 174 to 140 *reals* to the pound. The dollar rate has been reduced from 45 to 35 *reals*.

The new rate means considerable increase in the cost of supporting the British forces in Iran, but it accords with the natural tendency of the pound to become cheaper as more sterling flows into the country.

CENTRAL BANK OF INDIA

A Pay Office of the Central Bank of India was opened at Sambalpur, Orissa, under the control of its Jamshedpur Branch on the 6th November last. The opening ceremony was performed by Mr. Gaurishanker Misra, Chairman, Sambalpur Municipality.

NICKEL HALF-ANNA COIN

The introduction of nickel coin of half-anna is expected as a result of the amendment of the Indian Coinage Act, which the Finance Member will introduce through a Bill at the autumn session.

THE RAILWAY CONFERENCE

The annual session of the Indian Railway Conference Association was opened at New Delhi on November 15 by Mr. Duncan, Agent of the Bengal Nagpur Railway who is President this year. The Session was attended by Sir Andrew Clow, the Communications Member, Mr. S. N. Roy, Secretary, Communication Department, the Chief Commissioner, the members and several Directors of the Railways. Managers and officers of all railways in India attended as delegates.

Sir Andrew Clow in the course of his speech, said: "Speaking here a year ago I said that on the railways the repercussions of the war had not as yet been grave. That is not the position today. In many directions the railways have had to make big sacrifices, and with reduced resources have to meet exceptional demands."

We have had to reduce to a minimum our demands of steel for new rails, new rolling-stock and new structures so that we have to meet the heavy traffic now offering with equipment limited by the retrenchment of the pre-war period, reduced further by the demands for defence and with the possibility of replacements gravely restricted.

STATE CONTROL OF B. AND N.-W. Ry.

An appeal under the signatures of Mr. Srikrishna Sinha, former Prime Minister of Bihar, Mr. Anugraha Narain Sinha, former Finance Minister, Mr. Haridar Imam, M.L.A., (Central) and others has been issued with a view to carry on a systematic and effective agitation for the purchase of the Bengal and North-Western Railway by the Government.

MR. NANDA AND N. S. RAILWAY

It is understood that H. E. H. the Nizam's Government will appoint Mr. Nanda, Chief Engineer, N. S. Railway, as the General Manager, consequent on the appointment of Col. E. W. Slaughter as the Managing Director of the Railway. Mr. Nanda will be the first Indian to hold the General Manager's post.

ART IN INDUSTRY EXHIBITION

The Burmah-Shell have sponsored a number of prizes for poster pictures and calenders and other kinds of advertisement entries of which will be accepted at the Government School of Arts, Calcutta, between 5th and 24th January, 1942. The Burmah Shell Oil Storage and Distribution Co. of India, for instance, have donated prizes for designs in support of the slogan "Burmah-Shell serves India and Indian Industries". A series depicting Indian Arts and Crafts would be suitable. The series shall comprise 12 designs; only one need be presented as a finished painting provided the other colour roughs clearly portray their effectiveness.

SRINAGAR EXHIBITION

Dr. Zakir Hussain, Principal, Jamia Millia, Delhi, performed the opening ceremony of the Educational Exhibition in connection with the Educational Conference at Srinagar in the presence of distinguished educationists from all over India. Sir Gopalaswami Ayyangar, Dewan of Kashmir, presided.

Dr. Zakir Hussain paid a tribute to Sir Gopalaswami Ayyangar for undertaking in the State an experiment of great national importance, namely, basic education. He stressed the necessity of a permanent educational museum somewhere in India, which should provide facilities for study and work for educationists.

SIR ALLADI ON NADASWARAM

"There is a tendency in people who do not appreciate the real essence of music to think that everybody must understand every verbal expression in the song. But to me the more important thing about music is the rhythm-effect, almost the unconscious effect, which music produces upon the ear. Nadaswaram is the essence of music. And I am one of those who believe that language does not play a primary consideration in it."

This remark was made by Sir Alladi Krishnaswamy Iyer unveiling the portrait of Sri Muthuswamy Dikshitar at the Rasika Ranjani Sabha Hall, Mylapore, in connection with the celebration of the Dikshitar Day.

COMMUNAL GAMES

Dr. P. Subbaroyan, President of the Board of Control for Cricket in India, addressing a large gathering of students at the University Union, Bangalore, observed:

"I hope the authorities in Bombay will take to heart what Mahatmaji has said recently about communal cricket. If interest in the game has to be kept, it is impossible if the teams are chosen on the strength of their religion. I feel that communal cricket should be given up altogether."

Sir Chimanlal Setalvad, the Liberal leader and ex Vice-Chancellor of the Bombay University, also condemns the continuance of the Pentangular Cricket Tournament.

On the other hand, Major Nayudu, who has played in the tournament for the last 25 years, says in an interview with the *Associated Press*: "There is no valid reason why the Pentangular Tournament at Bombay should be stopped. On the contrary, it is absolutely essential that it should be run in its present form if we do not want to see the funeral of Indian cricket."

Major Nayudu emphatically repudiated the view that the Bombay Pentangular is communal in the generally accepted sense of the term. He said: "The tournament has not encouraged any communal difference. It has on the other hand fostered a healthy rivalry and promoted communal unity. It has brought the communities together and not divided them."

PRINCE DULIP'S ADVICE TO CRICKETERS

The cricketers should not take their quarrels on to the field and exhibit them in public and that players should be loyal to their Captain not thinking that each one of them should lead the side, said Prince Duleepsinhji speaking at an evening party given by Mr. K. S. Ranga Rao, Honorary Secretary of the Board of Control for Cricket in India, in honour of the Prince and Princess Duleepsinhji.

The Prince complimented the Madras representatives of the Board of Control on their placing the organization on a sounder basis than it had previously been and declared that the Ranji Trophy Championship had done a great deal to improve Indian cricket.

FUNDAMENTAL RESEARCH

"We need in India certainly more and more of the *ad hoc* type of research intended to help the industries. Its usefulness to the industries, its importance and its culture will ultimately depend on the strength of fundamental science behind it. We, in India, are very fortunate in having good raw materials for our industries and even better intellectual raw materials for building up first-rate science



DR. K. S. KRISHNAN, D.SC., F.R.S.

which, in the long run, will be of invaluable support to the industries, I hope our leaders will exploit both," observed Dr. K. S. Krishnan, delivering the Sri Krishnarajendra Silver Jubilee Lecture at Bangalore. Dr. J. C. Ghosh, Director of the Indian Institute of Science, presided. The subject of the lecture was "The Place of Fundamental Research in Industrial Progress."

SCIENTISTS AND WAR

Addressing a large gathering at Bangalore on November 15, under the auspices of the Mysore War Fund, Dr. Sir C. V. Raman observed that those who were really interested in stopping wars in the future should try to give liberty to the man of science and allow him to speak freely about human affairs as he was at present free to speak about electrons or any other abstract subject. When that day came, there would be no war.

PLEA FOR SANSKRIT FILMS

Pleading that it is time that serious attention is devoted by our film producers to the question of making Sanskrit films notwithstanding the present antipathy in certain quarters to Sanskrit learning and literature, a correspondent writes to the *Hindu*: "One main obstacle which may be pointed out in this connection is that the language itself is still Greek to vast people in this country, but experience has shown that a talkie-audience knows no language barriers as witness the extraordinary success that Hindi or Urdu films have met with in South India. It is not unoften that a Hindi or Telugu film proves a much better box-office hit than even a Tamil one in the Tamil centres. Sanskrit literature offers a vast field for filmatization. *Valmiki Ramayana*, in the poet's own words a 'veritable ocean of nectar', offers perhaps the best choice for every effort in that direction. It is well to remember that the whole work was sung as a musical piece by its immortal exponents Lava and Kusa. Any musician will vouch for the fact that the *slokas* in *Valmiki* can be set to Carnatic music and sung."

NAZI BAN ON HOLLYWOOD

Shipment of all U. S. films through Nazi and Nazi-occupied territory has been banned by the Hitler Government as a first step in a planned drive to exclude American films from all theatres on the continent, says a Hollywood correspondent. This gesture is part of a scheme for the establishment of a monopoly by the Axis-dominated film cartel in the unoccupied as well as neutral countries.

Reports from Switzerland reveal that Germany has been exerting great pressure on the Swiss Government to ban all American-made films. During the past few weeks, several newspapers in Sweden wrote editorials attacking the German efforts to stop the entry of American-made movies.

The Nazis are also making overtures to Vichy Government to prevent further shipments to Switzerland through French territory, Spain, and Portugal.

ARMoured VEHICLES MADE IN INDIA

A special exhibition of certain types of armoured cars and tanks was held in New Delhi near the Secretariat on November 7.

Two types of armoured fighting vehicles, now being manufactured in India were on view. One of these, an armoured carrier, is described by experts as a definite advance upon anything of this nature produced by any country. The armour plate, which is of first rate quality, was produced by the Tatas and the body is designed and built in Indian railway workshops. The carrier has a crew of four and has an excellent cross-country performance. These carriers are now being produced in considerable quantities and carriers made in India are already on service overseas.

The second Indian-made armoured vehicle is an armoured car. Its armour is sufficient to keep out all armour-piercing small arms projectiles. Like the carrier it has a good cross-country performance. Both vehicles can carry emergency food and war rations for three days and can also travel a considerable distance even if their tyres are pierced by bullets; they are, therefore well-fitted for desert warfare.

FORD MOTORS JOIN THE UNION

The Ford Motor Company has signed a contract with the United Automobile Workers' Union providing for Trade Union Shop. The Union is affiliated to the C. I. O. (The Committee for Industrial Organisation.)

The announcement of the historic agreement with the United Automobile Workers' Union—the first Union contract ever entered into by the Ford Company—was made jointly by Mr. Philip Murray representing the C. I. O. and officials of the Ford Company. The contract is said to cover approximately 120,000 workers. Simultaneously, the National Labour Relations Board disclosed that an agreement has been completed for the settlement of all outstanding Labour Board cases involving the Ford Company.

INDIAN AIR FORCE

At question time, Sir Gurunath Bewoor, Defence Department spokesman, in reply to Mr. Lalehand Navalrai, referred to the announcement made on May 31, 1941, by the Commander-in-Chief that the I. A. F. was to be increased from one squadron to four. "This expansion," proceeded Sir Gurunath, "is making satisfactory progress and three of the four squadrons have been formed, though they are not yet up to full strength nor is their training completed. The Finance Member announced in this House on November 5, 1941, that Coast Defence Flights of the I. A. F. Volunteer Reserve were already operating.

"I am now able to announce that these flights are soon to be increased in number and each flight is to be expanded to form a squadron. When this is complete, the Indian Air Force will have ten squadrons as compared with one at the time of the outbreak of the war. I must, however, remind the House that it will be some time before these new squadrons are completely up to strength.

A school for technical training has been formed, and its output is now 600 men per annum. But the great bar to swift expansion continues to be the lack of experienced non-commissioned officers. There has also been great difficulty in getting aircraft; but in that respect the prospects are now very much brighter.

Some idea of the expansion already achieved may be judged from the fact that there are now about twenty times the number of officers and seven times the number of airmen in the I. A. F. as compared with those at the outbreak of the war. This number is going to increase considerably when the full expansion to ten squadrons has been achieved.

"The Indian Air Force is entirely Indian. There are some British instructors at present, but they are merely attached temporarily to the I. A. F."

AN ATLANTIC RECORD

A British Airways pilot has set up a remarkable record. While ferrying American bombers to England he has crossed the Atlantic six times in 14 days.

THE OIL INDUSTRY

The Burmah-Shell have brought out an attractive educational booklet entitled "About Oil", which gives in simple language a fairly complete story of the petroleum industry, from the prospecting stage to the moment petroleum leaves the refineries for the markets of the world.

It will primarily be of interest to school masters and certain post-graduate students, but it may also be of some value to the whole student world and to the general public in this country seeking knowledge and information about the oil industry. It is an illustrated booklet, which has been welcomed by the Director of Public Information, Bengal.

MANUFACTURE OF PARACHUTES

As a result of a Conference held recently at Cawnpore, it has been decided to recommend to the Government that a Government factory should be built in India for the manufacture of parachutes. It is hoped the factory will start working early next year.

Immediate requirements of raw silk will be obtained from the Iranian cocoons that are in India, part of which is already being reeled in Kashmir. Raw silk will be distributed among approved firms in India for the manufacture of components.

BUCKINGHAM AND CARNATIC CO. LTD.

The report of the Directors of the Buckingham & Carnatic Co., Ltd., Madras, for the half-year ending June 30, 1941, states that the result of the Company's working for the six months after allowing Rs. 4,15,075-3-5 for depreciation is a profit of Rs. 6,93,151-4-3, which, with unappropriated profit of Rs. 1,78,835-1-7 brought forward from the previous accounts, comes to Rs. 8,77,036-6-3. The Directors have made the following payment: Dividend at Rs. 3-12-0 per share on the 7½ per cent. Preference shares for the half-year ended 30th June, 1941, absorbing Rs. 79,832-8-0.

ALUMINIUM WIRES

Aluminium can be drawn into a wire of one ten thousandth of an inch thickness and wire spun out of only 20 oz. of this metal would be sufficient to encircle the world. It has found a valuable use in seismic prospecting apparatus.

NON-AGRICULTURAL TENANCY BILL

In order to make better provision relating to the law of landlord and tenant in respect of certain non-agricultural tenancies in the province, the Government of Bengal propose to introduce shortly in the provincial legislature a bill entitled "The Bengal Non-agricultural Tenancy Bill, 1941."

According to the statement of Objects and Reasons of the Bill, which is published in an extraordinary issue of the *Calcutta Gazette*, Government are of the opinion that notwithstanding the provisions of the Transfer of Property Act, 1882, the non-agricultural tenants, who hold lands under a lease for residential business, manufacturing or other purposes, are in need of better security. It is obvious, however, that the degrees of protection cannot be the same for all classes of tenants and it has been considered necessary to make a distinction between the various tenancies.

The Bill has been drafted to provide for protective rights and also to confer other incidental but necessary rights on the non-agricultural tenants of the different classes.

INDIA'S CATTLE FODDER

The economic uses of grasses, their ecology and how to identify the commonest of them are described in a record, just published, of the Forest Research Institute entitled "Some Common Grasses of the United Provinces". In this work which is primarily intended for Forest officers and those who have to do with grass, no less than 90 grasses are dealt with and of these 61 are illustrated.

Through this publication, the farmer, cattle-breeder and others may learn which of the wild grasses are wholesome for stock and which poisonous—knowledge which will assist in improving the quality and quantity of fodder available for the millions of cattle in India.

INDIA'S TIMBER

Timber is one of the important key supplies needed by Defence Services. Timber is used for a hundred different purposes—packing cases, ammunition boxes, jetty piles, telegraph poles, railway sleepers, hutting, etc.

I. L. C. AND INDIA

The Council of State discussed Mr. P. N. Saprú's resolution regretting that neither employers nor Labour were represented by men of their own choice at the recent session of the International Labour Conference in the United States and that the delegation was purely official and recommending that it should be made clear that in future the principle that both labour and employers should be represented by their own nominees should not be departed from.

Moving his resolution, Mr. Saprú regretted that the practice of sending a representative of the labour movement in India to the International Conference which had been followed for nearly 20 years had been broken this year. He said that under Article 389 of the Peace Treaty of 1918, the Government undertook to send a representative of the strongest labour organisation in the country to the International Labour Conference. He asserted that this year the All-India Trade Union Congress had actually been called upon to elect a delegate, but since the nominee was not acceptable to the Government they decided to send only official nominees.

Sir Feroz Khan Noon, replying to the debate, said that he was in entire sympathy with the second part of the resolution and he could assure the mover that so far as the future was concerned, Government would always follow the principle they had been following all these years of sending a representative of Labour to the International Conference. But he could not accept the first portion of the resolution because the circumstances this year were exceptional.

TECHNICAL TRAINING SCHEME

Replying to Raja Yuvaraj Dutta Singh's question in the Central Assembly regarding the Technical Training Scheme of the Government, Sir Feroz Khan Noon, Member for Labour, said that 100 British Instructors were being recruited from the United Kingdom of whom 61 had already arrived. The Scheme began to operate in January 1941, and the total cost from that date upto the end of March 1943 was estimated roughly at Rs. 3 crores.

THE POPULATION OF INDIA

India's population on March 1, 1941, was 388,800,000 of whom 17,322,000 were literates according to census figures published recently. The total population increased by 15 per cent. over the last census figure of 338,100,000. The rate of increase was particularly marked in towns with inhabitants of 100,000 and above. The number of such towns had appreciably increased from 1931.

The North-West Frontier Province, among the major Provinces, recorded the largest increase of population, namely, 25 per cent., while Bengal, which has next largest increase, namely, 20 per cent., also has the largest number of literates, namely, 9,720,000.

Madras had the next largest number of literates, namely, 6,120,000. The Andaman and Nicobar Islands has the smallest number of literates, namely, 6,000. Delhi, India's capital and a Chief Commissioner's Province, registers an increase of population of 41 per cent.

AVERAGE INCOME IN INDIA

"While the average income from industries in the United Kingdom is Rs. 830 and Rs. 483 respectively, in the case of India it is Rs. 12 only. What the country wants



SIR M. VISVESVARAYA

is increased national income and that can be achieved by accelerating the pace of industrial expansion," said Sir Viswesvaraya, President, All-India Manufacturers' Conference, at a reception given to him by the Maharashtra industrialists.

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தமிழ்நாடு ஆவணக்காப்பக நூலகம்,
எழும்பூர், சென்னை-600 008.

தவணைத்தாள்.

செ. எண் : 126970 ப. எண் :

வழங்கிய நாள். (1)	திரும்பிய நாள். (2)	வழங்கிய நாள். (1)	திரும்பிய நாள். (2)
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